Lectio Divina and Taizé Prayer Service

Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church

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Tonight we join together the final Luminous Mystery of the Holy Rosary- the Institution of the Eucharist- to today's Feast of the Annunciation of our Lord. We ask that the Lord make us aware of the ways that these events are connected, especially in our personal participation in the Eucharist. We invite you to imagine that as we sit together here tonight, and whenever we sit before the Blessed Sacrament, that we hear God's call to us. Imagine Him calling you by name, inviting you, your body and soul, to become the Holy home of His beloved son, our Lord, Jesus Christ when you partake in Holy Communion.

We, like Mary, must use our faith, obedience and humility to transform the offering into the Holy Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. When we take Him into our body's, like Mary, we give ourselves, our works, and our words to Him, so that He may reign within us and through us in this world.

In tonights readings, chants, and prayers, we work to make us aware of the Lord's preparation of us as his servants, just like He prepared Mary to answer the call of faith. We use the setting of the Passover celebration to help us remember the history and dedication of the Lord's creation of us, and of our place at His table.

Thank you for your presence here tonight. Let us prepare our hearts in prayer together.



Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

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.



As we listen to the gospel, let us imagine that we are sitting at the Passover table with Jesus. Through this feast, we unite ourselves with our history, so that we may begin to understand our invitation to salvation.

1st **Reading -** Mark 14:22-26

While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, and said, "Take it; this is my body." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many. Amen, I say to you, I shall not drink again the fruit of the vine until the day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." Then, after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Lord, we sit here in stillness with You, and we remember, as You called Your disciples to do at Passover. First, we remember our biblical history. That through all of our missteps, all of our offenses against You and against one another, You were faithful to us. You continually delivered us from slavery and brought us into Your grace.

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

Text: Psalm 103, Taizé Community, © 1998, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Journal Prompt: Passover is a time of remembering and reflecting on God's faithfulness to us. Through our experience of God in the Old Testament, we are able to be sure of God's unwavering love for us through our countless missteps. Often, all God asks of us is a quick reply even if it is obstinate, as many of the prophets were. Use the space below to reflect on your own knowledge of God. How can you be sure of His faithfulness? Where do you doubt Him?



As we listen again to the gospel, we ask the Holy Spirit to keep us in this state of remembrance, so that we may be made sure of God's faithfulness to us. Let us now shift to remember those that came before us in our personal families. As we sit at the table with Christ, let us remember the hardships that our own families and ancestors endured and overcame.

2nd Reading - Mark 14:22-26

While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, and said, "Take it; this is my body." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many. Amen, I say to you, I shall not drink again the fruit of the vine until the day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." Then, after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Lord, I know that I was not created from nothing. I am here as a testament to the courage, faith, obedience and endurance of all those who came before me in my family line. Let me remember or imagine how they sacrificed to feed their children, generation after generation, so that I may be created. Let me also remember or imagine how they sought to be fed, nourished, and sustained by God's grace

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry. Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

Text: John 6; adapt. by Robert J. Batastini, b.1942, and the TaizÈ Community, © 1984, Les Presses de TaizÈ, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Journal Prompt: What do I remember about my lineage? What obstacles did my predecessors have to overcome so that I am here today? How did they struggle to meet their physical needs? What about their spiritual needs? Can I imagine, or do I know my family's faith heritage?



Lord, You are so faithful. You reach out to me daily, sacrificing Yourself over and over again each day so that all of us may sit at Your table. Thank you for the altar that you have prepared for us here, at our humble neighborhood church. Thank you for the faithful who come and sit with You, holding my seat, and calling You back, even when I am not present. I know that all are invited to your table, to be sustained and fed, and freed by the grace of your bounty and love and welcoming arms.

3rd Reading - Mark 14:22-26

While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, and said, "Take it; this is my body." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many. Amen, I say to you, I shall not drink again the fruit of the vine until the day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." Then, after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Oh, my Jesus, let all souls, especially those most in need of thy mercy, find their way to Your table. We beg that Your Holy Spirit fill them with a hunger and desire for You. Amen.

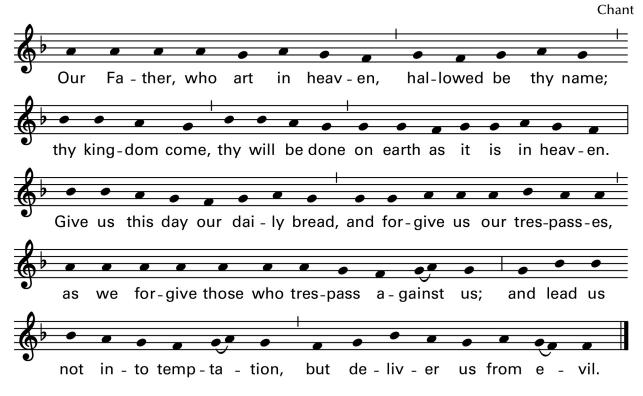
Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas Deus ibi est. Live in charity and steadfast love, live in charity; God will dwell with you.

Text: 1 Corinthians 13:2-8; Where charity and love are found, God is there; TaizÈ Community, 1978, © 1979, Les Presses de TaizÈ, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Journal Prompt: Christ is here with us, each day. We have read of God's faithfulness to us throughout history. We have read of how Jesus comes to perform miracles- He is brought into hearts not only through personal repentance, but from the pleading of family and friends. He has rescued us personally. He came not to judge the world but to save the world. He came to save the whole world. So let my prayers now open the door for His Holy Spirit to work in the part of the world where only my eyes see. Who and what in my world can I give to Christ, so that He will take it into His holy hands?



LORD'S PRAYER



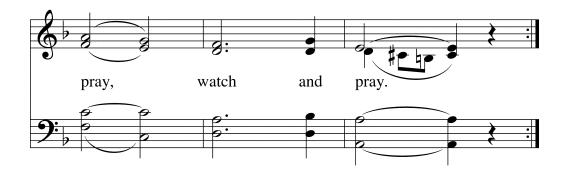
Music: Chant; adapt. by Robert J. Snow, 1926–1998.



STAY WITH ME

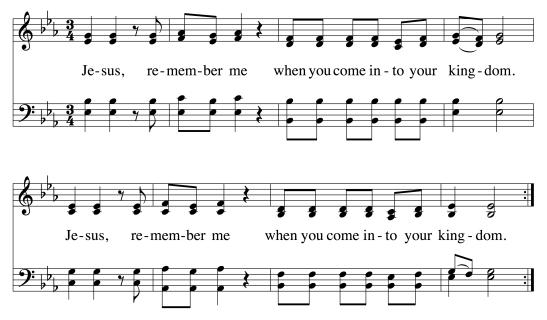
Jacques Berthier





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Jesus, Remember Me



Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994 © 1981, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent