

Taizé Worship
A quiet reflective service of singing, prayer and silence.

INTRODUCTION and WELCOME Revd Canon Graham Hedger

Today, during our continued period of Corona virus in our midst, we gather together from our homes through the internet, to worship God, our Father. With holy words, Taizé chants, silence and prayer, our focus offers Christian insights **Towards Wholeness**.

OPENING SCRIPTURE

In the gospel according to Matthew, Christ beckons us with these words:

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Matthew 11: 28,29

OPENING PRAYER Led by Revd Wendy Gourlay

We come to God whose love makes us whole.

We come as we are, with our hurts and our ills.

We offer our world, fragmented and bruised,

knowing God will heal us through Jesus our Lord.

THANKSGIVING

For blessings of creation, **we give you thanks, O God.**

For blessings of friendship, **we give you thanks, O God.**

For blessings of healing, **we give you thanks, O God.**

(pause)

CHANT 1. Bless the Lord, my soul

p Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name. —

p Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 61:1-3 Read by Jane Slade

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion – to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendour.

PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS

From false desires and selfish deeds,

all-knowing God, deliver us.

From unworthy thoughts and prideful claims,

all-seeing God, deliver us.

From unclean hearts and petty ways,

all-cleansing God, deliver us.

PSALM 103:1-5

Praise the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits – who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

CHANT 2 Our eyes are turned to the Lord Jesus Christ

The musical notation for Chant 2 is presented in two systems. Each system consists of a treble staff and a bass staff, both in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and 3/4 time. The first system has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics for the first system are: "O - cu - li nos - tri ad Do - mi - num Je - sum, Our eyes are turned to the Lord Je - sus Christ." The second system has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics for the second system are: "o - cu - li nos - tri ad Do - mi - num nos - trum. Our eyes are turned to the Lord God, our Sav - ior." The chords for the first system are: Em, D, G, D, Em, C, Am, B. The chords for the second system are: Em, D, G, D, Em, C, Am⁶, B, Em.

Em D G D Em C Am B

O - cu - li nos - tri ad Do - mi - num Je - sum,
Our eyes are turned to the Lord Je - sus Christ.

Em D G D Em C Am⁶ B Em

o - cu - li nos - tri ad Do - mi - num nos - trum.
Our eyes are turned to the Lord God, our Sav - ior.

MEDITATION : *Following this meditation I invite you to have a period of quiet reflection. This will be followed by Carol Cooke leading our intercessions.*

An Excerpt from ‘Tokens of Trust’, written by Rowan Williams

Belief in a Creator of all things visible and invisible is in fact something of deeply practical and personal meaning. It is about the possibility of an *integrated* life - not a life where some bits of us have to be covered up or swept under the carpet.

'Visible and invisible' means something for the life of each one of us, you see. There are the things in my life that I'm aware of, there are the things I'm not aware of - and there are the things that I *try* not to be aware of, that I'm ashamed of or frightened by. But all that I am is the working out of what God has made; some of it has worked out well, some not so well; I have learned to make good use of some of what God has given me and I've made a mess of some of the rest or just haven't come to terms with it.

Saying that God has made us in our entirety and is concerned about all of us isn't, incidentally, the same as saying that anything we choose to do is fine - only that every aspect of who we are needs to be brought into the circle of God's light, because he can deal with all of it. And that also means that we shouldn't be surprised if Christians are interested in things like politics or economics, art or sport, and have awkward questions to ask and contributions to make. There are no areas that are essentially off-limits if God is truly the Creator of *this* world.

So out of the confused and fearful and partial picture of ourselves that most of us work with most of the time, God can make some sort of wholeness. He can lead us gently to face what we find unacceptable and learn how to make it meaningful by his grace. He can draw the scattered bits of myself together. He is not going to be bored, disgusted or impatient with anything he has made, even when we have made a mess of it for ourselves. It's in this way that the creating God and the forgiving God belong absolutely together.

During the following interlude please ponder the words of the meditation and offer to God the people and concerns of your heart.

INTERCESSIONS Led by Carol Cooke

Through Christ, Source of creation, **we pray for healing of the earth.**

Through Christ, Source of peace, **we pray for peace among hostile peoples.**

Through Christ, Source of love, **we pray for love in our families and communities.**

Through Christ, Source of joy, **we pray for delight in our lives.**

Through Christ Source of freedom, **we pray forgiveness for past wrongs.**

Through Christ, Source of resurrection, **we pray for help to make a new start.**

Giver of Life, Bearer of pain, Maker of Love,
you are able to accept in us what we cannot even acknowledge;
you are able to name in us what we cannot bear to speak of;
you are able to hold in your memory what we have tried to forget;
you are able to hold out to us the glory that we cannot conceive of.
Reconcile us through your Cross to all that we have rejected in our selves,
that we may find no part of your creation to be alien or strange to us,
and that we ourselves may be made whole.

“Prayer for wholeness” © Janet Morley

As our Saviour taught us so we pray

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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

CHANT 3. In the Lord I'll be ever thankful

In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord I will re -
El Se - nyor és la me - va for - ça, el Se - nyor el me - u

joice! Look to God, do not be a - fraid. Lift up your voic - es, the Lord is
cant. Ell m'ha es - tat la sal - va - ci - ó. En ell con - fi - o i no tinc

near; lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near. In the
por. En ell con - fi - o i no tinc por. El Se -

WE CELEBRATE

We celebrate the creative, life-giving Spirit, who from the beginning, blessed the unfolding cosmos with movements of grace, and renews the earth as an unfailing, source of life; who breathes life into our spirits, informs our minds and moves our bodies to dance with delight; who prays and dreams in the depths of the human spirit with sighs, hopes and symbols too deep for words; who labours in the heart of the earth in hope of a fulfilment beyond our dreams.

We celebrate Jesus as the Human One who came to be God with Us, who, by his sharing of our journey, our wonder and our pain, energises us and calls us to live in solidarity with the victims and the vulnerable of the earth; who challenges us to face the darkness of death with a hope that stretches beyond our horizons, to unmask evil powers which scapegoat innocent victims; we celebrate the Suffering Servant who overcomes the powers of evil by the energies of love flowing from his heart into our hearts and the world.

We celebrate - in union with Jesus and by the power of the Spirit – the one whom Jesus calls Abba, the One who feeds the birds and is mindful of us than a mother of her baby. We celebrate the one, the three, who call us to respect difference, delight in diversity, and becoming one all-embracing community of love.

Our closing chant today embraces a sense of joy in knowing the Lord

CHANT 4 O come and let us sing to God

♩ = 84

Ve - ni - te, e - xul - te - mus Do - mi - no, ve -
O come and let us sing to God, - our hope. God's

ni - te, a - do - re - mus. Ve - ni - te, e - xul - te - mus
mer - cy is for ev - er. O come and let us sing to

Do - mi - no, ve - ni - te, a - do - re - mus. Ve -
God, - our hope. God's mer - cy is for ev - er. O

Last time

CLOSING PRAYER and BLESSING

Great Spirit, who broods over the world, restore the garment of our self-respect, and remake us in your beauty. Renew in us the stillness of our being, the soundness of our bodies and the secret of our wholeness and the blessing