



Churches Together
in Kenilworth and District



Taizé Worship CANDLEMAS CELEBRATION



**31st January 2021
6.30pm**

A “parable of community”

Today, the Taizé Community is made up of over a hundred brothers, Catholics and from various Protestant backgrounds, coming from around thirty nations. By its very existence, the community is a “parable of community” that wants its life to be a sign of reconciliation between divided Christians and between separated peoples.



Meditative singing

Singing is one of the most essential elements of worship. Short songs, repeated again and again, give it a meditative character. Using just a few words they express a basic reality of faith, quickly grasped by the mind. As the words are sung over many times, this reality gradually penetrates the whole being. Meditative singing thus becomes a way of listening to God. It allows everyone to take part in a time of prayer together and to remain together in attentive waiting on God.

God is silent and yet speaking

Silence makes us ready for a new meeting with God. In silence, God’s word can reach the hidden corners of our hearts. In silence, it proves to be "sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit" (Hebrews 4:12). In silence, we stop hiding before God, and the light of Christ can reach and heal and transform even what we are ashamed of.

Singing and Silence

Unlike hymn singing, these chants are not designed to be constantly sung by every member of the assembly. At times, your voice might, or even should, be still while your spirit sings on in silence for a while, feeding on the words and hearing the voice of God speaking deep into the soul. After a while, your voice may rejoin the chant. Most songs last approximately 4 minutes. Many include verses sung by a soloist.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

SONG: **In the Lord I'll be ever thankful**

*In the Lord, I'll be ever thankful. In the Lord, I will rejoice
Look to God. Do not be afraid.*

Lift up your voices, the Lord is near; Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

In the Lord, I'll be ever thankful



In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord I will re - joice.



Look to God, do not be a - fraid. Lift up your voic - es



the Lord is near; lift up your voic - es the Lord is near.

PRAYER FOR CANDLEMAS

Lord God, you are the source of everlasting light.
Your son, our beloved Lord Jesus
was presented in the temple forty days after his birth.
He was recognised by Simeon and Anna,
and welcomed as the promised Messiah.
May we, like them, behold the glory of the Lord Jesus.
Grant that we may stand before you
with hearts cleansed by your forgiving love.
May we serve you all our days
and make your name known
as we worship you as our Lord.
So, may we come by your grace
to eternal life.

Amen.

SONG: **Laudate Dominum** (can be sung in English or Latin)

Laudate Dominum, Laudate Dominum, omnes, gentes, Alleluia!

*Sing, praise and bless the Lord. Sing, praise and bless the Lord,
peoples, nations, alleluia!*



Lau - da - te Do - mi - num, Lau - da - te Do - mi - num,
Sing, praise and bless the Lord, Sing, praise and bless the Lord,



om - nes! gen - tes! Al - le - lu - ia!
peo - ples! na - tions! Al - le - lu - ia!



Lau - da - te Do - mi - num, Lau - da - te Do - mi - num,
Sing, praise and bless the Lord, Sing, praise and bless the Lord,



om - nes! gen - tes! Al - le - lu - ia!
peo - ples! na - tions! Al - le - lu - ia!

BIBLE READING: Luke 2:22-32

SILENCE:

A short time of quiet to contemplate these words.

GUIDED REFLECTION:

SONG: Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart.



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.



Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart.

SILENCE:

A significant time of quiet to contemplate these words.

SONG: O Lord, the light of my life

O Lord, the light of my life. My God shine out within my darkness.

My God, my God shine out within my darkness.

My God, my God shine out within my darkness.



O Lord, the light of my life. My God, shine out with-in my dark-ness.



My God, my God, shine out with-in my dark-ness.



My God, my God, shine out with-in my dark-ness,

SILENCE:

A shorter time of quiet during which you may like to light a candle, in token that you are committed to follow the light of Christ for this year, and to be a light for others.

PRAYER: with Chant Response 'Maranatha! Alleluia! 1'

Prayers begin with the chant sung twice.

Maranatha, Maranatha! Maranatha, Maranatha!

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!



Ma - ra - na - tha, Ma - ra - na - tha! Ma - ra - na - tha, Ma - ra - na - tha! Al -
- le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

SILENCE:

A significant time of quiet as we focus on our candle and allow God to shine his light upon and within us and speak to us in response to our prayers.

BLESSING:

SONG: Alleluia 17

Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

With thanks to those taking part in our service:

SERVICE ARRANGED BY: Val Whiteman and Felicity Hawke (St John)

INTERCESSIONS: David Hewitt (St John)

READING: Hamish Blair (St John);

REFLECTION AND BLESSING: Richard Moore (St Nicholas & St Barnabas)

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Joy on Earth¹ (*Laudate Dominum; Wait for the Lord; Alleluia 17*)

Sing to God¹ (*In the Lord I'll be ever thankful; O Lord, the light of my life*)

Songs of Taizé - Jesu Redeptor² (*Maranatha! Alleluia! 1*) *this song has been edited for use*

