

A very warm welcome to this Taizé service. You are encouraged to join in with the Taizé chants, if you wish. This is a service of reflection and meditation, and hopefully the music, eadings and prayers will help you draw close to the Lord, that He may touch and refresh all our lives. There will be periods of silence, to use as you wish, for your own thoughts and prayers.

Each Taizé chant will begin with an instrumental playover, to help you pick up the tune. The words are printed on this sheet.

* *For Reflection –*

*‘God understands every human language. Remaining close to him in silence is already prayer: your lips remain closed but your heart is speaking to him. And, by the Holy Spirit, Christ prays in you more than you can imagine.’ (Brother Roger of Taizé)*

*‘God you love us with a tender love*

*like Mary, holding her child gently in her arms*

*like Joseph breaking with harsh tradition*

*to stand by his beloved and her baby.*

*Still our restless hearts to rest in you*

*Knowing ourselves loved.’*

*(Kathy Galloway)*

*‘I lift up my eyes to the hills:*

*where does my help come from?*

*My help comes from the Lord,*

*who made heaven and earth.’*

*(from Psalm 121)*

*‘God you are my God, I seek your face at dawn,*

*my soul is thirsting for you,*

*my body is pining for you,*

*parched ground, waterless and dry;*

*in the Sanctuary, I long to adore you,*

*to behold your glory and power.*

*Your love is better than life,*

*my lips will proclaim your praise;*

*all my life, I would bless you,*

*my hands lifted up in prayer;*

*my soul feasting until satisfied,*

*joy on my lips, praise in my mouth.’*

*(from Psalm 63)*

**ORDER OF SERVICE**

**Opening responsory:**

From the corners of the world

From the confusion of life

From the loneliness of hearts

**Gather us, O God**

To feed our minds

To fire our imagination

To free our hearts

**Gather us, O God**

**Chant: Laudate Dominum (Praise the Lord, all you peoples)**

*Laudate Dominum, Laudate Dominum omnes gentes, Alleluia*

**Meditation**

**Chant: In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful**

*In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful,*

*In the Lord I will rejoice!*

*Look to God, do not be afraid.*

*Lift up your voices, the Lord is near;*

*Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.*

**Meditation**

**Chant: Bless the Lord my soul**

*Bless the Lord my soul, and bless His holy name.*

*Bless the Lord my soul. He rescues me from death.*

**Meditation**

**Chant: Jesus, remember me**

*Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.*

*Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.*

**Prayers (with prayer response: O Lord hear my prayer)**

*O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer: when I call answer me.*

*O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer: Come and listen to me.*

**Blessing**

**Chant: Gloria! (Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia!)**

*Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*

*Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia!*