

TAIZÉ PRAYER



Monday of Holy Week March 25, 2024 7:30pm

Saint Francis de Sales Church

Christians Uniting in Song and Prayer (CUSP) is successor to the team that organized and presented five events in October 2017, commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. CUSP is best described by its mission statement:

In the crucified and risen Christ we are reconciled to God and to one another. This is at the heart of the Christian message to which the Church is called to give witness in the world. Deep and painful divisions among its members today, however, obscure this message and therefore compromise its witness.

Out of a shared commitment to overcome these divisions, CUSP was formed. Located in the Holland community, we are a fellowship of Protestants and Catholics convinced that Christians joining in public assembly to sing and pray together can help to restore and promote our unity. Our conviction is rooted in the acknowledgment that Christian unity is both gift and task. In celebrating together our common faith, we recover a vision of the inestimable gift that God has granted to us in Christ. Renewed thereby in our appreciation of this gift, we go out energized to take up the difficult task of reconciling with fellow Christians whose differences keep us separated.

The Community of Taizé in France, was founded by Brother Roger Schütz in the 1940s as a parable of communion, a hope that Christians from different countries and backgrounds could gather on a hill in rural France and pray together, and that this might serve as a sign that reconciliation is possible among churches and in the world. Brother Roger believed in the radical idea that little acts, like young people singing together in a church, really matter in history. That is what a parable does, after all—it points to a meaning larger than itself.

Today, the community has grown to more than 100 brothers—Protestant and Catholic, and in any given year, Taizé attracts tens of thousands of people from around the world, who travel as pilgrims to this hilltop in France to meet one another, to sing and pray and to discuss what they feel are the most urgent issues of their time, from the climate emergency to refugees. Thousands of other Christians around the world who have never visited the monastery still recognize the sentiment behind it from the Taizé chants—songs like "Bless the Lord" and "Nada te Turbe" that pilgrims have carried with them from the monastery to parishes around the globe.

Since these visitors come from many different countries, they obviously share no common language, and this presented difficulty in gathering the large numbers together in prayer. The solution that was discovered focused on short melodies, with but one or two lines of text—in Latin as well as living languages—that would be quickly memorized and sung repeatedly in the form of a mantra. This approach united all the participants in common song, while allowing each individual to simultaneously enter into personal prayer. The concept was highly successful and the form of Taizé Prayer with its captivating music has spread around the world. There is not Christian hymnal, Protestant or Catholic, published in the last 20 years that does not include numerous pieces from the Taizé repertoire.

The framed poster used as the focus for our prayer today is a lithograph of the actual cross in the Church of the Resurrection at Taizé. This poster and the surrounding candles are patterned after the typical prayer environment used in the daily prayer at Taizé. This setting is designed to provide focus for the praying community in order to limit distractions.

For more information on the Community of Taize, go to www.taize.fr For music and prayer resources: www.giamusic.com

Participants:

Rick Hardy, Organ Marcy Marcelletti, Double Bass Aline Snoeyink, Flute Marissa Ruehl, Flute Jackie Russel, Oboe Tim DenBesten, Trumpet Ben Pohlman, Cantor Gloria Goodwin, Reader Deacon Brian Piecuch, Closing Prayer Singers from the Holland Ecumenical Choir Robert J. Batastini, Music Director

Special Thanks to Saint Francis de Sales Parish, and its pastor, Rev. Luis Garcia for their hospitality. To GIA Publications, Inc., of Chicago, for designing and printing of this program. www.giamusic.com

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Christians Uniting in Song and Prayer • 129 East 33rd Street • Holland, MI 49423 www.cuspholland.org • info@cuspholland.org

Singing Instructions: The songs are simple and repetitive, allowing for easy memorization, freeing each of us to sing with others while engaging in personal prayer and meditation.

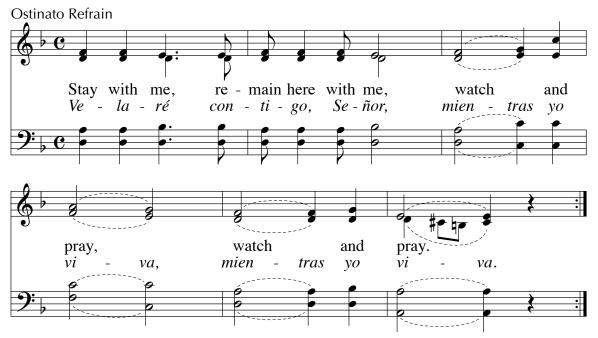
- Begin each song by singing it twice, melody only, afterwards those who are able should sing in harmony.
- If more than one language is printed, sing in either language and/or alternate.

SONGS FOR GATHERING

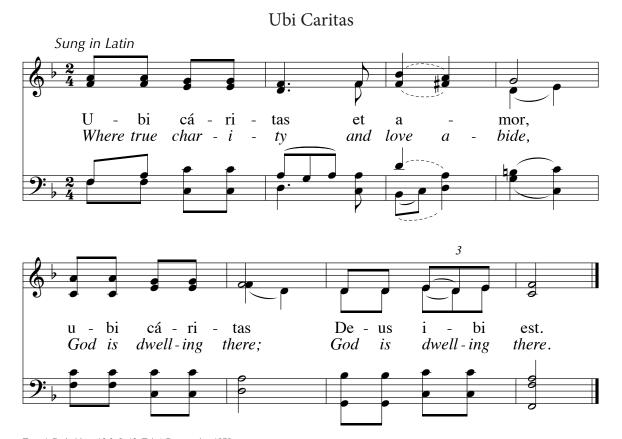


Text: Psalm 102; Taizé Community, 1982 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994 © 1982, 2011, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Stay with Me

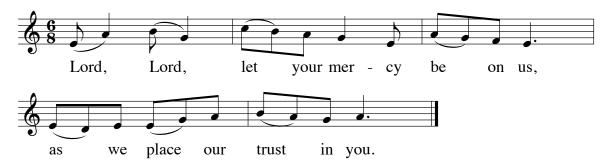


Text: Matthew 26:36–42; Taizé Community Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994 © 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent



Text: 1 Corinthians 13:2–8, 13; Taizé Community, 1978 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994 © 1979, 2009, 2011, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

PSALM 33



Text: Psalm 33, *The Revised Grail Psalms*, © 2010, Conception Abbey and The Grail, England; refrain, © 1969, ICEL Music: John Schiavone, © 2004, GIA Publications, Inc.

SCRIPTURE – Luke 23:33-46 SONG

Adoramus te, Domine



Text: We adore you, O Lord Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994 © 1978, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

SILENCE

A time of prolonged silence is observed. When we try to express our communion with God in words, we often times come up short. Often God's voice is heard only in a whisper, in a breath of silence. Remaining in silence in God's presence, open to the Holy Spirit, is a rich opportunity for personal prayer.

INTERCESSIONS



^{*}Refrain is always repeated; descant ad lib. 2nd time only

Music: Jacques Berthier, © 1980, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

LORD'S PRAYER

CONCLUDING PRAYER

SONGS



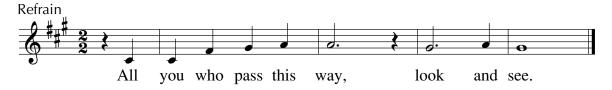


Text: St. Teresa of Jesus; Taizé Community, 1986, 1991 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994 © 1986, 1991, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

All You Who Pass This Way

As Jesus hung on the cross, he uttered seven last phrases of great meaning to those contemplating his passion and death.

Repeat this refrain after the cantor and after each verse:



- 1. Is any sorrow like the sorrow that afflicts me?
- 2. Women of Jerusalem! Do not weep for me, but for yourselves, and for your children.
- 3. Father, forgive them! They know not what they do.
- 4. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?
- 5. Today you will be with me in paradise.
- 6. I am thirsty.
- 7. Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

Text: From the Passion Gospels; Taizé Community, 1984 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994 © 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Jesus, Remember Me



As we exit, a collection will be taken up to support the work of CUSP. This is our only source of revenue.