

We come to you as a people in need of assurance and forgiveness. We come to you in need of healing and wholeness, dependent upon your love.

Draw us close. Enfold us in your arms. Fill us with your Spirit. Enable us to reflect your light in this dark world, to speak your Word with boldness and to draw others to you.

In a time of turmoil when trust is hard to find, we bring to you all that disturbs us, news from far away and discord at home; those we know to be suffering and those who are called to serve them; those who lead and those subject to their authority; those who work for justice and those in whose interests they fight; those who have fled their homes and those who welcome them.

*Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

Chant 142 : Exaudi orationem meam

***Your love embraces me and sustains me.
O Lord, hear my prayer, let my cry come to you.
You dwell in light eternal, living God,
Everlasting, merciful.***

Silence

A prayer by Brother Roger, founder of the Taizé Community

God of mercy, when we understand that nothing can separate us from you, trust in you opens for us the road that leads upward towards a peace-filled joy.

Silence

Chant 141 : Bleib mit deiner Gnade ♪

We leave in silence.
Please allow those who wish to do so to continue to pray undisturbed.

For more information visit
www.kingsnorton.org.uk
Feel free to take this sheet home.

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Taizé Prayer 92 (83) 5th February 2017

Prayer in the style of the Taizé Community for the 4th Sunday before Lent

Welcome! Please feel free to sit quietly or to join in as you feel most comfortable. We will be following a pattern based on the worship of the Taizé Community, one of whose aims has always been to make Christian worship as simple and uncluttered as possible.

Taizé is a small village in eastern France. For almost 70 years, it has been the home of a Christian monastic community made up of brothers from many different countries, speaking many different languages and, uniquely, belonging to several different Christian denominations. Catholics, Anglicans, Protestants, Orthodox and others live and pray together, share a simple life and welcome the tens of thousands of visitors who come to spend time with them every year from all over the world.

The numbers refer to the orange booklet of Taizé Chants which you received as you joined us. This symbol ♪ indicates that we sing the English translation provided alongside the music.

Opening Silence

For Silent Reflection

“Prayer is food for the soul. Do not starve the soul, it is better to let the body go hungry. Do not judge anyone, forgive everyone. Consider yourself worse than everyone in the world and you will be saved. As much as possible, be more quiet.”

St Joseph of Optina, *Living Without Hypocrisy*

Chant 56 : Sanctum nomen Domini

Sung in Latin

*sanctum nomen – the holy name
domini – of the Lord
magnificat anima mea – my soul praises*

From Psalm 4

*Answer me when I call to you,
my righteous God. Give me relief from my
distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.
"How long will you people turn my glory into
shame? How long will you love delusions and
seek false gods? Know that the Lord has set apart
his faithful servant for himself; the Lord hears*

*when I call to him. Tremble and do not sin;
when you are on your beds, search your hearts
and be silent.*

*Offer the sacrifices of the righteous and trust in
the Lord. [...]"*

*In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you
alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.*

Silence

In the silence, we call to mind our sins and reflect on the
Psalm. Then, trusting in God, we sing...

Chant 140 : Il Signore ti ristora

***You restore me and embrace me.
Never will you reject me.***

***In your love, you run with joy to meet me.
Lord, you always seek me.***

From Ephesians chapter 4

*St Paul wrote: So I tell you this, and insist on it in
the Lord, that you must no longer live as the
Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. They
are darkened in their understanding and
separated from the life of God because of the
ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of
their hearts. Having lost all sensitivity, they have
given themselves over to sensuality so as to
indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full
of greed. That, however, is not the way of life you
learned when you heard about Christ and were
taught in him in accordance with the truth that is
in Jesus. You were taught, with regard to your
former way of life, to put off your old self, which
is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be
made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put
on the new self, created to be like God in true
righteousness and holiness. Therefore each of you
must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your
neighbour, for we are all members of one body.
'In your anger do not sin': do not let the sun go
down while you are still angry, and do not give
the devil a foothold. [...] Do not let any
unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but
only what is helpful for building others up
according to their needs, that it may benefit those
who listen. [...] Get rid of all bitterness, rage and
anger, brawling and slander, along with every
form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one
another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ
God forgave you.*

Silence

Chant 113 : God is Forgiveness

A reading from St Matthew's Gospel ch. 6

*Jesus said: When you pray, go into your room,
close the door and pray to your Father, who is
unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done
in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do
not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think
they will be heard because of their many words.
Do not be like them, for your Father knows what
you need before you ask him. This, then, is how
you should pray: "Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your
will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us
today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us
not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil
one." For if you forgive other people when they
sin against you, your heavenly Father will also
forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their
sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.*

Chant 17 : El Senyor ♪

Long Silence

Food for Thought in the Silence

“As the Searcher of hearts, the Lord knows that men
are liable to very frequent trespass, and that, having
fallen, they often rise up again; therefore He has given
us the commandment to frequently forgive trespasses,
and He Himself is the first to fulfill His holy word. As
soon as you say from your whole heart, 'I repent,' you
will be immediately forgiven.”

St John of Kronstadt, *My Life in Christ*

Chant 50 : Nada te turbe ♪

Silence

Intercessions

*God our Father, we are drawn to your feet in
worship, your creation facing its creator, hearts
laid bare by your light, humbly asking for your
mercy.*