An Evening Service of Prayer and Music of Taizé

3rd Wednesday of each Month
7pm

Calvary Episcopal Church
304 Lore Avenue, Hillcrest
Wilkinson, DE 19809
302-764-2027
Taizé Music

Singing is one of the most essential elements of worship. Short songs, repeated again and again, give it a meditative character. Using just a few words they express a basic reality of faith, quickly grasped by the mind. As the words are sung over many times, this reality gradually penetrates the whole being. Meditative singing thus becomes a way of listening to God. It allows everyone to take part in a time of prayer together and to remain together in attentive waiting on God, without having to fix the length of time too exactly.

To open the gates of trust in God, nothing can replace the beauty of human voices united in song. This beauty can give us a glimpse of “heaven’s joy on earth,” as Eastern Christians put it. And an inner life begins to blossom within us.

These songs also sustain personal prayer. Through them, little by little, our being finds an inner unity in God. They can continue in the silence of our hearts when we are at work, speaking with others or resting. In this way prayer and daily life are united. They allow us to keep on praying even when we are unaware of it, in the silence of our hearts.

(From Clouds & Glory: Prayers for the Church Year, Morehouse Publishing)

Simple Latin phrases are often used in Taize singing. Latin was claimed as a language for the monastery so that no one “living” language could claim dominance over the others. This is also a way of freeing our minds from concentrating too much on the text and allowing ourselves to pray through the music without distraction.

Please enter in silence and, when ready, join in the repetitive chanting.
OPENING CHANTS

Adoramus te Domine

I Am Sure I Shall See the Goodness of the Lord

(A)
OPENING PRAYER

Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. Our hearts find joy in the Lord. We trust in God’s holy name.

May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

Brief period of silence

O Christe Domine Jesu

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just: for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.

Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute play your songs.

Sing to the Lord a song that is new, play loudly, with all your skill.

For the word of the Lord is faithful and all his works done in truth.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with love.

By God’s word the heavens were made,
by the breath of his mouth all the stars.

God collects the waves of the ocean;
and stores up the depths of the sea.

The Lord foils the designs of the nations,
and defeats the plans of the peoples.

The counsel of the Lord stands forever,
the plans of God’s heart from age to age.

Brief period of silence

1 Corinthians 12: 4-7, 12-13

Paul wrote: Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are
varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities,
but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given
the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.(...) For just as the body
is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are
one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into
one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one
Spirit.

Brief period of silence
John 14:23,25-27

Jesus said, “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. (...) I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”

Brief period of silence
In the Lord I’ll be Ever Thankful

Leader: O God of peace, you have taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God.

Brief period of silence
Confitemini Domino  (Come and fill our hearts with your peace)

During this chant you are invited to walk forward, as you are moved, and place your lighted taper in the sandbox, then return to your seat.

PERIOD OF SILENT MEDITATION

The sound of a bell breaks the silence
O Lord, Hear My Prayer

INTERCESSIONS

The following chant (Kyrie) is sung three times to introduce the Intercessions, then once following each petition. At the conclusion of the Intercessions, Kyrie is sung repeatedly.

Kyrie Eleison  (Lord Have Mercy)

Lord, make our lives a temple of the Holy Spirit.  (Kyrie)
Grant each of us the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness.  *(Kyrie)*

May the Holy Spirit speak through the lips of your servants who proclaim your Word.  *(Kyrie)*

Send your comforting Spirit to all who are in trouble and distress.  *(Kyrie)*

Send your comforting Spirit to all who are victims of injustice.  *(Kyrie)*

Keep all nations from hatred and war.  *(Kyrie)*

Gather together all the nations by the breath of your Spirit.  *(Kyrie)*

*Kyrie Eleison is sung repeatedly*

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

*Our Father in heaven,*
  *hallowed be your Name.*
  *your kingdom come,*
  *your will be done,*
  *on earth as in heaven.*
*Give us today our daily bread.*
*Forgive us our sins*  
  *as we forgive those*  
  *who sin against us.*
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now ands for ever.
Amen.

Leader: Holy Spirit, in you we find the consolation with which Christ can flood our lives. Your presence is offered to each person—and we sense that the essential has already been accomplished in us.

Then all say

Bless us, Christ; you liberate us from isolation by the mystery of communion in your Body, the Church.

Feel free to depart during the chanting of the final songs.

However, please leave quietly in order to maintain silence for those who wish to remain for further prayer and reflection.
CLOSING CHANTS

Stay With Us, Lord Jesus

Stay with us, O Lord Jesus Christ, night will soon fall. Then
Bleib mit deiner Gnad bei uns, Herr Jesus Christ. Ach,

stay with us, O Lord Jesus Christ, light in our darkness.
bleib mit deiner Gnad bei uns, du treuer Gott.
My peace I leave you

Mixed Voices

My peace I leave you, my peace I give you:

trouble not your hearts. My peace I leave you, my

peace I give you: Be not afraid. My

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Taizé

Taizé is a village in the Burgundy region of France. Roger Schütz, son of a Swiss Protestant minister, was only 25 years old when he came to Taizé from Switzerland in 1940. In the war-torn years that followed, he began sheltering Jewish refugees and praying in the village church. Others joined him and soon a small community of brothers was formed. Believing there would always be war in Europe until Christians stopped killing Christians, Roger and his followers committed themselves to a ministry of reconciliation, a challenging and difficult task in postwar France and Germany. Slowly, one by one, brothers began making life-long commitments to communal life. Donning white robes, adopting a Benedictine style of daily life and receiving brothers from many countries, Taizé has become a monastic model of ecumenism.

Over the years that followed, young people from all over Europe made their way to Taizé to open themselves to this communion which gives meaning to their lives. Today, from March to November, as many as six thousand young people a week come to Taizé for the weekly meetings with the brothers. Focusing on three periods of communal prayer each day, participants delve into the meaning of their own spiritual journey, explore their faith commitments and worship with people from all over the world.