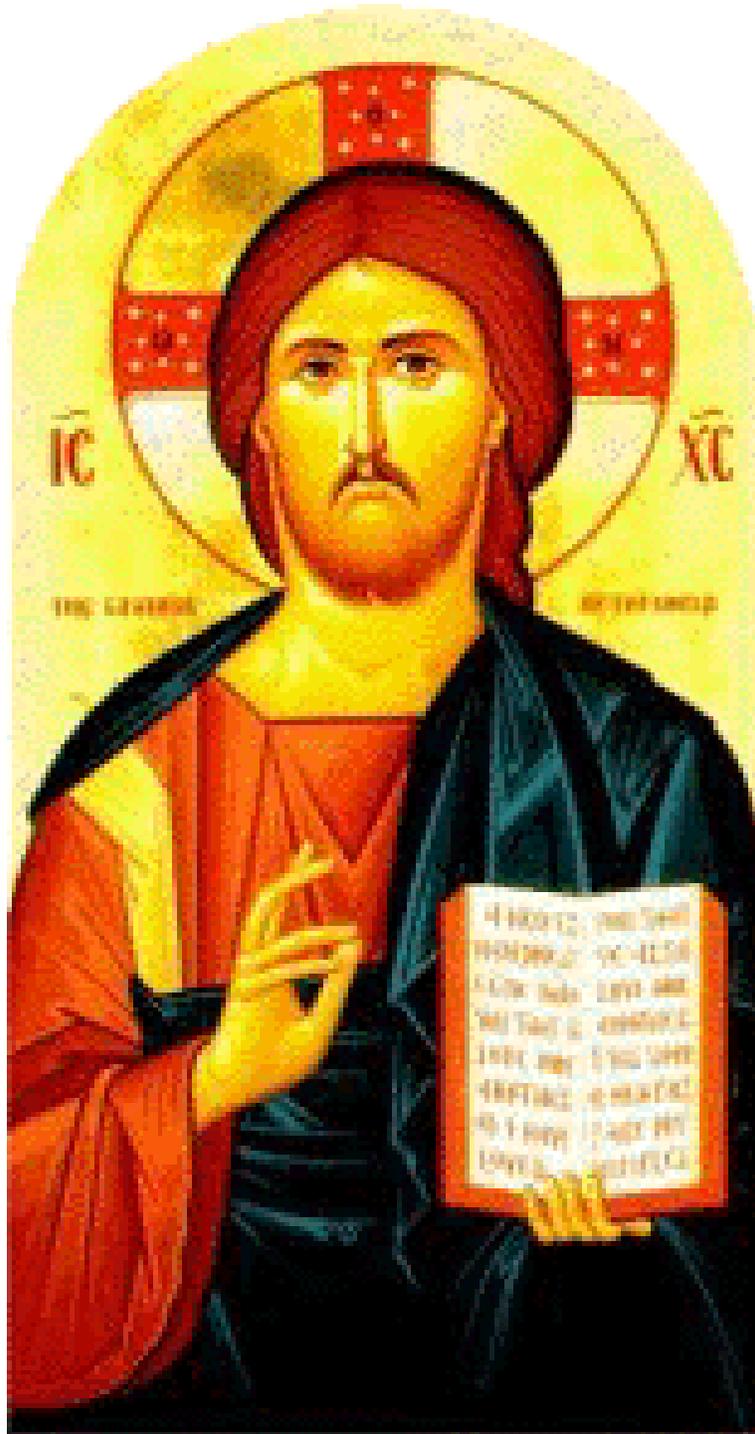


Advent Taizé Meditation



Ezekiel 34:11-16, 23-24 ✦ November 25, 2020

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who shapes the whole creation, who comes with might and mercy, who fills the hungry with good things.

C **Amen**

P We confess that we have been unfaithful. Like dry leaves and withered grass our lives are blown about by our sins and by the powers of evil all around us. Let us approach the throne of grace that the light of God's face may shine on us that we may be saved.

(Remain kneel or remain seated as you so choose)

Cantor



O Christ, thou Lamb of God, who tak-est a-way the sin of the world: Have mer-cy up- on us.

All



O Christ, thou Lamb of God, who tak-est a-way the sin of the world: Have mer-cy up- on us.



O Christ, thou Lamb of God, who tak-est a-way the sin of the world: Grant us your peace



A - men

P God is patient and not wanting any to perish but desires all to come to repentance. Through Christ, you are set free from all that imprisons you and your sins are forgiven. God heals your broken heart that we may live in harmony and peace as together we wait for the day of God.

The peace of Christ be with you!

Instrumental C Fmaj7 F G Em C Bb Am G

1. Stir up your pow'r, O Lord, and come. A - gain we
 2. Is hea - ven's mo - ment far or near? And when will
 pray, "Your will be done." May Ad - vent blue to us for -
 Je - sus re - ap - pear? The com - ing dawn is our de -
 tell the ec - ho of Em - man u - el.
 light in this, the dark - est hour of night.

Instrumental C Fmaj7 F G Em C Bb Am G

3. We could in - side the church re - main, like dry ground watch - ing for the
 rain. We could de - cide to sit and wa - it, as Je - sus
 we an - ti - ci - pate. *Instrumental*
 4. But we must keep hands to the plow; God's time is
 both not yet and now, Our faith in - forms what we shall
 do. May Christ re - turn and find us
 true. May Christ re - turn and find us true.

P In a world of shadows,
C we see illumination.
P As we wait in the night,
C we look for sunrise.
P Surrounded by fear,
C we hold fast to God's promise.
P We wait with hope for Christ's return,
C for the dawn of peace and justice.

Prayer

The Lord is My Light

Canon on Psalm 26

The musical score is written on two staves in G major. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the text, with a first ending bracket over the first measure and a second ending bracket over the last two measures. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of the text, with a fourth ending bracket over the first measure and a 'fine' marking over the last measure. Chord symbols Dm and G are placed above the first and second measures of the first staff respectively.

The Lord is my light, my light and sal - va - tion: in
God I trust, in God I trust. The

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Ezekiel 34:11-16, 23-24

¹¹Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the

strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Reflection questions:

How is God as shepherd different than God as almighty?

How is God shepherding you right now?

What does Jesus reveal to us about God's heart?

Come and Fill Our Hearts

Confitemini Domino

Musical notation for the first system of the hymn. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system ends with a double bar line.

Chords: D, Bm, D, A

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a - lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.
Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.

Musical notation for the second system of the hymn. It continues from the first system. The melody and bass line are shown. The lyrics are written below the notes. The second system ends with a double bar line.

Chords: Em, C, Em, A, D

5
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le lu - - - ia!
Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le lu - - - ia!

Silence for Reflection

Below are quotes, poems and scriptures for you to contemplate.

Father source of light in every age, the Virgin conceived and bore your Son who is called Wonderful God, Prince of Peace. May her prayer, the gift of a mother's love, be your people's joy through the ages. May her response, born of a humble heart draw your Spirit to rest on your people. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

In violence and travail
by Walter Brueggemann

We give you thanks for the babe born in violence.
We give you thanks for the miracle of Bethlehem
born into the Jerusalem heritage.

We do not understand why the innocents must be slaughtered;
we know that your kingdom comes in violence and travail.
our time would be a good time for your kingdom to come,
because we have had enough of violence and travail.
So we wait with eager longing,
and with enormous fear,
because your promises
do not coincide with our favorite injustices.
We pray for the coming of your kingdom on earth
as it is around your heavenly throne.
We are people grown weary of waiting.
We dwell in the midst of cynical people,
and we have settled for what we can control.
We do know that you hold initiative for our lives,
that your love planned our salvation
before we saw the light of day.
And so we wait for your coming,
in your vulnerable baby
in whom all things are made new.
Amen.

Advent is about a hope already come. As truly as Mary carried God's Word within her womb, so we bear within the mystery of our lives the hope that quenches the thirsts this world cannot. We, too, bear the incredible imprint of Jesus Christ, whose presence among us revealed humankind's purpose. Jesus, who is God in the flesh of humanity, verified that humanity was created to be in the spirit of God's divinity. To count on the substance of that certainty is the essence of hope and the reason for human nobility.
Father John McIlhon

"A prison cell, in which one waits hopes and is completely dependent on the fact that the door of freedom has to be opened from the outside, is not a bad picture of Advent." Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’

Matthew 3:1-3

For you, what is being prepared this Advent?

What must be reoriented?

What must we be paying attention to?

Healer of Boundless Compassion

Chords for the first system: D(sus4) D Em G/D F#m/D Em/G A/F# Bm G D Em

Chords for the second system: G F#m Em D Em A G(sus2) G A7 D/F# Em A

Chords for the third system: Bm G F#m Em D Em F#m Em Bm A(sus4) A

Music: Russell Schulz-Widmar, ©2003 Augsburg Fortress

P Remember us in your kingdom, O Lord, and teach us to pray.

All 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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and grant ✠ you peace.

C Amen

Links to explore further:

Websites to light a virtual candle (links can be clicked if viewing bulletin on device): <https://gratefulness.org/light-a-candle/>
<https://www.contemplativespace.com/resources/>

Explore icons of Mary Mother of our Lord
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BFxqKp6_9sc

Taizé Monastery France Live Stream
https://www.taize.fr/en_article28227.html

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Melissa Herring – *Cantor*
Toni Tharp – *Flute, Vocal*
Karen Moxley – *Violin, Vocals*
Todd Porter, *Vocals, Sound*
Joseph Guinn - *Videographer*

COVER ART: *Christos Pantokrator, "Christ the Ruler of All Things,"* Greek Icon.
LITURGY: O Christ, thou Lamb of God (Christe, Du Lamm Gottes) from *Der Erbarne Stadt Bruswig Chritlike ordeninge*, 1528 by Johannes Bugenhagen; music by Martin Luther (based on Gregorian Psalm Tone 1) from Luther's German Mass (*Deutsche Messe*) of 1526. **SANTO, A Bilingual Communion Rite:** Music by Marty Haugen, based on an Argentine folk melody. prefaces by Susan Briehl. © 2001 by GIA Publications, Inc; Taizé Songs from the Taizé Community, France © 1978,1980,1981,1998 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé (France), Published through exclusive licensing agreement by GIA Publications, Inc.