

Trinity Episcopal Church

Cranford in the Diocese of New Jersey



'The Vision of John on Patmos'

Advent Vespers in the Tradition of Taizé

Sunday, December 7, 2025 at 7:30 PM

The Reverend Andrew David Kruger ~ Rector & Officiant

Anthony J. Rafaniello ~ Director of Music & Pianist

Cynthia Kolby ~ Flute

Brandon Frumolt and Samantha Kaplan ~ Soloists

Gathering

Please remain seated for the procession and for the duration of the service unless the rubric indicates otherwise.

Let all who are thirsty, come

Taizé Community

Let all who are thirst-y, come. Let all who wish, re-ceive the
wa-ter of life free-ly. A-men, come, Lord
Je-sus. A-men, come, Lord Je-sus.

Prayer

Brother Roger

Officiant

Let us pray.

God of every human being, when we have a simple longing to welcome your love,
a flame rises up little by little deep in our souls; very fragile though it be,
it always keeps burning.

People

Amen.

Song of Light

During the singing of the Phos hilaron the first two Advent Candles are lit.

Within our darkest night

Taizé Community

With-in our dark-est night, you kin-dle a fire that nev-er dies a -

way, that nev-er dies a - way. With-in our dark-est night, you kin - dle a

fire that nev-er dies a - way, that nev-er dies a - way. With-in our dark-est

Psalmody

Notre âme attend

Psalm 33

Taizé Community

Our soul is wait - ing for God. Our
Notre âme at - tend le Sei - gneur. En

hearts find joy in the Lord.
lui la joie de no - tre cœur.

O O

D.C. D.C.

1. My soul is waiting for the Lord; I count on God's word.
2. I trust in the goodness of God for ever and ever.
3. Keep me, O God, I take refuge in you.
4. O my strength, it is you to whom I turn. You who show me love.
5. As for me I will sing of your strength
and each morning acclaim your love.
6. I trust in your merciful love. My heart rejoices in you.
7. The Lord is my strength, my song, my salvation:
in God I trust, I'm not afraid.
8. Give thanks to the Lord, proclaim God's deeds.
Cry out for joy and gladness.

Wait for the Lord

Psalm 27

Taizé Community

Wait for the Lord whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!

1. Prepare the way of the Lord. Make a straight path for God.
Prepare the way of the Lord.
2. Rejoice in the Lord always: God is at hand.
Joy and gladness for all who seek the Lord.
3. The glory of the Lord shall be revealed.
All the earth will see the Lord.
4. I waited for the Lord. God heard my cry.
5. Our eyes are fixed on the Lord our God.
6. Seek first the kingdom of God. Seek and you shall find.
7. O Lord show us your way. Guide us in your truth.

Reading

Revelation 1:9-20

Reader A reading from the book of Revelation.

I, John, your brother who share with you in Jesus the persecution and the kingdom and the patient endurance, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

I was in the spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, "Write in a book what you see and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamum, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea." Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands I saw one like the Son of Man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash across his chest.

His head and his hair were white as white wool, white as snow; his eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined as in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of many waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, and from his mouth came a sharp, two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining with full force. When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead.

But he placed his right hand on me, saying, 'Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living one. I was dead, and see, I am alive forever and ever; and I have the keys of Death and of Hades. Now write what you have seen, what is, and what is to take place after this.

As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle

Magnificat

Taizé Community

Please stand for the singing of the Canticle and the proclamation of the Gospel.

1. Ma - gní - fi - cat, ma - gní - fi - cat, 2. Ma - gní - fi - cat á - ni - ma

3. me - a Dó - mi - num. Ma - gní - fi - cat, ma - gní - fi - cat,

4. Ma - gní - fi - cat á - ni - ma me - a!

Gospel

Holy Gospel

Mark 13:24-27, 32-37

Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Mark.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you, I say to all: Keep awake."

Officiant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The People may be seated

Silence

*During the 10 minutes of silence, you are invited to kneel at the Altar rail or one of the Icon stations.
Please make your way back to your seats when the next chant begins.*

Advent Chant

See, I am near

Taizé Community

"See, I am near," says the Lord.

"See, I make all things new."

Oh, oh.

The Prayers

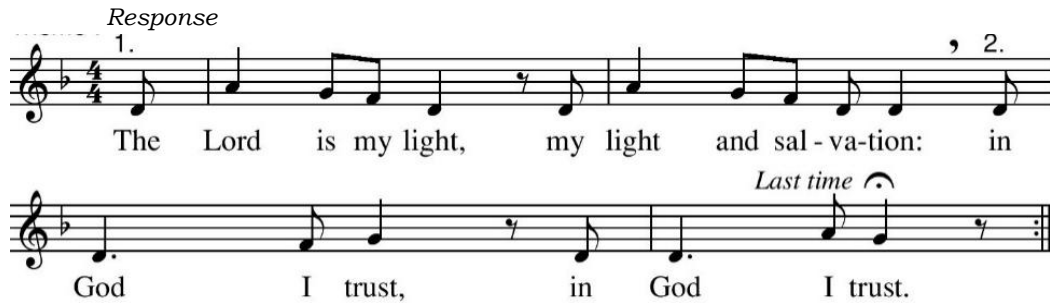
Intercessions

Advent Prayers from Taizé

The Presider says

Let us pray.

Send upon us your Spirit of love: may we never shut our hearts to our neighbor.



Renew the unity between Christians: may they manifest your love by their communion.

Response

Support those who suffer in their hearts or in their flesh: restore them to peace and health.

Response

Welcome those who have died into the life of eternity: may their eyes see the light that never sets.

Response

O Lord our God: make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Book of Common Prayer 121

Officiant As we look for the coming of the Kingdom, Lord, teach us to pray.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Sending

Nunc Dimittis

Taizé Community

Nunc di - mīt - tis ser - vum tu - um, Dó - mi -
 Let your ser - vant now go in peace, O

ne, Lord, se - cún - dum ver - bum
 Lord, Dó - mi - ne, O Lord, now go in peace ac -

tu - um in pa - ce, Dó - mi - ne. Nunc di -
 cord - ing to your word, to your word. Let your

pa - ce.
 word.

Last time

Last time

Acknowledgements

- Book of Common Prayer 1979, The Episcopal Church of the USA © Church Publishing Inc.
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Cover Art

This icon is from the very Cave of the Apocalypse itself, on the island of Patmos, Greece, where the book of Revelation was written.

What is Taizé

The Taizé Community is an ecumenical monastic order located in France. It has over 100 brothers of the Orthodox, Catholic, and Protestant faiths from over 30 different countries. Taizé was started in 1940 by Brother Roger Schutz, a reformed protestant, who authored *The Rules of Taizé* for how the community operates. Each year over 100,000 young people from around the world make pilgrimages to Taizé to participate in weekly meetings of prayer, study, and sharing. Taizé seeks to include people and traditions from across the globe. This is reflected in the prayers and music which are sung in many languages. The music employs simple phrases from scripture, often from the Psalms, chanted repeatedly to come to a deeper relationship with God.

Why are the Chants so repetitive?

Short songs, repeated again and again, are a form of meditation. Using just a few words they express a basic reality of faith which can be quickly and easily grasped by the mind. As the words are sung over many times, this reality gradually penetrates to our heart. Meditative singing thus becomes a way of listening to God. These songs often continue in the silence of our hearts when we are at work, speaking with others, or resting. In this way prayer and daily life are united. They allow us to keep on praying even when we are unaware of it, in the silence of our hearts.

What should I do during the silence?

Every Taizé service includes ten minutes of silence. This is an opportunity for us to move from doing to simply being. During the silence you are encouraged to make your way to the Altar rail or one of the kneeling stations. Spend time contemplating one of the Icons or venerating the cross. You could also use the silence to practice centering prayer. This is a simple form of prayer that involves the repetition of a holy word or phrase. Repeat a word or phrase from one of the chants silently and faithfully... each time you become aware of distractions gently come back to your centering mantra.