

# Lenten Taize Worship

March 3, 2021

Tonight's worship includes some of the aspects of Taizé worship. Taizé is a quiet, meditative prayer which is sung. The songs are short phrases that are sung repeatedly so that the words may enter our hearts.

This style of worship also includes generous use of silence.

Every Wednesday, we will also hear a monologue spoken from a different character from the Bible.

Each has a unique encounter with Jesus and gives us a more full perspective on who Jesus is.

Opening Litany

adapted from Psalm 27

The Lord is our light and our salvation whom shall we fear?

**The Lord is the stronghold of our lives - of whom shall we be afraid?**

One thing we ask from the Lord, this only do we seek:

**that we may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of our lives.**

That we may gaze on the beauty of the Lord;

**that we may seek you in your temple.**

For in the day of trouble we may be kept safe in the Lord's dwelling;

**the Lord will set us high upon a rock.**

Hear our voice when we call, Lord;

**be merciful to us and answer us.**

Teach us your way, Lord;

**lead us on a straight path.**

Be strong and take heart

**as we wait for the Lord.**

Song for Meditation

*Bless the Lord, My Soul*

*Bless the Lord, my soul*

*And bless God's holy name*

*Bless the Lord, my soul*

*Who leads me into life*

Silence / Prayer

Song for Meditation

*Have Mercy on Us, Lord*

Have mercy on us, Lord  
And hear our solemn prayer  
We come to hear your living word  
It saves us from despair

Have mercy on us Christ  
And wash away our sin  
Pour out your grace and make us whole  
That new life may begin

Have mercy on us Lord  
Make sin and shame depart  
Renew us with your saving power  
Create in us new hearts

Silence

Reading

*Luke 5:17-26*

*One day, while he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting nearby (they had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem); and the power of the Lord was with him to heal. Just then some men came, carrying a paralyzed man on a bed. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus; but finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus. When he saw their faith, he said, 'Friend, your sins are forgiven you.' Then the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, 'Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?' When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, 'Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier, to say, "Your sins are forgiven you", or to say, "Stand up and walk"? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins'—he said to the one who was paralyzed—'I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home.' Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God. Amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, 'We have seen strange things today.'*

Monologue

*The Paralytic*

Silence

Song for Meditation

*Ubi Caritas (Where True Charity and Love Abide)*

*Ubi caritas et amor  
Ubi caritas, Deus ibi est*

*Where true charity and love abide  
God is dwelling there, God is dwelling there*

Lord's Prayer / Silence

Benediction

Song for Meditation

*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
fill me with life anew,  
that I may love the way you love,  
and do what you would do.*

Go in Peace.

The paralytic in the Bible story had friends who made sure that he was taken to Jesus. Hindered by the large crowd, it would have been easy for them to give up. Instead, they get creative. Read Luke 5:20, Mark 2:5, or Matthew 9:2.

Whose faith is referenced there?

Have you, at times in your life, relied on the faith of your friends?

At other times have you found it hard to have faith, but were encouraged by the faith of others?