



Welcome to our All Hallows Contemplative service

We arrive in silence as Taize music plays

Cantor: Jeremy

Reader 1: Rose

Introduction to service

We give thanks for all the saints,
Signs of hope for us in a time when hope is often difficult to discern.
We give thanks for the communion of saints,
Our living body,
hope in the flesh our communities of faith.
These support us when we lag behind,
When we struggle to be present to those who suffer,
When we let go of our neighbours hand.
For our own call to sainthood,
That challenge of baptism, That creative, disruptive grace,
That instinctive turning toward the human family.
We are images of each other, We are a ruckus chorus
Announcing the kingdom of God:
Hear it and know It calls us home.

Gathering prayer

Holy Being, we gather in your presence to celebrate your goodness, the goodness we have seen in the dawning of a new day, the goodness we trust in One who faced death with the dawn of a resurrected life, the goodness we remember in those who live in the eternal dawn of your presence.

So, we open our lives to a new way of life with you and lift all our prayers to celebrate your eternal goodness this day and evermore.

Amen.

Song **Adsumus Sanctus Spiritus** | New song for Together
Written for the Taize Community 2023

Translation:

"We are here before You, Holy Spirit: we are all gathered in Your name.
Come to us, assist us, descend into our hearts.

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity

so that we may journey together to eternal life

and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

We ask this of You, who act at all times and in all places,
in communion with the Father and the Son, for ages of ages. Amen."

Eternal God, from whose love neither death nor life can separate us;
Grant that we may serve you faithfully here on earth,
And in heaven rejoice with all your saints
Who ceaselessly proclaim your glory;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever
and ever. **Amen.**

Collect Prayer

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical Body of your Son:
Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Holy Being, who called all us into life,
from the first Adam and Eve to the babies born around the world this day,
you have laboured and we have been born;
holy is your name in all the earth.

We thank you this day for all who have shown us your way.
Abraham and Sarah heard your call and ventured new places, even when they
were old.

We listen for your call today. (Pause)

Miriam and Moses danced and led your people from suffering toward a new
promise.

We await a vision of your burning fire today. (Pause)

Deborah fought, Samuel prayed and they led in different ways.

We are preparing to lead this day. (Pause)

David and Bathsheba sinned and were forgiven.
We confess our sin and long for your grace today. (Pause)

Amos spoke and Esther stood tall for the sake of justice.
We open ourselves to your strength today. (Pause)

Mother Mary and Brother Jesus accepted your call.
We attend to your word this day. (Pause)

Peter and Paul, Magdalene and Lydia, and saints through the ages picked up their cross.
We pray that we might faithfully follow today. (Pause)

Holy Being, who called us to into life through the saints in our lives, be born anew to us, that we might serve all your saints; the hungry and thirsty, the sick and imprisoned, the naked and forgotten to honour to your holy name in all the earth.
Amen.

Scripture

The Wisdom of Solomon says: "the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his elect, and he watches over his holy ones." (Pause)

Isaiah says: "Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth." (Pause)

The Psalmist proclaims: "They will receive blessing from the LORD, and vindication from the God of their salvation." (Pause)

Revelation echoing Isaiah declares: "he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." (Pause)

Lectio Divina for the Solemnity of All Saints

We begin our prayer: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** Almighty ever-living God, by whose gift we venerate in one celebration the merits of all the Saints, bestow on us, we pray, through the prayers of so many intercessors, an abundance of the reconciliation with you for which we earnestly long. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Reading (Lectio) Read the following Scripture two times.

Matthew 5:1-12a

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. Thanks Be to God.

Meditation (Meditatio)

After the reading, take some time to reflect in silence on one or more of the following questions:

- What word or words in this passage caught your attention?
- What in this passage comforted you?
- What in this passage challenged you?

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Prayer (Oratio) Read the Scripture passage one more time. Bring to the Lord the praise, petition, or thanksgiving that the Word inspires in you.

Contemplation (Contemplatio) <https://youtu.be/BTO7-Jarl-E>

Read the Scripture again, followed by this reflection:

What conversion of mind, heart, and life is the Lord asking of me?

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

When have I put my trust in the things of this world instead of in God?

How can I live with greater simplicity and generosity?

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

For what do I hunger?

How does God satisfy those hungers?

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

From whom do I need to ask forgiveness?

Whom do I need to forgive?

Prayer from Psalm 24:

**All: The LORD's are the earth and its fullness;
the world and those who dwell in it.**

**For he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the
rivers.**

**Who can ascend the mountain of the LORD?
or who may stand in his holy place?**

**One whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean, who desires not
what is vain.**

**They shall receive a blessing from the LORD,
a reward from God the saviour.**

**Such is the race that seeks God,
that seeks the face of the God of Jacob.**

(From Psalm 24)

Song

Taize Dans nos obscurités - In our Darkest Night

Translation:

In our obscurities, Lord, let your light shine.
In our uncertainties, Lord, let your truth shine.
In our solitude, Lord, let your presence shine.

<https://youtu.be/fy1GtRvRczo?si=HBHRWUc2MOrYnQI->

A Litany of Praise for the God of All the Saints

Gracious God, you are to be praised for the women and men whose faithful witness to your love inspires each generation of your people.

Mindful of all those who have gone on ahead of us, teach us to follow their example:

To feed the poor; to support and comfort those who mourn;
to cherish and learn from the merciful; to be humbled by, and stand with, the peacemakers.

Let us clearly recognize what it means to be called the children of God, and may we know we are to be your saints.

Neither by our own choosing nor in our own strength, but simply by the call of Christ Jesus our Saviour.

Loving God, the generations rise and pass away before you. R: You are the strength of those who labour; you are the rest of the blessed dead. We rejoice in the company of your saints.

We remember all who have lived in faith, all who have peacefully died, and especially those most dear to us who rest in you, whose names we remember before you now.

(we say aloud or in our hearts the names of those we love)

Give us in time our portion with those who have trusted in you and have striven to do your holy will.

We bless you for their lives and love, and rejoice for them that "all is well, and all manner of things will be well." Amen.



Thanksgiving Prayers

O Cosmic Christ,
in you and through you and for you,
all things were created;
in you all things hold together
and have their being.

Through St Francis of Assisi,
lover of the cosmos,
you imagine a new heaven and a new earth.

Through Teresa of Avila,
charismatic leader,
you inspire a church of courage and wisdom.

Through St Endelienta, great soul,
you become nonviolent in the struggle for justice.

Through Amma Sarah of the desert, fearless visionary,
you forge a new path for women.

Through Walter Hilton, creative mystic,
you refuse to abandon the inner light.

Through Hildegard of Bingen, greenness of God,
you poured out juicy, rich grace on all creation.

Through Sr Edith Stein,
drum major of freedom and martyr,
you shatter racial, gender and social barriers.

Through St Jerome of Stridon,
writer and witness,
you preserved goodness in the midst of great evil.

Through St Juan Diego,
noble pilgrim and host,
you transformed the dignity of human labour and hospitality.

Through ,
prophet and pilgrim,
you led the captives into freedom.

Through Sr Wendy Becket,
artist of light,
you revealed the sacredness in holy painting, writing and reflection.

Through St Gregory the Illuminator,
brave prisoner and witness,
You empower the suffering and give rise to transformation.

Through St John of the Cross,
window to the soul,
you awaken awareness to your guiding light in the darkness.

Through Catherine De Huek Doherty, guardian of the unwanted,
you en flesh a reverence for all life.

Through Thomas Merton, universal monk,
you explore the sanctity of every human search.

Through St Mary of Egypt,
you ordain women to proclaim the good news.

Through Jan Tyranowski and Teresa of Jesus,
humble servants and ministers for the youth,
you encourage the young.

Through Julian of Norwich,
 anchoress and seer,
you show the Mother image of God.

Through Herman of Elaska,
marriage of East and West,
you unveil the divine face at the heart of the world.

Through Martin of Tours,
defender and protector,
you remain true to personal conscience over institutional law.

Through Richard Rolle De Hampole,
poet in ecstasy,
you illuminated friendship as mystical union.

Through Edith Stein, Teresa Benedicta,
martyr of Germany,
you rise again in the hopes of the dispossessed.

Through St Romuald,
reformer and encourager,
you answer our search for meaning with wonder in your presence.

Through St Simeon Stylites,
pillar of the poor,
you recognize holiness as bread for the hungry.

O Cosmic Christ,
in your heart
all history finds meaning and purpose.
In the new millennium,
in the celebration of jubilee
help us find that which we all seek:
a communion of love
with each other
and with you, the Alpha and Omega,
the first and last,
the yesterday, today, and tomorrow,
the beginning without end.
Amen.

Visio Divina

1. Examine the image slowly, noting the colors, people, places and things. Remain with the image for one to two minutes. If you would like, jot down a few words about the image.

2. Take a second, deeper, look. Where do you see movement in the image? What relationships do you see? Engage your imagination. Where are you in the artwork? What do you see from that perspective? What deeper meaning emerges?

3. Respond to the image with prayer. Did the image remind you of an experience, person or issue for which you'd like to offer thanksgiving or intercession? Offer that prayer to God.

4. Find your quiet center. Breathe deeply. Relax your shoulders, arms and legs. Rest in this quiet. Let God pray in you. God prays beyond words.



The Communion of Saints by Ira Thomas

Song Taize
I'm sure I shall see

https://youtu.be/LW_cU7TeOWw?si=IJMAC5pPEKdtY-bb

Lyrics:

I am sure I shall see
the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living.
Yes, I shall see
the goodness of our God,
hold firm, trust in the Lord.

Closing Prayers

We give you thanks, O God, for all the saints who ever worshiped you.

Whether in brush arbors or cathedrals, weathered wooden churches or crumbling cement meeting houses where your name was lifted and adored.

We give you thanks, O God, for hands lifted in praise:

Manicured hands and hands stained with grease or soil, strong hands and those gnarled with age, holy hands used as wave offerings across the land.

We thank you, God, for hardworking saints;

Whether hard-hatted or steel-booted, Head ragged or aproned, blue collared or three-piece-suited.

They left their mark on the earth for you, for us, for our children to come.

Thank you, God, for the tremendous sacrifices made by those who have gone before us. Bless the memories of your saints, God.

May we learn how to walk wisely from their examples of faith, dedication, worship, and love. Amen.

Benediction

God's people have celebrated all that God has done,
from creation,
to the cross,
to the saints who have lived among us.

Now we go from this place
to the work place,
the home place,
the market place;
every place living as God's own people.

Song Taize

"Señor, Que Florezca Tu Justicia"

https://youtu.be/kxO47mE_tJ4?si=iBDhVFNz86zNrXKb

In Spanish:

Señor, que florezca tu justicia,
y tu paz nos envuelva.
Tú eres nuestra salvación.

Translation:

Lord, may your justice blossom, and your peace envelop us.
You are our salvation.

Blessing

May the light of Jesus shine in us. **Amen.**

May the light of Jesus shine through us to others. **Amen.**

May we all be saints for Jesus. **Amen**

And the Blessing of God Almighty, Holy Trinity Be among us, and remain with us always. **Amen.**



The Communion of Saints by Ira Thomas

You can Give online at
<https://holyhermits.com.au/give>

Next contemplative service A Blue
Christmas 17th Dec 6pm

Closing music:

[Chant of the Mystics: Divine Gregorian Chant "O filii et filiae" \(2 hours\)](#)