Tonight’s service may be a new experience for some, in that very few prayers will be “spoken.” The primary vehicle for prayer will be the “Ostinato Chorale” — a simple melody which is sung repeatedly by all present. Sometimes a cantor will superimpose scripture verses on top of the Ostinato. This is not a “solo” but rather another part of the prayer, so don’t stop singing.

**About Meditative Singing**

What we usually call a “worship service” the Taizé Community calls simply “Prayer”. The founder of the Taizé Community, the late brother Roger, described Taizé prayer in this way: “Short chants, repeated again and again, give it a meditative character. Using just a few words they express a basic reality of faith, quickly grasped by the mind. 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.”

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**The Bells of Taize**

**Opening Songs**

The opening songs are sung as the “symbol of our consent to God’s presence and action within.” They are an invitation to the Holy Spirit to move among the community, filling us with God’s light and peace.

### Lord and Giver of Life

*Dominus spiritus est*
Come and Fill Our Hearts

First Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Psalm 103

Bless The Lord

Verses from Psalm 103 (102) are superimposed on the Ostinato Chorale by the cantors

Holy Gospel: Mark 6:34-43

As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat." But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread, and
give it to them to eat?” And he said to them, “How many loaves have you? Go and see.” When they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass.

So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and he divided the two fish among them all. And all ate and were filled; and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish.


*Sung as a Canon: Women and Men sing together the first time through, then, Women begin at (A); then the men begin at (A) when the women reach (B).*

**Canon**

\[\begin{align*}
&\text{Cm} & \text{G} & \text{Cm} & \text{Fm} & \text{G} \\
&\text{Ho} & \text{ly} & \text{Spir} & \text{it, lov} & \text{ing} & \text{Spir} & \text{it,}
\end{align*}\]

\[\begin{align*}
&\text{ho} & \text{ly, lov} & \text{ing} & \text{Spir} & \text{it, come!}
\end{align*}\]

**Silence**

*A period of silence (about 5 minutes) will be kept in which we have the opportunity to discover the very heart of prayer: the God who is already present.*

**Prayers and Intercessions**

*Note: The tone is held each time after singing the “Christe eleison” until the concluding prayer.*

**Response: sung here and at each R**

\[\begin{align*}
&\text{Cantor} \\
&\text{Ky} & \text{ri-e} & \text{ele-i-son. Ky-ri-e, Ky-ri-e, Ky-ri-e e-}
\end{align*}\]

\[\begin{align*}
&\text{le-i-son, Ky-ri-e, Ky-ri-e, Christe elei-son.}
\end{align*}\]

For those who are far from home, immigrants, exiles, victims of oppression, Lord, we pray. R
For those who are going through trials, who need help and compassion, Lord, we pray. R
For all of us gathered here, that we may remain attentive to those entrusted to us, Lord, we pray. R
That we may be delivered from all anxiety, Lord, we pray. R
That we may learn to share more fairly the resources of our planet among all, Lord, we pray. R
That a sense of wonder at the beauty of creation may remain alive in us, Lord, we pray. R
That we may find light and courage in the mystery of communion that is the Church, Lord, we pray. R

The Lord’s Prayer

Concluding Prayer
Jesus our peace, you never abandon us. And the Holy Spirit always opens a way forward, the way which consists in casting ourselves into God as into the depths. And astonishment arises: these depths are not an abyss of darkness; they are God—fathomless depths of compassion and innocence.

— Intercessions and Concluding Prayer by the Taizé Community

Meditative Songs

Song of Light

**Within Our Darkest Night**

**Dans nos obscurites**

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4
Christ of Compassion

In te confido

Verses  (Superimposed on Ostinato)
1. To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. (Christ of Compassion)
   O God in you I trust. (Lord God we trust you.)
2. In you I hope all day long. (Christ of Compassion)
   Your mercy and love are eternal. (Lord God we trust you.)
3. Lead me in your truth and teach me, O Lord. (Christ of Compassion)
   For you are the God of my salvation. (Lord God we trust you.)
4. Good and upright is the Lord our God. (Christ of Compassion)
   the Lord teaches the humble his way. (Lord God we trust you.)
5. All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love, (Christ of Compassion)
   mercy and faithfulness. (Lord God we trust you.)
6. The Lord turns to me and shows me mercy. (Christ of Compassion)
   The Lord calms the troubles of my heart. (Lord God we trust you.)
7. My eyes are turned 'tward the Lord. (Christ of Compassion)
   For the Lord frees my feet from the snare. (Lord God we trust you.)
8. You hold me Lord, by my right hand. (Christ of Compassion)
   Your presence never leaves me, Lord. (Lord God we trust you.)
9. Who have I heaven but you? (Christ of Compassion)
   On earth there is nothing I desire more than you. (Lord God we trust you.)
10. My flesh and heart may fail, (Christ of Compassion)
    but you, my heart's rock, God forever. (Lord God we trust you.)

I Am Sure I Shall See

I am sure I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Yes, I shall see the goodness of our God, hold firm, trust in the Lord. I am

(Last time)
Verses  A Prayer by Brother Roger of Taize *(superimposed on Ostinato chorale)*
1. Lord Christ, if we have faith enough to move mountains but were without living charity, what would we be? You love us. You love us.
2. Without your Spirit who dwells in our hearts, what would be be? You love us. You love us.
3. Taking everything upon yourself, you open a way t’wars faith, t’wars trust in God, who wants neither suffering nor human distress.
4. Spirit of the Risen Christ, Spirit of Compassion, Spirit of praise, your love for each one of us will never go away, will never go away.

**God Is Forgiveness**

God is forgiveness. Dare to forgive and God will be with you.

God is forgiveness. Love and do not fear.
O Lord, You Hold And Protect Me

Seigneur, tu gardes mon ame

Verses from the Psalms are superimposed on Ostinato Chorale

Dismissal with Blessing

This concludes the Prayer

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“Avoid making sure you are noticed by others in order to gain their admiration” is an important part of the Rule of Taizé. This principle enables worshipers at Taizé Prayers to maintain their focus on God and not the worship leaders, choir, instrumentalists or cantors. In keeping with this principle, we choose not to list the names of the worship leaders and musicians.

An offering plate is located in the Narthex for those who wish to donate to the Taizé Candle fund.

Our next Taizé Prayer will be Sunday, October 28, at 5:00 PM
Come Walk The Labyrinth

Today — 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Come and walk the Sacred Path in the Sports Hall following this Taizé Prayer.

The Labyrinth is also open every 4th Sunday from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Concerning this evening’s theme “Christ of Compassion”

This evening’s theme is drawn from the English title of the Ostinato “In te cofido.” It only takes a cursory glance at the newspaper or “Eyewitness News” on TV to realize there are a lot of very angry people out there. The airwaves are filled with political adds which vilify, even demonize candidates from opposite the opposite party. Gun violence regularly makes headlines. Various groups invoke the name of God as they proclaim their hatred of persons with whom they disagree or disapprove. The cultural atmosphere is becoming toxic.

Our prayer tonight has been put together in the hope that it may be helpful as a means of spiritual detoxification. The spiritual concepts of the various Ostinatos focus on compassion, gentleness, and the love and forgiveness of God. May they become prayers of the heart that we can sing in the face of indifference, violence, and fear. May they be used by God to transform us and conform us to the Image of Christ. Jesus looked at the crowds “and had compassion upon them.” May the Christ in us move us to that same compassion, even for those with whom we disagree.

Taken during a prayer at Taize, France when Brother Roger was still alive. He is just to the right of the Icon in the center, surrounded by children — as was his custom.