

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.

D E C E M B E R 3 1 , 2 0 2 5

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

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

LAUDATE OMNES GENTES (SING PRAISES, ALL YOU PEOPLES)

Lau - da - te om-nes gen - tes, lau - da - te Do-mi-num. Lau -

p

da - te om-nes gen - tes, lau - da - te Do - mi - num. Lau -

fine

DONA NOBIS PACEM (GIVE US PEACE)

Do - na no - bis pa - cem cor - di - um. Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Do - na no - bis pa - cem cor - di - um. Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Song of Light

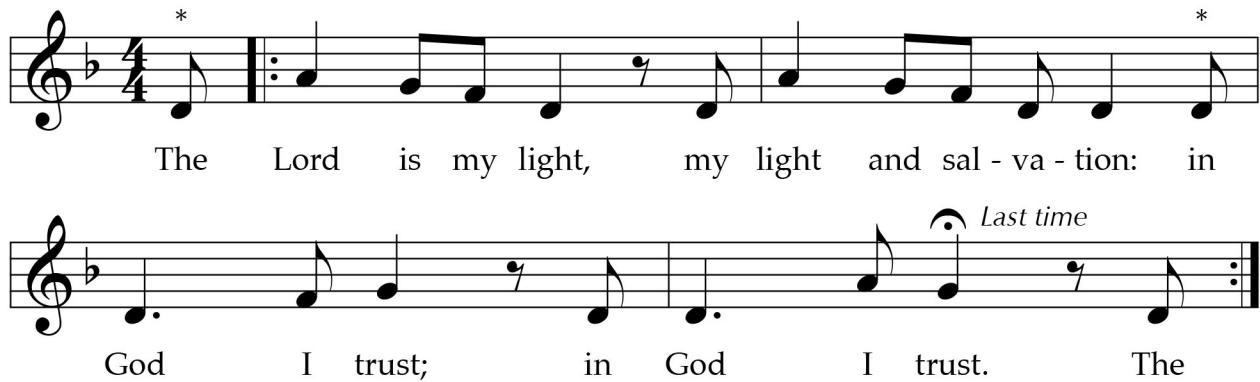
Out of the rich, primordial darkness God created everything—including light. The symbol of light reminds us that even when the night is very bleak, whether in our own life or in the life of humanity, God's love is a fire that never goes out.

All children present are invited to come forward to assist with the passing of the light.

THE LORD IS MY LIGHT

(Sing either Theme 1 or Theme 2)

Theme I



The musical notation for Theme I consists of two staves of music in G clef, 4/4 time, and a key signature of one flat. The first staff begins with a quarter note followed by a dotted half note. The second staff begins with a dotted half note. The lyrics "The Lord is my light, my light and sal - va - tion: in" are written below the notes. The music concludes with a final note on the second staff. A "Last time" instruction is placed above the final note of the second staff.

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

God I trust; in God I trust. The

Theme II



The musical notation for Theme II consists of two staves of music in G clef, 4/4 time, and a key signature of one flat. The first staff begins with a quarter note followed by a dotted half note. The second staff begins with a dotted half note. The lyrics "The Lord is my light, my light and sal - va - tion: in" are written below the notes. The music concludes with a final note on the second staff. A "Last time" instruction is placed above the final note of the second staff.

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 Gloria 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

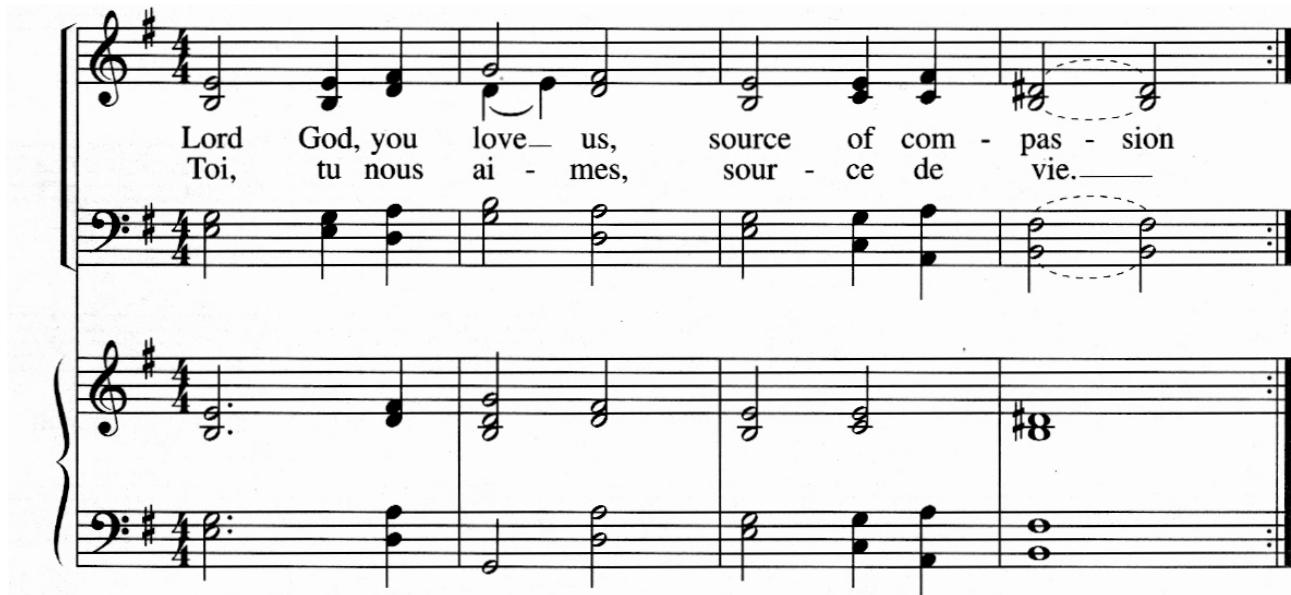


The musical notation consists of two staves of music. The top staff is in G major (indicated by a treble clef) and 6/8 time. It features a melody with several eighth and sixteenth notes, with two asterisks marking specific notes. The lyrics are: "Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!" The bottom staff is also in G major and 6/8 time, with a similar melodic line and lyrics: "Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!" The music includes various note values such as eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests.

*Gospel Reading | LUKE 2:25-40

Following the scripture reading there is a song, which leads to silence. During this song, all are invited to place their candle in one of the clay pots. Please first remove the paper disks and put them in the baskets.

LORD GOD, YOU LOVE US



The musical notation is for a two-part setting. The top part is in G major (treble clef) and 4/4 time. It features a melody with quarter and eighth notes, and lyrics in both English and French: "Lord God, you love us, source of compassion; Toi, tu nous aim - mes, source - ce de vie." The bottom part is in G major (bass clef) and 4/4 time, providing harmonic support with sustained notes and chords. The music includes a key change to G major at the end of the piece.

*Please rise in body or in spirit

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, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer. O
Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen 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 serv - ant now go in peace, O Lord, now
Lord, O Lord,
Last time
go in peace ac - cord - ing to your word, Let your
(to your word.)

*Benediction

*The Offering

An offering will be received as you leave the Sanctuary.

Your offering will further ministries of justice, beauty, and grace.

Please join us for a short reception with refreshments in Anderson Hall, through the doors to your left.

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

Music Leader Doug Cleveland, Interim Organist and Director of Music, Fourth Church

Cantor Jaime Smith

Musicians Taizé Ensemble



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