# Taizé Evening Prayer



November 2021

YouTube Channel

St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church
www.stgregoryathens.org | 706.546.7553 | office@stgregoryathens.org
3195 Barnett Shoals Road, Athens, GA 3060

# A TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Let us observe a moment of silence as we enter this sacred time and place.

Our service today is from the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) and can be found in the online bulletin.

Officiant: Give thanks to the Lord, and call upon their Divine Name;

make known God's deeds among all the people. (Psalm 105.1)

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

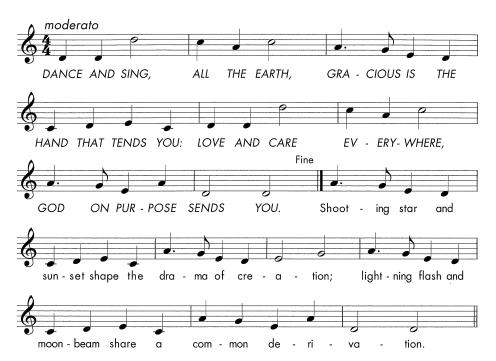
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Officiant: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,

strengthen us in all godness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Opening Song Dance and Sing Pulling Bracken



- 2. Brother man and sister woman, born of dust and passion, praise the one who calls us friends and makes us in like fashion.
- 3. Kiss of life and touch of death suggest our imperfection: crib and womb and cross and tomb cry out for resurrection.

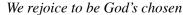
This entire commandment that I command you today you must diligently observe, so that you may live and increase, and go in and occupy the land that the Lord promised on oath to your ancestors. Remember the long way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, in order to humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commandments. He humbled you by letting you hunger, then by feeding you with manna, with which neither you nor your ancestors were acquainted, in order to make you understand that one does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Therefore keep the commandments of the Lord your God, by walking in his ways and by fearing him. For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the Lord your God for the good land that he has given you.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

## Response



NETTLETON



- 2. We rejoice to be God's chosen, to be gathered to God's side, not to build a pious ghetto or be steeped in selfish pride; but to celebrate the goodness of the One who sets us free from the smallness of our vision to become, not just to be.
- 3. We rejoice to be God's chosen, to align with heaven's intent, to await where we are summoned and accept where we are sent. We rejoice to be God's chosen and, amidst all that we see, to anticipate with wonder that the best is yet to be.

Officiant People

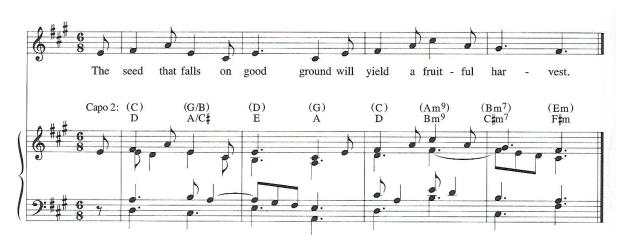
All

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

PSALM 65 Michel Guimont



SECOND READING

James 1:17-18, 21-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.



THIRD READING Matthew 6:25-33

'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

#### CONTEMPLATIVE SILENCE

Let us reflect with gratitude on our blessings from our Lord God; Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

# THE PRAYERS

Officiant: Lord, have mercy.
People: Christ, have mercy.
Officiant: Lord, have mercy.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant Lord, hear our prayer.

People And let our cry come to you.

Officiant Let us pray.

#### THE COLLECT FOR THANKGIVING

BCP 246

Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. AMEN.

#### A LITANY OF THANKGIVING

**BCP 837** 

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.

We thank you, Lord.

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

We thank you, Lord.

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

We thank you, Lord.

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve, **We thank you, Lord.** 

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play, **We thank you, Lord.** 

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

We thank you, Lord.

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

We thank you, Lord.

For the communion of saints, in all times and places,

We thank you, Lord.

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord; To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

#### THANKSGIVING FOR THE SOCIAL ORDER

BCP 840

O God, who created all peoples in your image, we thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.



- 2. No more doubting, no more senseless dread: God's good self has graced our wine and bread; all the wonder heaven has kept in store now is ours to keep for evermore.
- 3. Celebrate with saints who dine on high, witnesses that love can never die. Hallelujah! thus their voices ring: nothing less in gratutude we bring.
- 4. Praise the Maker, praise the Maker's Son, praise the Spirit three yet ever one; praise the God whose food and friends avow heaven starts here! The kingdom beckons now.

### FINAL BLESSING

Officiant

Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who journey with us. So ... be swift to love and make haste to be kind.

And the blessing of God, who made us, who loves us and who travels with us be with us now and forever. AMEN.

Officiant

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.

People

Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

About Taizé...

Taizé (pronounced "teh-ZAY") is not a musical form but rather a worship style made popular through the work of the ecumenical Christian community in Taizé, France. The retreat center there (founded in 1940 by Brother Roger Schütz) is visited every year by thousands of visitors, and services are held in many languages. The community has become one of the world's most important sites of Christian pilgrimage, with a primary focus on youth. The music of Taizé emphasizes simple phrases, usually lines from Psalms or other pieces of Scripture repeated and sometimes sung in canon. Ecumenical services based on this model and music are held in many churches throughout the world.

RuthElizabeth Conine-Nakano, Officiant Daniel Nakano, Assistant Officiant Annette Bates, Piano Stacie Court, Cantor David Stooksbury, Reader

The Rev. Nikki Mathis, Rector
The Rev. Christina Dondero, Deacon
Terri Tillman & Dallas Bono, Viritual Ministers
Jonathan Klein, Organist & Director of Music
Joseph Napoli, Choir Director
Catherine Drewry, Director of Children's Ministries
Wade McGlamery, Youth Minister
Kendall M. Kookogey, Parish Administrator
Mark Hein, Buildings & Grounds
Allena Armour, Sexton