

St.James' West End

Prayer in the style of the Taizé Community for the Feast of Christ the King

Welcome to our time of praying, singing and silence. Please feel free to sit quietly and listen 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. Please join in the words in bold.



Welcome

The Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.
The Lord shall give strength to his people;
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace. (*Psalm 29.9b,10*)

Opening prayer: **God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory. Amen.**

The lighting of the Easter candle

Jesus said: 'I am the light of the world: whoever comes to me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.'

Taizé Chant : Within our darkest night

Within our darkest night, you kindle the fire that never dies away, that never dies away. (repeat)

During this chant if you have a candle and a cross (and it is safe to do so) you are invited to light the candle and place it near the cross.
We have lit candles in church on your behalf.



We join together in saying our confession:
**O King enthroned on high, filling the earth with your glory:
holy is your name, Lord God almighty.
In our sinfulness we cry to you to take our guilt away,
and to cleanse our lips to speak your word,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Chant: Jesus, remember me

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

A short time of silence.

Words from Psalm 24:-

Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you everlasting doors;
and the King of glory shall come in.

‘Who is the King of glory?’

‘The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord who is mighty in battle.’

Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you everlasting doors;
and the King of glory shall come in.

‘Who is this King of glory?’

‘The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.’

A reading from St Matthew's Gospel, Chapter 28, Verses 16 – 20

The Coming of the King

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Followed by a short reflection from Taizé

Then a short time of contemplation.

Taizé Chant: The Kingdom of God

**The kingdom of God is justice and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.
Come, Lord, and open in us the gates of your kingdom.**

Five minute silence

Taizé Chant : Bless the Lord

**Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.**

Intercessions (our response is the Taize chant: 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.**

Let us with confidence present our prayers and supplications to the throne of grace.

We pray for all those in positions of power, that they may govern with wisdom and integrity, serving the needs of their people.

May your reign come; **O Lord, hear my prayer.....**

We pray for the Church, the sign of your reign, that it may extend your welcome to people of every race and background.

May your kingdom come; **O Lord, hear my prayer.....**

We pray for Christians of every denomination, that together we may come to understand the royal priesthood you bestowed on us in baptism.

May your dominion come; **O Lord, hear my prayer.....**

We pray for those whose commitment to truth brings them into conflict with earthly powers, that they may have the courage to endure.

May your rule come; **O Lord, hear my prayer.....**

We pray for this community of faith, that attentive to your word we may always worship in spirit and in truth.

May your reign come; **O Lord, hear my prayer.....**



***Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen***

Taizé Chant: Laudate omnes gentes (Sing praises)

**Laudate omnes gentes, laudate Dominum.
Laudate omnes gentes, laudate Dominum.**

(Sing praises, all you peoples, sing praises to the Lord.
Sing praises, all you peoples, sing praises to the Lord!)

Final prayers:-

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory. **Amen.**

We join together in saying The Grace:
**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy
Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.**