



Saint Matthew's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Good Friday Taizé Prayer

March 29, 2024

7:30pm

Welcome to St. Matthew's! We are glad you are here.

The People are invited to read the words in **bold**. If you're joining us from home, please stand, kneel, sing, and pray with us as you're able. No matter where you are, joining in this worship service is a form of prayer that connects you to God and to each other. Whenever two or three are gathered, even virtually, Scripture reminds us that Jesus is present among us.

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, there is a place for you at St. Matt's.

Taizé Prayer is a distinctive style of meditative prayer developed by an ecumenical community of monks in rural France. This quiet, moving reflective prayer combines elements of the Church's traditional Liturgy of the Hours with elements of contemplative meditation. A typical Taizé prayer service incorporates long periods of silence with meditative readings from scripture, prayers of praise and intercession, and the frequent repetition of simple songs. Short songs or chants, repeated over and over, create a meditative environment and express basic realities of faith which can be easily grasped by the mind and the heart. The result is to gradually move prayer from the head to the heart.

Although the original Taizé format borrowed much from a wide variety of international languages and traditions, much of its music was created particularly for the community by noted liturgical musicians like Jacques Berthier and Joseph Gelineau.

Taizé Prayer is widely practiced today in student centers and retreat houses, but is also growing in popularity in parish churches and local congregations throughout the world.

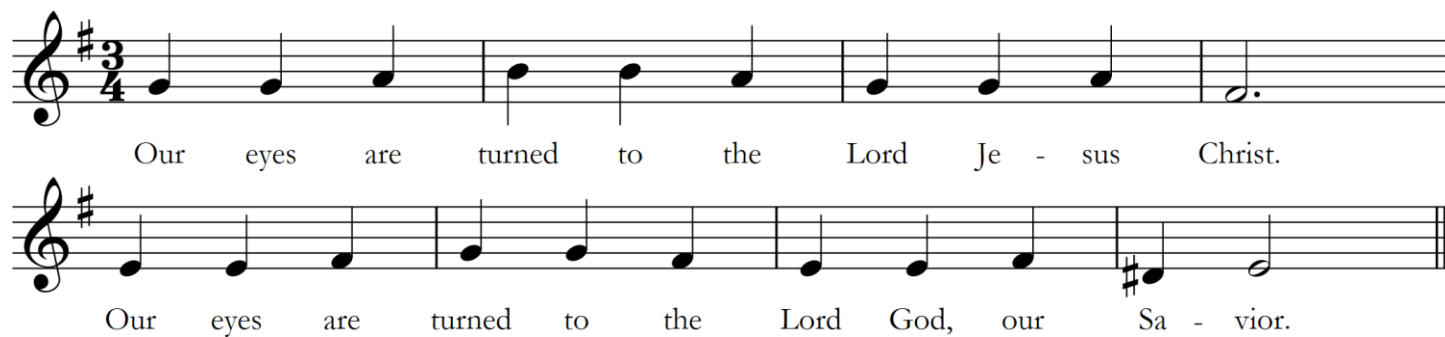
The Taizé Community describes the power of its unique musical style in this way:

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...

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.

The People are seated. Worship begins.

Song



Our eyes are turned to the Lord Je - sus Christ.

Our eyes are turned to the Lord God, our Sa - vior.

The first song is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter notes and half notes. The lyrics are: "Our eyes are turned to the Lord Je - sus Christ." and "Our eyes are turned to the Lord God, our Sa - vior." The second line ends with a double bar line.

Song



There can be no great - er love than to

lay down our life for those we love.

The second song is written in common time (C) with a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb). The melody consists of quarter notes, half notes, and a long note with a slur. The lyrics are: "There can be no great - er love than to" and "lay down our life for those we love." The second line ends with a double bar line.

Psalm 40

Sung responsively

Antiphon:

Hear, O Lord, and be merciful to me.

O Lord, be my helper.

Psalm tone:

I waited patiently up - / on the Lord; *
he stooped to me and / heard my cry.

**He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the / mire and clay; *
he set my feet upon a high cliff and made my / footing sure.**

Antiphon

He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise / to our God; *
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust / in the Lord.

**Happy are they who trust / in the Lord! *
they do not resort to evil spirits or / turn to false gods.**

Antiphon

Great things are they that you have done, O Lord my God!
how great your wonders and your / plans for us! *
there is none who can be com - / pared with you.

**Oh, that I could make them / known and tell them! *
but they are more than / I can count.**

Antiphon

In sacrifice and offering you / take no pleasure *
(you have given me / ears to hear you);

Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have / not required, *
and so I said, “Be - / hold, I come.

Antiphon

In the roll of the book it is written con - / cerning me: *
“I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep / in my heart.”

I proclaimed righteousness in the great / congregation; *
behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O / Lord, you know.

Antiphon

Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart;
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your de - / liverance; *
I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the great /
congregation.

You are the Lord; do not withhold your compas - / sion from me; *
let your love and your faithfulness keep me / safe for ever,

Antiphon

For innumerable troubles have crowded upon me;
my sins have overtaken me, and I / cannot see; *
they are more in number than the hairs of my head, and / my heart fails me.

Be pleased, O Lord, to de - / liver me; *
O Lord, make / haste to help me.

Antiphon

The Reading

1 Peter 1:10-20

Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that was to be yours made careful search and inquiry, inquiring about the person or time that the Spirit of Christ within them indicated when it testified in advance to the sufferings destined for Christ and the subsequent glory. It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in regard to the things that have now been announced to you through those who brought you good news by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things into which angels long to look! Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance. Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; for it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.” If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Song



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; when I call, an - swer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; come and li - sten to me.

Silence

Silence is kept.

Intercessions

The People respond with the words in bold.

Intercessor Lord, hear the prayers of your people,
People **and forgive our sins, for you are kind.**

Intercessor Lord, Creator of the world, you judge righteously, deliver
us from evil by your right hand,
People **and forgive our sins, for you are kind.**

Intercessor By your cross you purchased for yourself a people from the
nations, graciously blot out the sins of all, O Christ,
People **and forgive our sins, for you are kind.**

Intercessor Lord, you called on God from the cross, asking for
forgiveness. Forgive our debts, loosen our bonds, remind us
to ask for help,
People **and forgive our sins, for you are kind.**

Intercessor You promised paradise to the thief who repented.
Help us, that we might repent and be made new,
People **and forgive our sins, for you are kind.**

Intercessor

Holy God, we remember Pilate's question: What is truth? Now
we have seen the truth: Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh,
betrayed, denied,
mocked and beaten,
put to death on a cross,
buried in the tomb.
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy on us.
We have seen the truth.
But there is more...
show us the truth of your saving power; show us the way
beyond the grave;
show us the life that is everlasting;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Celebrant and People

**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.**

Song

Je - sus, re - mem-ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem-ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff ends with a fermata over the final note, and the second staff ends with a double bar line.

Final Prayer

The Celebrant says

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray you to set your passion, cross, and death between your judgment and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Give mercy and grace to the living; pardon and rest to the dead; to your holy Church peace and concord; and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the People saying

Christ crucified draw you to himself, to find in him a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit guard you this day and forevermore. **Amen.**

Song

In the Lord I'll be e - ver thank - ful; in the Lord I will re - joice!

Look to God; do not be a - fraid. Lift up your voic - es; the Lord is near.

Lift up your voic - es; the Lord is near.

Song

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,

u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.

(translation: *Where charity and love are, God is there.*)

Worship Leaders

Celebrant

The Rev. Marissa Rohrbach

Lector

Bob Giolitto

Intercessor

Paul Reis

Music Director

Andrew Leslie Cooper

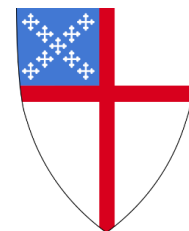
Prayer Requests *Specific prayer requests will be kept on the prayer list for six weeks. Please call or email the office if you have additions or deletions to the prayer list. You are encouraged to offer your own prayers silently or aloud as indicated in the Prayers of the People.*

Today and through the week, we remember all those who have been commended to our prayers. For those who are sick or in need: *Rob, Lia, Sabrina, Karen, Kristen, Vinny, Antonio, Thomas, Diana, Aaron, Kathy, Arlene, Jack, Joan, Liz, Jack, Maddie, Scott, Melinda, and Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. For those serving in the military, Matthew Comeau.*



Worship Schedule at St. Matthew's

Holy Eucharist on Sundays at 10am



Please keep an eye on our website and social media as well as our e-news. There you'll find information and opportunities to connect for friends and members of all ages.

Staff

Rector	The Rev. Marissa S. Rohrbach, marissa@stmatthewswilton.org
Music Ministries & Organist	Andrew Leslie Cooper, andrew@stmatthewswilton.org
Parish Administrator	Nancy Johnson, office@stmatthewswilton.org
Director of WEPCO	Donna Savage, wepco@optonline.net
Bookkeeper	Louann Miska, louann.miska@gmail.com
Media Technician	Matthew Henshaw
Nursery Staff	Lucia Sato
Sextons	Alix Williams, Jairo Mejia

Wardens and Officers

Warden	Pam Ely	Clerk	Jennifer DeAngelis
Warden	Anne Newton	Asst. Treasurer	Brian Angerame
Treasurer	Rob Kyle		

The Vestry

Eleanor Arnold	Amy Gubner	Endy Perry
Beth Baker	Vytas Kisieličius	John Pearson

36 New Canaan Road, Wilton, CT 06897

Phone: (203) 762-7400

www.stmatthewswilton.org

Like us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/stmattswilton

Follow us on Twitter & Instagram @stmattswilton