

# Taizé **Prayers around the Crib**

18 December 2024



# **Opening Prayer**

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,
that at your second coming to judge the world
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

**Chant I** Oculi nostri (Our eyes are turned to the Lord Jesus Christ. Our eyes are turned to the Lord God, our Saviour)



#### Psalm 80.1-8

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, you that led Joseph like a flock; Shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim, before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your mighty strength and come to our salvation. Turn us again, O God; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

O Lord God of hosts,

how long will you be angry at your people's prayer?

You feed them with the bread of tears; you give them abundance of tears to drink. You have made us the derision of our

neighbours, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Turn us again, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

#### Chant 2 I am sure I shall see



#### Reading Luke 3.7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

#### Silence for around 5 minutes

You are invited to take a tea light from the table and bring it forward to place in front of the crib

### **Chant 3** Confitemini Domino (Give thanks to the Lord for he is good)



**Prayers of Intercession** with **Chant 4** Veni Creator Spiritus (Come, Creator, Holy Spirit, come, Creator Spirit, come)



#### The Lord's 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.

**Chant 5** Nada te turbe (Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten. Those who seek God shall never go wanting. God alone fills us.)



#### **Closing Prayer & Blessing**

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

**Chant 6** Bleibet hier (Stay with me, remain here with me, watch and pray)



Please stay as long as you wish for silent prayer.

#### Taizé at All Hallows

Taizé is a short service using prayer, chants and silence. It is easy to learn, simple and very beautiful. This form of worship takes its name from a town in southern Burgundy, France, which is the home of an international ecumenical Christian community of over a hundred brothers. Regular times of prayer, chants and silence are at the heart of daily life in Taizé, and thousands from many countries have travelled there to experience this form of prayer and reflection. The profound simplicity and beauty of the worship is now used in services around the world, inspired by the ideals of justice and reconciliation that unite the community and those who visit it.

#### **CHRISTMAS at ALL HALLOWS**

Midnight Mass
Sunday 24 December, 11.30pm
A candlelit communion service with carols celebrating the birth of Christ.

Christmas Day
Monday 25 December, I I am
A joyful communion service to
celebrate the birth of Christ

#### **Christmas & New Year Opening Times**

After our Christmas Day service the church will be closed until Tuesday 2 January, when normal opening times will resume.

#### **Advent Reading**

Join us this Advent as we read together Isabelle Hamley's book Embracing Humanity: A Journey towards becoming flesh.

"Through the lens of Advent and Christmas, Isabelle Hamley guides us through daily reflections and prayers, encouraging us to meditate on being human in the light of God's choice to reach out to us in Jesus."

We have a couple of the books in church which are available for £10. Please let Michael know if you would like one. (parish@ahbtt.org.uk)

Join us in person or on zoom as we journey with Isabelle's book through Advent: The second session: Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> at 1pm or Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm.

#### Next Taizé Service

We look forward to seeing you at our next service of Taizé prayers on Wednesday 8 January at 6.00pm.

## The Team at All Hallows

Curate	The Revd Jennifer Midgley-Adam
Associate Priest	The Revd Dr John Barker
Parish Administrator	Michael Griffiths
Education & History Officer	Adey Grummet
Organist	David Cook
Churchwardens	Ken Marshall & Di Robertshaw
Safeguarding Officer (safeguarding@ahbtt.org.uk)	Siobhán Martin



# All Hallows by the Tower with St Dunstan in the East

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