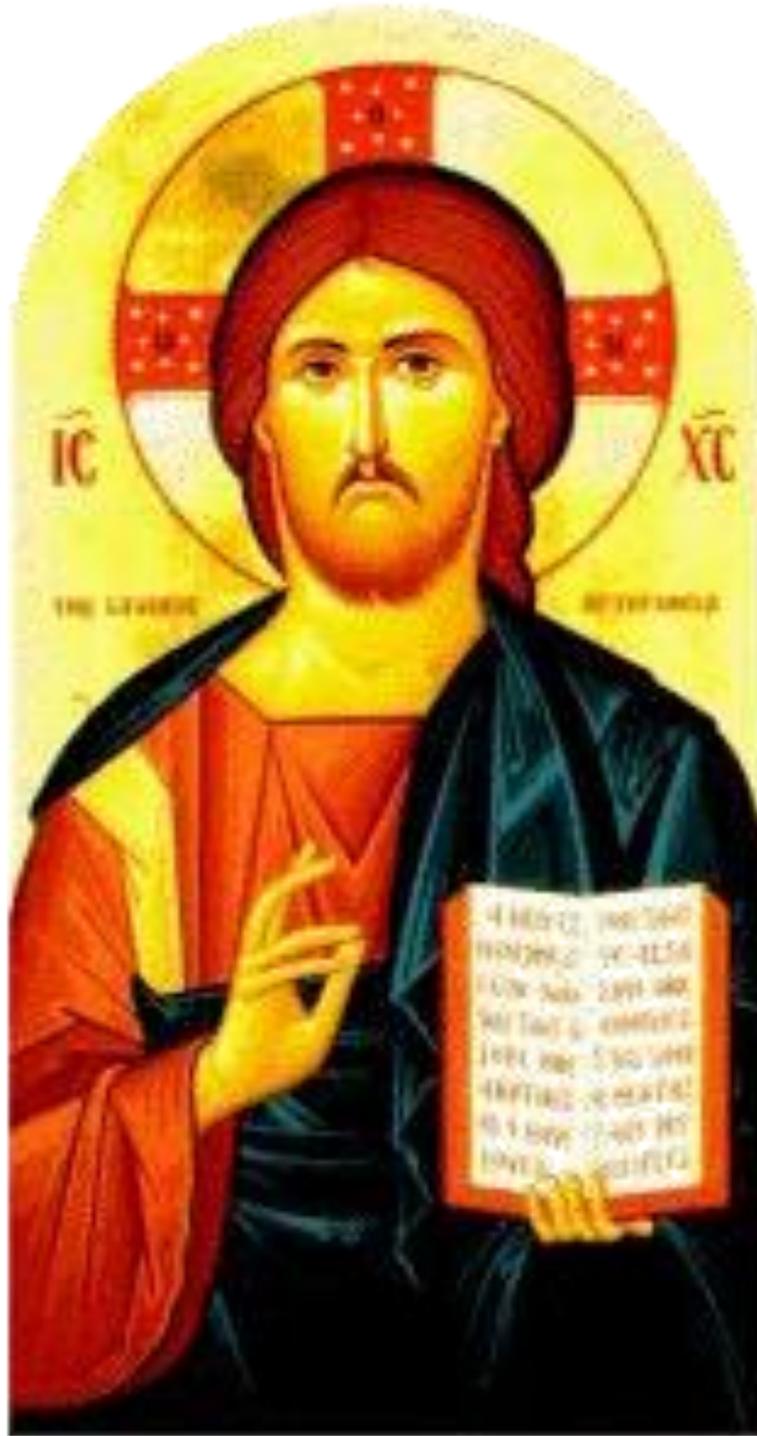


Advent Taizé Meditation



Isaiah 61:1-3; 10-11 ✦ December 16, 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.
P Rejoice always, pray without ceasing
C give thanks in all circumstances.

Prayer

In the Stillness of the Night

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, with chords Dm, Gm, Dm, and Am indicated above the notes. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics, with chords Dm, Gm, Dm, Gm, C, and Dm indicated above the notes.

In the still-ness of_ the night, we give you thanks for all the good of this day:

Fa-ther, Son and Spir - it, call-ing us to live_ from our heart.

Weston Priory ©1977 The Benedictine Foundation of the State of Vermont, Inc.

Isaiah 61:1-3;10-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the broken-hearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
² to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;

³ to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Reflection questions. You are invited to ponder the questions in your own manner (in silence, in discussion with others, in journaling):

- *What word, image or phrase stand out for you in this reading?*
- *Where will you look for God's glory?*
- *Where do you engage in wonder at God's creation; in wonder at the love, grace, and forgiveness of Christ; in wonder at the transforming work of the Holy Spirit?*

Christ of Compassion

Jacques Berthier

Musical score for 'Christ of Compassion' in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of two systems of piano accompaniment and vocal lines. The first system includes the lyrics 'Christ of com - pas - sion.' and the second system includes 'Lord God, I trust you.' The piano accompaniment features chords and melodic lines in both hands. The vocal lines are written in a simple, accessible style.

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Silence for Reflection

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

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.
John 1:5

The grace and the impatience to wait
by Walter Brueggemann

In our secret yearnings
we wait for your coming,
and in our grinding despair
we doubt that you will.
And in this privileged place
we are surrounded by witnesses who yearn more than do we
and by those who despair more deeply than do we.
Look upon your church and its pastors
in this season of hope
which runs so quickly to fatigue

and this season of yearning
which becomes so easily quarrelsome.
Give us the grace and the impatience
to wait for your coming to the bottom of our toes,
to the edges of our finger tips.
We do not want our several worlds to end.
Come in your power
and come in your weakness
in any case
and make all things new.
Amen.

As it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,
‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;
⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.” Luke 3:4-6

In order to understand properly this sacred hymn of praise, we need to bear in mind that the Blessed Virgin Mary is speaking from her own experience – enlightened by the Holy Spirit. When the holy virgin experienced what great things God was working in her despite her insignificance, lowliness, poverty and inferiority, the Holy Spirit taught her this deep insight and wisdom –

that God is the kind of Lord who exalts those of low degree and puts down the might from their thrones – in short – God breaks what is whole and makes whole what is broken. Martin Luther

Lord make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred,
Let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is error, truth;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
And where there is sadness, Joy.

O Divine Master grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
To be understood, as to understand;
To be loved, as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

-prayer by an anonymous Norman, c. 1915
called "The Peace Prayer of St. Francis"

Bless the Lord, My Soul

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). The bass staff has a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are: "Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name." The second system also has a treble and bass staff with the same key and time signatures. The lyrics are: "Bless the Lord, my soul, God res-cues me from death." The score includes various musical notations such as chords, stems, and beams.

Dm G Dm Bb C F A

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.

Dm G Dm Bb C Dm

Bless the Lord, my soul, God res-cues me from death.

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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*
Pete Moxley – *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 Erbarnt 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.**