



TAIZÉ

THE RISING AND SETTING;
THE BEGINNING, ENDING,
AND BEGINNING AGAIN.

March 14, 2024

Led by Jane Shurtleff

Casas Adobes Congregational Church
An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ
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Welcome to Casas Adobes UCC Taizé-styled worship.

Taizé is a contemplative experience practiced by the Ecumenical Community in Taizé Burgundy, France.

If you are new to our service, here's what to expect:

- A period of quiet music and meditation begins about 10 minutes before the service. When the music begins, please observe silence.*
- The service will alternate prayers, readings, chants and meditative silences. You are invited to begin singing after the cantor has sung each song through once alone(*).*
- Silences will last about three to eight minutes.*
- Because our community values diverse voices, our readings are longer than some traditional Taizé services.*



Bell Calling Us Together

***Song #41** *Holy Spirit, come to us*

Prayer—*And We Will Rise*

We set a high bar for our lives to reach.

With your hand guiding our steps, Lord,

We will rise.

Our hearts yearn for peace in your kindom.

And with your love for all people,

We must rise.

The path toward justice is steep.

But as a united world, walking in your love,

We can rise.

These days, your truth can be hidden from us.

Yet, for open eyes and seeking hearts,

It too will rise.

Lord, you give us everlasting hope and love

that lifts us up in trying times.

And we rise, glory hallelujah, we rise!

- Jane Shurtleff

Silence

The First Readings

God to enfold me, God to surround me, God in my speaking, God in my thinking. God in my sleeping, God in my waking, God in my watching, God in my hoping. God in my life, God in my lips, God in my soul, God in my heart. God in my sufficing, God in my slumber, God in my ever-living soul, God in my eternity.

- From the Carmina Gadelica

I would like the angels of Heaven to be among us.
I would like an abundance of peace.
I would like full vessels of charity.
I would like rich treasures of mercy.
I would like cheerfulness to preside over all.
I would like Jesus to be present.

- *Prayer of St. Brigid of Kildare*

***Song #28** *Come and fill*

Great Silence

***Song #38** *My soul is at rest*

The Second Readings

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The Word was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through the Word, and without the Word not one thing came into being. What has come into being in the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

- *John 1: 1-5*

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black. It's hard to dance with the devil on your back. They buried my body and they thought I'd gone, but I am the Dance, and I still go on. Dance, then, wherever you may be, I am the Lord of the Dance, said he, and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.

- *Lyrics from "Lord of the Dance"*

My dearest Lord, be a bright flame before me, a guiding star above me, a smooth path beneath me, a kindly shepherd behind me, today and for evermore.

- *St. Columba of Iona*

Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself.

- *George Bernard Shaw, Irish dramatist*

***Song #19** *In God alone*

***Song #42** *Come and pray in us*

The Third Readings

Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

- *Isaiah 43:18-21*

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; 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.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.”

- Revelation 21: 1-6

Renewal of the People

Time of Silent Prayer, we close with our Meditative Response

More safe am I within thy hand,
than if a host did round me stand.

- St. Columba

Silence

Meditative Response

Leader: Protect me, Christ, till Your returning. Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me.

**People: Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in hearts
of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and
stranger.**

- From the Breastplate of St Patrick

***Song #39** *We adore you, Jesus Christ*

***Song #43** *Holy is the name of God*

Postlude

Holy Week and Easter



Sunday March 24 - Palm Sunday

8:30 am: Communion and Contemplation in Chapel

9:30 am: In-Person and Livestreamed

We continue the Lenten Journey as we join Jesus and the disciples for a tense entry into Jerusalem. We will have the opportunity to enter into worship offering palms and prayers as we remember this last week of Jesus' life and ministry and ponder how we join this journey here and now.



Thursday March 28 - Maundy Thursday

6:30 pm: In-Person and Livestreamed

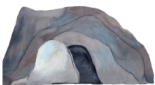
We join Jesus at the table to learn the way of committed self-offering that transforms us and others, singing songs led by our Taizé musicians, and closing our worship by sharing in communion.



Friday March 29 - Good Friday

12:00 pm: On Zoom Only

Join for a reflective prayer service on the *Seven Last Words of Jesus* and their relevance in a broken world.



Sunday March 31 - Easter Sunday

7:30 am Early Rise Service: In-Person Only

Celebrate resurrection outdoors on the plaza with songs accompanied by guitar, prayer, and a time of reflection.

9:30 am Sunday Worship: In-Person and Livestreamed

Celebrate resurrection with us!

Join Us for More Spiritual Practices

Centering Prayer Group

Every Tuesday at 12:00 noon in-person (Room 1).

Every Wednesday at 12:00 noon via Zoom

(See *Tidings* for the Zoom link).

Centering Prayer is a method of Christian meditation which has a strong emphasis on interior silence.

People who practice centering prayer feel it helps them be more present to God and adds a sense of balance to their lives.



*If you are inspired or encouraged by this service,
please consider inviting others to Taizé.*

Upcoming Taizé Schedule

April 11th, May 9th, and June 13th

The service is the second Thursday of the month unless we have to change for scheduling issues, then notifications will be sent.

More Information About CAUCC

Visit our website at www.caucc.org.

Stay Informed

If you would like to receive reminder emails and updates about Taizé, please email the office at info@caucc.org.

Free Will Offering

The free-will offering supports our Taizé services. Donations may be placed in the collection plate at the back of the sanctuary. Thank you.