

Intercessions

That all God's people may know themselves to be his beloved children and worship him in spirit and truth,

We pray to the Lord

That the church may rediscover that unity which is the Father's will and for which Jesus prays,

We pray to the Lord

That the nations of the earth would seek peace and understanding rather than selfish advantage,

We pray to the Lord

That, in this new year, we would each have time and opportunity to learn more about what it means to acknowledge Christ as King in our own lives,

We pray to the Lord

Chant 23 : Laudate omnes gentes

Silence

A prayer by Brother Roger, founder of the Taizé Community

Jesus, joy of our hearts, when the desire to fulfil what you expect of us comes welling up inside us, we understand that you invite us to love, just as you love us.

Silence

Chant 2 : Wait for the Lord

We leave in silence.

Please allow those who wish to do so to continue to pray undisturbed.

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Taizé Prayer 71 (49) 4th January 2015

Prayer in the style of the Taizé Community for Epiphany

Welcome! Please feel free to sit quietly or to join in as you feel most comfortable. We will be following a pattern based on the worship of the Taizé Community, one of whose aims has always been to make Christian worship as simple and uncluttered as possible.

Taizé is a small village in eastern France. For over 50 years, it has been the home of a Christian monastic community made up of brothers from many different countries, speaking many different languages and, uniquely, belonging to several different Christian denominations. Catholics, Anglicans, Protestants, Orthodox and others live and pray together, share a simple life and welcome the tens of thousands of visitors who come to spend time with them every year from all over the world.

The numbers refer to the orange booklet of Taizé Chants which you received as you joined us. This symbol ♪ indicates that we sing the English translation provided alongside the music.



Opening Silence

For Silent Reflection

Lord Jesus, may your light shine our way, as once it guided the steps of the Magi: that we too may be led into your presence to worship you, the Child of Mary, the Word of the Father, the King of nations, the Saviour of mankind; to whom be glory for ever.

Let all who are thirsty come

(Songs from Taizé 2011-2012)

***Let all who are thirsty come,
Let all who wish receive
the water of life freely.
Amen, come Lord Jesus! (x2)***

From Psalm 97

The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad! Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne. Fire goes before him, and consumes his adversaries on every side. [...] The heavens proclaim his righteousness; and all the peoples behold his glory. All worshippers of images are put to shame, those who make their boast in worthless idols; all gods bow down before him. Zion hears and is glad, and the towns of Judah rejoice, because of your judgements, O God. For you, O Lord, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods. [...] Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!

Silence

In the silence, we call to mind our sins and reflect on the Psalm. Then, trusting in God, who has made His salvation known, the righteous judge, we sing...

Chant 9 : Jésus le Christ ♪

***Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.
Let not my doubts nor my darkness speak to me.
Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.
Let my heart always welcome your love.***

From Isaiah chapter 49

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' [...] And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, [...] 'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'

Silence

Chant 32 : Mon âme se repose ♪

A reading from John chapter 4

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. [...] The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' [...] Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? [...] Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. [...] The woman said to him, 'Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, [...] 'You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth [...]. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' [...]. 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he.'

Chant 18 : Confitemini Domino

Long Silence

Food for Thought in the Silence

“Augustine talks about ‘our hearts being restless till they find rest in thee.’ Part of the human situation is that we cannot find happiness out of the things that the human situation has to offer. [...] We are never safe from the longing for eternity which God has put in man's soul. There is a thirst which only Jesus Christ can satisfy.”

William Barclay, *The Gospel of John*

Chant 12 : De nocte ♪

Silence