

Praying together  
in  
word and song  
in  
the style of

# Taizé

Welcome to a time of contemplative prayer and meditation.

Gathered in the presence of Christ, we sing uncomplicated, repetitive songs, uncluttered by too many words, allowing the mystery of God to become tangible through the beauty of simplicity.

A few words sung over and over again reinforce the meditative quality of our prayer. They express a basic reality of faith that can quickly be grasped by the intellect and that gradually penetrates the whole being.

Our singing thus becomes a way of listening to God.

DECEMBER 31, 2023

# Prelude | **TAIZÉ CHANT MEDLEY**

*The prelude is a medley of the Taizé chants that will be sung throughout the service.*

## Welcome and Invocation

## Gathering Songs

### **LET US PRAISE YOUR NAME**

Let us praise your name, God our Sa - vior, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise and

*(.) fine*

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in G major and common time. The treble staff contains the vocal melody with lyrics. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a fermata over the final chord, marked with a circled period and the word 'fine'.

bless your name, God our Sa - vior, praise and bless your name, al - le - lu - ia!

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. It features the same treble and bass staff arrangement. The treble staff has the vocal line with lyrics, and the bass staff has the accompaniment. The system ends with a double bar line and a fermata over the final chord.

**LAUDATE OMNES GENTES** (SING PRAISES, ALL YOU PEOPLES)

Musical score for "LAUDATE OMNES GENTES" in 3/4 time, B-flat major. The score consists of two systems of vocal and piano parts. The first system includes the lyrics "Lau - da - te om - nes gen - tes, lau - da - te Do - mi - num. Lau -" and features a piano (*p*) marking. The second system includes the lyrics "da - te om - nes gen - tes, lau - da - te Do - mi - num. Lau -" and features a *fine* marking with a fermata over the final note.

**DONA NOBIS PACEM** (GIVE US PEACE)

Musical score for "DONA NOBIS PACEM" in 2/4 time, D major. The score consists of two systems of vocal and piano parts. The first system includes the lyrics "Do - na no - bis pa - cem cor - di - um. Do - na no - bis pa - cem. —" and the second system includes "— Do - na no - bis pa - cem cor - di - um. Do - na no - bis pa - cem. —".

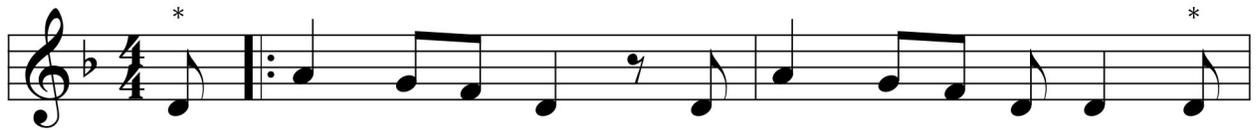
# Song of Light

Out of the rich, primordial darkness God created everything—including light. The symbol of light reminds us that even when the night is very bleak, whether in our own life or in the life of humanity, God’s love is a fire that never goes out. All are invited to light your candle at this time.

## THE LORD IS MY LIGHT

(Sing either Theme 1 or Theme 2)

### Theme I

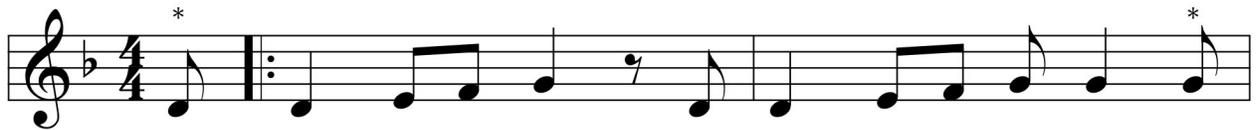


The Lord is my light, my light and sal - va - tion: in



God I trust; in God I trust. The

### Theme II



The Lord is my light, my light and sal - va - tion: in



God I trust; in God I trust. The

# Psalm with Response

As the psalm is sung, the alleluia will be sung as a response to each verse.  
It is through the psalms, prayed by Jesus himself, that we join our hope to the hope experienced by God's people throughout the centuries.

## RESPONSE

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major, 6/8 time. The first staff contains the melody for 'Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!' with two asterisks above the first and third measures. The second staff contains the melody for 'Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!' with two asterisks above the first and third measures. The lyrics are written below the notes.

# Gospel Reading | LUKE 2:25-38

Following the scripture reading there is a song, which leads to silence.

## LORD GOD, YOU LOVE US

Lord God, you love us, source of com - pas - sion  
Toi, tu nous ai - mes, sour - ce de vie.

The musical notation is for a song in G major, 4/4 time. It features a vocal line with lyrics in English and French, a bass line, and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'Lord God, you love us, source of compassion' and 'Toi, tu nous ai-mes, source de vie.' The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. There are dashed circles around the final notes of the vocal line and the piano accompaniment.

# Silence *(10 minutes)*

In the depths of our being, through the Holy Spirit,  
Christ is praying far more than we imagine.

If, with a childlike trust, we let Christ pray silently  
within us, then one day we shall discover that  
the depths of our being are inhabited by a Presence.

# Universal Prayer

To gather our petitions, we lift our prayers to God with the following sung response.

## **O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER**

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.

When I call, an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer. O

Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me.

# The Lord's Prayer *(unison)*

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
    and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
    and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.  
Amen.

## Hymn

### **HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING**

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.  
    Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;  
    with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord,  
    late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,  
    pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!  
    Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
    born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

# Sending Song

## LET YOUR SERVANT NOW GO IN PEACE

Let your ser - vant now go in peace, O Lord, now

Lord, O Lord,

go in peace ac - cord - ing to your word, Let your

(to your word.)

*Last time*

*Last time*

The musical score is written for voice and piano in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The score includes a repeat sign at the beginning and end, and a fermata over the final note of the melody. The lyrics are: "Let your ser - vant now go in peace, O Lord, now Lord, O Lord, go in peace ac - cord - ing to your word, Let your (to your word.)". There are two "Last time" markings above the final notes of the melody.

# Benediction

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**Officiants** Father Andy Matijevic, Holy Name Cathedral  
Reverend Nanette Sawyer, Fourth Presbyterian Church

**Music Leader** John Sherer, Organist and Director of Music, Fourth Presbyterian Church

**Musicians** Taizé Ensemble

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