



ADVENT TAIZÉ

DECEMBER 19, 2023

WELCOME.

WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE.

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT
TO SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE.

NEXT SERVICE

TUESDAY JANUARY 23 2024

Thank you to David Knight and members of St. Francis Choir
for leading us this evening with voice & music.

- ♦ It is our custom to observe silence in the church prior to the start of the service.
- ♦ The community of Taizé, in France, is the location of a teaching and contemplative retreat center that attracts thousands of believers from all over the world. Time is spent chanting, praying and studying. Our service of Wholeness and Healing emulates the style of the chant services at Taizé, with music from Taizé and other contemplative sources. We sing short phrases repeatedly to quiet our minds and hearts and open our souls to being in the presence of God. We invite you to join in as you need: singing, praying, and listening. We are glad you are here to sense God's presence with us.
- ♦ A bell will be rung at the beginning and end of the service. Please observe silence until you are outside the church. This will keep the sanctuary quiet for those who wish to remain in prayer.
- ♦ Please join us for light refreshments after the service, either outside on the Chapel Patio, weather permitting (turn right as you leave the church), or in the Board Room (turn left).
- ♦ If you would like to know more about St. Francis church, please speak to one of our clergy, or visit our website at www.stfrancispalosverdes.org.
- ♦ Donations are welcome. If you are able to help support Taizé (our expenses are about \$220 per month), there is a special offering plate at the door for your gifts. Thank you.
- ♦ Private prayer for healing and wholeness will be available with a Prayer Team Leader in the side prayer space, the Baptistry Room, during the time all are invited to light a candle. You may also make an appointment for private prayer with Rev. Jason or Rev. Celeste during the week.

PLEASE JOIN US AT ONE OF OUR OTHER SERVICES

Sundays

8 a.m. Rite I in the Chapel

10 a.m. Rite II in the Church

Can you help?

Each month we are blessed with volunteers who come early to set up or contribute snacks for the reception.

If you'd like to take a turn, please share your email address with Kristina Pelá, krab3@yahoo.com.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The People read the responses in **BOLD**.*

LEADER Let us offer this time of prayer to God with Advent hope and expectation.

PEOPLE For God's presence is with us always.

LEADER Let us pray.

O Holy and Everlasting God, help us open our hearts to an ever deeper awakening to the blessings of this Advent season. Let the light of Your promises burn brightly in our hearts as we are sanctified in the light of Your Love for each one of us. Abide with us, Lord, for you are our evening light. **Amen**

PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

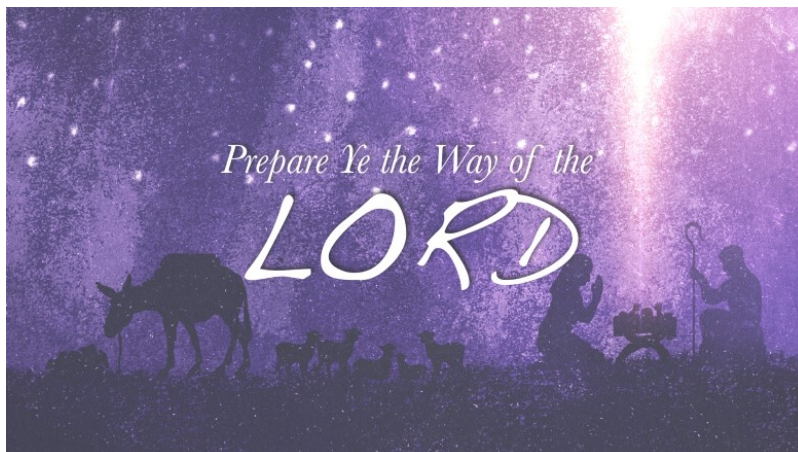
Taizé

Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre-prepare the way of the Lord, and

5
all peo-ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God. — Pre

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Prepare the Way of the Lord' by Taizé. It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 6/8 time signature. The melody starts with a half note G4, followed by a quarter rest, then a quarter note A4, and continues with eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre-prepare the way of the Lord, and' are written below the first staff. The second staff continues the melody with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and continues with eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'all peo-ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God. — Pre' are written below the second staff. The number '5' is written above the first note of the second staff.

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ADVENT HYMN

Thomas Toreger (Tune: Ar Hyd Y Nos)

VIEW THE PRESENT THROUGH THE PROMISE

1. { View the pres - ent through the prom - ise, Christ will come a -
Trust de - spite the deep - 'ning dark - ness, Christ will come a -
2. { Probe the pres - ent with the prom - ise, Christ will come a -
Let your dai - ly ac - tions wit - ness, Christ will come a -
3. { Match the pres - ent to the prom - ise, Christ will come a -
Make this hope your guid - ing prem - ise, Christ will come a -

gain.
gain.
gain.
gain.
gain.
gain.

Lift the world a - bove its griev - ing
Let your lov - ing and your giv - ing
Pat - tern all your cal - cu - lat - ing

Through your watch - ing and be - liev - ing In the hope past
And your jus - tice and for - giv - ing Be a sign to
And the world you are cre - a - ting To the ad - vent

hope's con - ceiv - ing: Christ will come a - gain.
all the liv - ing: Christ will come a - gain.
you are wait - ing: Christ will come a - gain.

A READING FROM LUKE 1:26-38

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

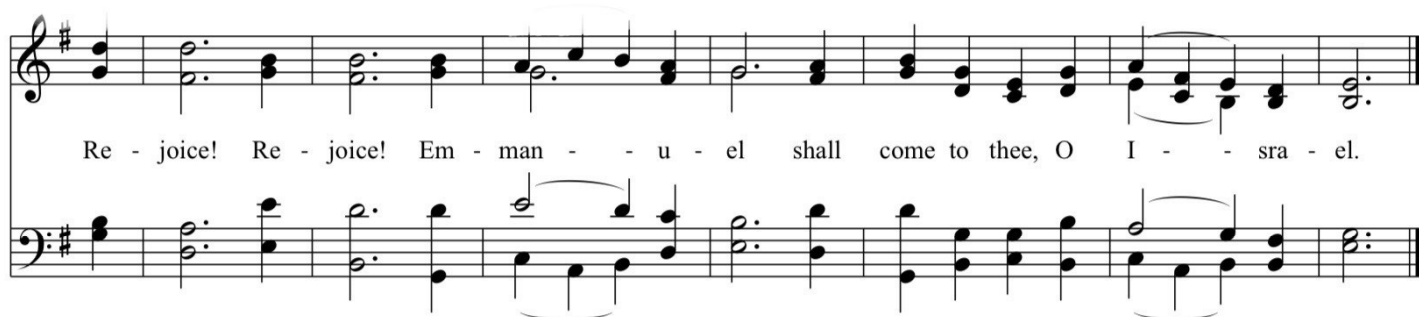
"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

O COME O COME EMMANUEL

VENI, EMMANUEL



A READING FROM MATTHEW 1:18-23

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

O COME O COME EMMANUEL

VENI, EMMANUEL

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

A LITANY FOR ADVENT

LEADER: God our Father, we bless you for having called us to know you,
to love you and to live with you.

PEOPLE: Amen, the Lord is coming!

LEADER: You sent your beloved Son, your perfect image and reflection of your face;
he became like us in all things but sin.

PEOPLE: Amen, the Lord is coming!

LEADER: In him you proclaimed the good news of your kingdom;
you forgive our offenses, heal our wounds and invite us to wholeness.

PEOPLE: Amen, the Lord is coming!

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

PEOPLE: Amen, the Lord is coming!

LEADER: Keep us in the communion of your son; keep us alert as we wait for the day of his coming.

PEOPLE: Amen, the Lord is coming!

LEADER: Give us your peace, so that we can communicate it to one another in mutual love,
and serve the human family.

PEOPLE: Amen, the Lord is coming!

LEADER: Jesus our joy, the simple desire for your presence is already the beginning of faith.

PEOPLE: Amen, the Lord is coming!

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

PEOPLE: Amen, the Lord is coming!

LEADER: May the peace of God, which is beyond our understand-
ing, keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

PEOPLE: Amen, the Lord is coming!

*Please feel free to come light a candle now, or at anytime, and pray before the icon as
long as you wish. More than one person may come forward at the same time.*



THE PRAYERS

RESPONSE; O COME O COME EMMANUEL

VENI, EMMANUEL

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

LEADER: Renew in us, Jesus Christ, the joy of your call to become fully alive in you.

Response

LEADER: Send upon us Your Spirit of Love; may we never shut our heart to our neighbors.

Response

LEADER: Renew the unity between Christians;
may we manifest our Love in communion with one another.

Response

LEADER: Comfort and strengthen those who suffer in body, mind and spirit;
restore them to Peace and health.

Response

LEADER: Jesus, the light of our hearts, help us remain close to you. Guide us with Advent Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. When we feel our weaknesses, bless us with the resources we need to move forward in faith. May the Peace of God, which is beyond our understanding, keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us. **Amen.**

LEADER: Let us pray together the words Jesus taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*please join saying*)

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

LEADER: Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ: he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples, he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us, he is the Savior of every nation. May the light of Christ lead us to the joy of his kingdom, now and forever. **Amen.**

MY SPIRIT IS LONGING FOR YOU, O GOD

William Bradley Roberts

My Spi-rit is long-ing for you, O God, my

Spi-rit is long-ing for you. My Spi-rit is long-ing for

you, O God, my Spi-rit is long-ing for you.

WAIT FOR THE LORD

Taizé

Wait for the Lord, whose way is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

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PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD - refrain from Godspell (liturgical reprise)

Stephen Schwartz

PRE - PARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD.

After the bell is rung at the end of the service, please feel free to exit the Chapel quietly or stay as long as you wish.

Please keep silence just outside the Chapel doors to preserve an atmosphere of prayer for those who remain, and then you are welcome to join us at a reception to continue a spirit of fellowship in the Board Room (to your left as you exit the Chapel).



WOULD YOU LIKE A REMINDER?

We keep an email list of folks who have requested a reminder of upcoming Taizé Services.

If you'd like to be on this list, send an email to **Kristina Pelá**—krab3@yahoo.com.

CHRISTMAS AT ST FRANCIS

Christmas Eve Services - Sunday Dec. 24th - 4pm and 9pm

Join us in celebrating Christmas Eve!

Our Children's Pageant/Story service is at 4pm,
and the traditional Christmas Eve service is at 9pm

Christmas Day - Monday Dec 25th - 9am

Celebrate the birth of Jesus with us on this holy day!

Weekly Worship

Sundays

8am—Rite I Holy Communion, Chapel

10am— Rite II Holy Communion, Main Sanctuary

Clergy

The Rev. Jason Shelby, Rector, jason.shelby@stfrancispalosverdes.org

Direct Line: (310) 594-7984, Church Office: (310) 375-4617

The Rev. Celeste Stump, Deacon, Chaplain at The Canterbury, cstump@thecanterbury.org

Children and families

Sunday School is in session. Contact: Kristina Pelá, krab3@yahoo.com;

Need help or Prayers? Contact: Jason+ 310 594-7984 jason.shelby@stfrancispalosverdes.org

Staff

Dr. Mark Bennett, (310) 594-7416, mark.bennett@stfrancispalosverdes.org, Director of Music

Claire Erbeznik, (310) 375 4617, claire.erbeznik@stfrancispalosverdes.org,

Office Administrator & Receptionist

Mr. David Knight, Organist.

Mr. Wayne Hastings, Communications Specialist, wayne@waynehastings.net

Mr. Joel Miranda, Sexton

Mrs. Elaine Mistele, (310) 594-8268, elaine.mistele@stfrancispalosverdes.org, Business Manager



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code to join our electronic mailing list.



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@saintfrancisepiscopal



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