

Intercessions

*God our Father, for your promises of restoration, healing and justice which break into our darkness and rescue us from despair, **we thank you.***

*For those caught up in cycles of violence and conflict, **Lord, hear our prayer.***

*For those who carry responsibility for international peace, leadership and cooperation, **Lord, hear our prayer.***

*For those driven from their homes, lost in unfamiliar surroundings and dependent on the compassion of others, **Lord, hear our prayer.***

*For those responsible for taking decisions about the future leadership of this parish and for those who serve it as we wait, **Lord, hear our prayer.***

*For those struggling to make ends meet, to raise families without adequate resources or to find work, **Lord, hear our prayer.***

*For those whose health is failing or who are close to death, and for all who love and care for them, **Lord, hear our prayer.***

Chant 59 : Venite, exultemus Domino ♪

Silence

A prayer by Brother Roger, founder of the Taizé Community

Jesus, our trust, within us you come to kindle a flame. Feeble though it may be, it is enough to sustain in our hearts the desire for God.

Silence

Chant 33 : Nunc dimittis ♪

For more information visit
www.kingsnorton.org.uk
Feel free to take this sheet home.

The words of the chants are reproduced under Church Copyright Licence 5136 and Calamus Licence 0919

Taizé Prayer 81 13th December 2015 (Advent 3)

Prayer in the style of the Taizé Community for Advent 3

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 almost 70 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

Food for thought in the silence

“The Lord speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to where it sets”. “The desert and the parched land will be glad [...] Say to those with fearful hearts, ‘Be strong! Do not fear!’” How appropriate the Bible passages appointed to be read this evening seem in the light of yesterday’s “landmark climate deal” in Paris. Yet how much greater our hope as Christians than simply that of seeing our planet properly cared for. For Isaiah promises “everlasting joy” in an eternal future to which Jesus invites us all.

Chant 56 : Sanctum nomen Domini

*sanctum nomen – the holy name
domini – of the Lord
magnificat anima mea – my soul praises*

A reading from Psalm 50

The Mighty One, God, the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to where it sets. From Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth. Our God comes and will not be

silent; a fire devours before him, and around him a tempest rages. He summons the heavens above, and the earth, that he may judge his people: "Gather to me this consecrated people, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice." And the heavens proclaim his righteousness, for he is a God of justice.

Silence

In the silence, we reflect on God's beauty and justice. Then, confident of his mercy and forgiveness, we sing...

Chant 1 : Dans nos obscurités ♪

A reading from Isaiah chapt 35

The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. [...] Say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you." Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. [...] And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way. The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it. No lion will be there, nor any ravenous beast; they will not be found there. But only the redeemed will walk there, and those the Lord has rescued will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

Silence

Chant 151 : Iedere nacht verlang ik

*When in the night my soul seeks for you, O God,
I hunger for you with all my heart.
My spirit yearns for you in the depths, O Lord.
I hunger for you with all my heart.*

A reading from Luke 1

When it was time for Elizabeth to have her baby, she gave birth to a son. Her neighbours and

relatives heard that the Lord had shown her great mercy, and they shared her joy. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him after his father Zechariah, but his mother spoke up and said, "No! He is to be called John." They said to her, "There is no one among your relatives who has that name." Then they made signs to his father, to find out what he would like to name the child. He asked for a writing tablet, and to everyone's astonishment he wrote, "His name is John." Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue set free, and he began to speak, praising God. All the neighbours were filled with awe, and throughout the hill country of Judea people were talking about all these things. Everyone who heard this wondered about it, asking, "What then is this child going to be?" For the Lord's hand was with him.

Silence

Chant 39 : Tu sei sorgente viva

*Lord, you are living water,
You are light and fire, you are love.
Come, O Holy Spirit! Come, O Holy Spirit!*

Long Silence

Food for thought in the silence

People are often intimidated by the Bible. They feel a pressure to read it and see something immensely profound every time. But the reality is, you see what God shows you that day. Sometimes you see a lot, sometimes you see a little. Advent is a really good opportunity to spend time with the Bible in a very simple way. It's a time of simplifying and making space for Jesus to come into our lives. So here's an exercise you might want to try this week. Spend some time with Luke's Gospel. Focus on a chapter you are drawn towards, read it a couple of times and ask yourself: "What does it say? What does it mean?" And then ask the really important question: "What am I going to do about it?"

Justin Welby (The Archbishop of Canterbury)

Chant 137 : Behüte mich, Gott

*Enfold me, O God,
For I trust in you.
You show me the path to follow.
You give me joy, your joy in its fullness.*