Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
Reno, Nevada

TAIZÉ SERVICE
Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 12:10 p.m.

About 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, without having to fix the length of time too exactly.

To open the gates of trust in God, nothing can replace the beauty of human voices united in song. This beauty can give us a glimpse of “heaven’s joy on earth,” as Eastern Christians put it. And an inner life begins to blossom within us.

These songs also sustain personal prayer. Through them, little by little, our being finds an inner unity in God. They can 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.

From St. Thomas Episcopal Parish, Miami, FL
The Opening Acclamation

**Officiant**: Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People**: And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

**Officiant**: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

**People**: Amen.

**Officiant**: The Lord be with you.

**People**: And also with you.

**Officiant**: Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**People**: Amen.

Please be seated

**Come and Fill Our Hearts with Your Peace**

Psalm (read responsively at the half-verse)  Psalm 33:1-5

Sing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him.
Praise the Lord with the harp;  
make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre.

Sing to him a new song;  
play skillfully, and shout for joy.

For the word of the Lord is right and true;  
he is faithful in all he does.

The Lord loves righteousness and justice;  
the earth is full of his unfailing love.

The Steadfast Love

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.  
Your mercies never come to an end;  
They are new every morning, new every morning:  
Great is your faithfulness, O Lord,  
Great is your faithfulness.

Reading: Lector

The apostles and the believers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God.  
So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him and said, “You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them.”

Starting from the beginning, Peter told them the whole story:  
“I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. I saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to where I was.  
I looked into it and saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles and birds.  
Then I heard a voice telling me, ‘Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.’

“I replied, ‘Surely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’

“The voice spoke from heaven a second time, ‘Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.’  
This happened three times, and then it was all pulled up to heaven again.

“Right then three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea stopped at the house where I was staying.  
The Spirit told me to have no hesitation about going with them. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man’s house.  
He told us how he had seen an angel appear in his house and say, ‘Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter.  
He will bring you a message through which you and all your household will be saved.’

“As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning.  
Then I remembered what the Lord had said: ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’  
So if God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could stand in God’s way?”

When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, “So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life.”

Lector: Here ends the reading.

People: Thanks be to God.
Gospel


22 Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. 23 Someone asked him, “Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?”

He said to them, 24 “Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. 25 Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, ‘Sir, open the door for us.’

“But he will answer, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from.’

26 “Then you will say, ‘We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.’

27 “But he will reply, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!’

28 “There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. 29 People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

Homily

The Very Rev. Dr. William L. Stomski

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call answer me. O

The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: All my hope comes from God. The

Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me. O

Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life. The
The Litany for Healing

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers. (Pause for responses).

God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation;
We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly;
We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence;
We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being;
We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

Lord, Grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled, that they may be made whole;
Hear us, O Lord of life.

Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence;
Hear us, O Lord of life.

Mend broken relationships, and restore all those who are in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit;
Hear us, O Lord of life.

Bless physicians, nurses, counselors, and all others who minister to the suffering, granting them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience. We especially pray for those who are serving on the front line, fighting the Covid-19 pandemic: Jeannie, Marilyn, Rich, Elizabeth, Eloy, Catherine, Victoria, Adam, Eric, Ashley, Julie, Gretchen, Nick, and Tera.
Hear us, O Lord of life.

Grant to the dying peace and a holy death, and uphold by the grace and consolation of your Holy Spirit those who are bereaved;
Hear us, O Lord of life.

Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin: in our lives, in our nation, and in the world;
Hear us, O Lord of life.

You are the Lord who does wonders;
You have declared your power among the peoples.

With you, O Lord is the well of life;
And in your light we see light.
Hear us, O Lord of life;
Heal us and make us whole.

Officiant: Almighty God, giver of life and health; send your blessings on all who are sick, and upon those who minister to them, that all weakness may be vanquished by the triumph of the risen Christ. All these things we ask in the Name of our Triune God, who reigns forever and ever. Amen.

**Heal Me, Hands of Jesus**

Words: Michael Perry  
Music: Sharpe, Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *Tunes for Grace*

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**Blessing**

Officiant: The Peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, and the blessings of Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

People: Amen.

**The Dismissal**

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.  
People: Thanks be to God!

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Participants

Officiant: The Very Rev. Dr. William L. Stomski, Rector & Dean  
Music: Dr. Gary Gordon, Director of Music & Organist  
Reader: Juliette Leneaux, Altar Guild Representative

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