

Lenten Taizé Service

Wednesday March 8, 2023



As you meditate this evening, take time to focus on the crown of thorns at the top of the cross. The thorn is a symbol of sin, sorrow and hardship. However, Christ, in His perfect offering, has delivered us from the curse of sin. While intended to be a mockery, the crown of thorns was and remains the perfect symbol of who Jesus is and what He came to accomplish.

Taizé

A Taizé service is a service of song and silence, prayer and scripture, that offers to lead participants to contemplate and celebrate their relationship with God and with one another.

Music repeats many times. It begins with a simple melody that we sing together, and sometimes stays that way, and sometimes builds as it progresses. If another part, instrument or soloist joins the music, you can continue singing, noticing how that part fits with yours. If you would sometimes prefer to quit singing and experience the music as an observer, please do.

Texts are short and reflective as well. It is always good to think about a reading, but Taizé invites you to feel a reading and to interact with it.

Prayers are invitational and conversational. You are not addressing a faraway being, but entering a dialogue with the living present Christ.

Silence is intentional, there are opportunities to wonder or to consider the words or music you have heard. If a silence feels too long, you might ponder the bulletin cover or focus on the flickering candles.

After the service, you may stay in the sanctuary as long as you like for prayer or simply to dwell in silence.



Gathering Hymn: Come and Fill Our Hearts with your Peace

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
Amen.

Silence

Psalm 22:23-31

Silence

Scripture reading: Mark 8:31-38

Meditation time

Hymn: Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am

Take, oh, take me as I am.
Summon out what I can be.
Set your seal upon my heart
and live in me.

Prayer

Silence

Hymn: Jesus, Remember Me

Jesus, Remember me
When you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me
When you come into your kingdom.

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Please feel free to stay in the sanctuary or linger online for as long as you want for prayer. You may stand or kneel at the cross for prayer. If you are worshipping from home you may want to light a candle during your worship.

When you are finished, please leave the sanctuary and church in meditative silence.

If you feel a need for prayer and conversation after the service, please let the pastor know and space for holy conversation and prayer will be made available for you.

If you are joining us online, you may contact the pastor at her confidential email address:

Pastor2stp@gmail.com

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* Worship service originally designed by Deacon Judy Whaley