

Taizé Prayer

Prayer around the Cross for Peace



Taizé Prayer is a simple and meditative prayer format. It combines singing, silence, scripture reading and intercessions within a candlelit prayer service around the cross.

Join us in this time of prayer for peace.

Taizé is a village in the Burgundy region of France. Roger Schütz, son of a Swiss minister, was only 25 years old when he came to Taizé from Switzerland in 1940. In the war-torn years that followed, he began sheltering Jewish refugees and praying in the village church. Others joined him and soon a small community was formed. Believing there would always be war in Europe until Christians stopped killing Christians, Roger and his followers committed themselves to a ministry of reconciliation, a challenging and difficult task in postwar France and Germany. Slowly, one by one, people began making life-long commitments to communal life, adopting a Benedictine style of daily life. Taizé has become a monastic model of ecumenism.

Over the years that followed, young people from all over Europe made their way to Taizé. Today, from March to November, as many as six thousand young people a week come to Taizé for the weekly prayer around the cross.

The House of Prayer and Spirituality Chapel

4th Monday Evening of each month at 7.30. All welcome.

In Taizé Prayer singing is one of the most essential elements of worship. Short songs, repeated, give it a meditative character. Using just a few words they express a basic reality of faith, are quickly grasped by the mind and gradually penetrate the whole being.

This meditative singing thus becomes a way of listening to God, freeing our minds from concentrating too much on the text, allowing us to pray through the music without distraction.

It allows everyone to take part in a time of prayer together and to remain together in attentive waiting on God. Little by little, our being finds an inner unity in God.

The prayer can continue in the silence of our hearts when we are at work, with others or resting.

Prayer and daily life are united.

