

## Intercessions

*O Christ, born of the Father before all ages, you took upon yourself our humanity to show us the face of God: we worship you.*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Help us to live by your life and walk as children of light in the joy of your presence.*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Increase the faith of your church; may we faithfully bear witness to the love of God revealed in Christ.*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Strengthen those who are weak in faith and reveal yourself to doubting hearts.*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Give strength to the sick, support the elderly and reassure the dying by your saving presence.*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## Silence

### Chant 20 : Adoramus te Christe

#### A prayer by Brother Alois, Prior of the Taizé Community

*Loving God, you give yourself to us by sending us the Holy Spirit and you make of us one people. Praise be to you for your presence. Never do you condemn us, you always raise us up.*

### 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.**

We leave in silence.

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Taizé Prayer 97 2nd July 2017

## Prayer in the style of the Taizé Community for Trinity 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

#### **For Silent Reflection**

'You cannot be a Christian without also being a pilgrim, **travelling light through the world.** [...] In the Bible the word "pilgrim" implies a journey: travelling home [...]. It describes those who "seek a country". Biblical pilgrims live in another country alongside the resident community, but they do not fully integrate. They are "alongsiders", soon to go home. They may accomplish great things for the benefit of the country in which they live [...], but they never cease to be pilgrims.'

Dr Peter Masters  
*The Sword & Trowel*

### Chant 1 : Dans nos obscurités ♪

#### Psalm 50

*The mighty one, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. [...] Our God comes and does not keep silence, before him is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around him. [...] I am God, your God. Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you;*

*your burnt-offerings are continually before me. I will not accept a bull from your house, or goats from your folds. For every wild animal of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the air, and all that moves in the field is mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and all that is in it is mine. Do I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats? Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High. Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.*

### Silence

In the silence, we bring to mind our sins. Then, trusting in God's mercy and goodness, we sing...

### Chant 113 : Bóg jest miłością ♪

From Isaiah chapter 35

*The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. [...] Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water [...]. **A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. [...]** And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads.*

### Silence

### Chant 115 : The kingdom of God

From Luke chapter 17

*Once, Jesus was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God was coming, and he answered, 'The kingdom of God is not coming with things that can be observed; nor will they say, "Look,*

*here it is!" or "There it is!" For, in fact, the kingdom of God is among you.' Then he said to the disciples, 'The days are coming when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. They will say to you, "Look there!" or "Look here!" Do not go, do not set off in pursuit. For as the lightning flashes and lights up the sky from one side to the other, so will the Son of Man be in his day. But first he must endure much suffering and be rejected by this generation. Just as it was in the days of Noah, so too it will be in the days of the Son of Man. They were eating and drinking, and marrying and being given in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed all of them [...] It will be like that on the day that the Son of Man is revealed. On that day, anyone on the housetop who has belongings in the house must not come down to take them away; and likewise anyone in the field must not turn back. [...] **Those who try to make their life secure will lose it, but those who lose their life will keep it.'***

### Long Silence

#### *Food for Thought in the Silence*

“The Christian faith is not an individualistic endeavor. Whoever hears Christ's call and answers it takes their place in the community of all those **walking along the same road**. The relations between the disciples are just as important as the one with the Master, because they express in tangible fashion, beyond words, the content of their faith in Jesus. In this respect it may be useful to make a distinction between the words "personal" and "individual." Faith is eminently personal, based as it is on a unique call and an intimate relationship of trust with Christ; in a word, it is rooted in the heart. But this faith is not solely an individual affair, because it immediately inserts the believer into a network of relationships by making him or her a full-fledged member of the family of God.”

Brother John of Taizé

*What Is Distinctive About The Christian Faith?*

### Chant 140 : Il Signore ti ristora

***You restore me and embrace me.  
Never will you reject me.  
In your love, you run with joy to meet me.  
Lord, you always seek me.***

### Silence