

TENEBRAE

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN

APRIL 1, 2026 - 7:30PM

OPENING CHANT

Taizé - Within our Darkest Night

System 1: Chords: B, Em, D. Dynamics: *p*. Lyrics: With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the fire that nev - er dies a - / Dans nos ob - scu - ri - tés, al - lu - me le feu qui ne s'é - teint ja -

System 2: Chords: G, C, G, D, G, Em, C, Am. Dynamics: *mf*, *p*. Lyrics: way, nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the / mais, ne - s'é - teint ja - mais. Dans nos ob - scu - ri - tés, al - lu - me le

System 3: Chords: B, Em, Am, B, Em, Am, B. Dynamics: *pp*, *fine*. Lyrics: fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark - est / feu qui ne s'é - teint ja - mais, ne s'é - teint ja - mais. Dans nos ob - scu - ri -

The Officiant prays an opening Collect.

O God, strong to save;
as you have taught us to call the evening,
the morning, and the noonday one day;
and have made the sun to know its going down:
Dispel the darkness of our hearts,
that by your brightness we may know you as eternal light,
living and reigning for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FIRST NOCTURN

The first set of candles is extinguished.

THE PSALM

Antiphon O God, come quickly to help us.
Show the light of your face, and we shall be saved.

PSALM 74:1-10, 17-22

*The first verse is intoned by the Cantor.
All who wish may then join in singing with the Choir.*



- 1 O God, why have you utterly cast us **óff**? *
why is your wrath so hot against the sheep of / your pasture?
- 2 Remember your congregation that you purchased long **agó**, *
the tribe you redeemed to be your inheritance,
and Mount Zion / where you dwell.
- 3 Turn your steps toward the endless **rúins**; *
the enemy has laid waste everything in your sanc- / tuary.
- 4 Your adversaries roared in your holy **pláce**; *
they set up their banners as tokens / of victory.
- 5 They were like men coming up with axes to a grove of **trées**; *
they broke down all your carved work with hatchets / and hammers.
- 6 They set fire to your holy **pláce**; *
they defiled the dwelling-place of your Name and razed it / to the ground.
- 7 They said to themselves, "Let us destroy them **altogéther**." *
They burned down all the meeting-places of God / in the land.
- 8 There are no signs for us to see; there is no prophet **léft**; *
there is not one among us who / knows how long.
- 9 How long, O God, will the adversary **scóff**? *
will the enemy blaspheme your Name / for ever?

- 10 Why do you draw back your **há**nd? *
why is your right hand hidden in / your bosom?
- 17 Remember, O God, how the enemy **scó**ffed, *
how a foolish people des- / pised your Name.
- 18 Do not hand over the life of your dove to wild **bé**asts; *
never forget the lives / of your poor.
- 19 Look upon your **có**venant; *
the dark places of the earth are haunts / of violence.
- 20 Let not the oppressed turn away **ashá**med;
let the poor and needy / praise your Name.
- 21 Arise, O God, maintain your **cá**use; *
remember how fools revile you / all day long.
- 22 Forget not the clamor of your **á**dversaries, *
the unending tumult of those who rise up / against you.

Antiphon O God, come quickly to help us.
Show the light of your face, and we shall be saved.

The second set of candles is extinguished.

THE READING

Lamentations 2:10-18

The elders of daughter Zion
sit on the ground in silence;
they have thrown dust on their heads
and put on sackcloth;
the young girls of Jerusalem
have bowed their heads to the ground.

My eyes are spent with weeping;
my stomach churns;
my bile is poured out on the ground
because of the destruction of my people,
because infants and babes faint
in the streets of the city.

They cry to their mothers,
‘Where is bread and wine?’
as they faint like the wounded
in the streets of the city,
as their life is poured out
on their mothers’ bosom.

What can I say for you,
to what compare you,
O daughter Jerusalem?
To what can I liken you,
that I may comfort you,
O virgin daughter Zion?
For vast as the sea is your ruin;
who can heal you?

Your prophets have seen for you
false and deceptive visions;
they have not exposed your iniquity

to restore your fortunes,
but have seen oracles for you
that are false and misleading.

All who pass along the way
clap their hands at you;
they hiss and wag their heads
at daughter Jerusalem;
‘Is this the city that was called
the perfection of beauty,
the joy of all the earth?’

All your enemies
open their mouths against you;
they hiss, they gnash their teeth,
they cry: ‘We have devoured her!’
Ah, this is the day we longed for;
at last we have seen it!’

The Lord has done what he purposed,
he has carried out his threat;
as he ordained long ago,
he has demolished without pity;
he has made the enemy rejoice over you,
and exalted the might of your foes.

Cry aloud to the Lord!
O wall of daughter Zion!
Let tears stream down like a torrent
day and night!
Give yourself no rest,
your eyes no respite!

RESPONSORY

Watch and pray, that you may not enter into temptation.
The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

The third set of candles is extinguished.

SUNG RESPONSE

Taizé: Wait for the Lord

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It consists of two systems. The first system has a piano (p) dynamic. The second system has a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic and includes guitar chords: Em, D, G, Am, B, and Em. The lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." and "Wait for the Lord: keep watch— take heart!".

**Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord, keep watch, take heart!**

THE PRAYERS

God of Hope, help us who struggle in our daily call to follow.

When we lose our purpose,
renew our hope in you.

When we bow to hatred,
renew our trust in you.

When we despair of bliss,
renew our joy in you.

When we take offense at others,
renew our life in you.

When we compromise our values,
renew our faith in you.

When we cherish regrets,
renew our freedom in you.

When we surrender to despair,
renew our hope in you.

As we accept your renewing love, we offer our prayers to you:

Please add your own prayers aloud, or in silence.

Hold us, and all people, in your loving care,
and may we be hope for others.

THE COLLECT

The Celebrant prays the Collect.

O God of love,
you are the true sun of the world,
evermore risen and never going down:
We pray you to shine in our hearts
and drive away the darkness of sin and the mist of error.
We pray that we may, all our lives long,
walk without stumbling
in the way you have prepared for us,
with Jesus Christ our Lord,
in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SECOND NOCTURN

The fourth set of candles is extinguished.

THE PSALM

Antiphon Like a sheep before its shearers is mute,
so he opened not his mouth.

By oppression and judgment, he was taken away.

PSALM 102 *Sung by the Choir or Cantor*

- 1 O God, hear my prayer, and let my cry come before you; *
hide not your face from me in the day of my trouble.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; *
when I call, make haste to answer me,
- 3 For my days drift away like smoke, *
and my bones are hot as burning coals.
- 4 My heart is smitten like grass and withered,
so that I forget to eat my bread.
- 5 Because of the voice of my groaning *
I am but skin and bones.
- 6 I have become like a vulture in the wilderness, *
like an owl among the ruins.
- 7 I lie awake and groan; *
I am like a sparrow, lonely on a house-top.
- 8 My enemies revile me all day long, *
and those who scoff at me have taken an oath against me.
- 9 For I have eaten ashes for bread *
and mingled my drink with weeping.
- 10 Because of your indignation and wrath *
you have lifted me up and thrown me away.
- 11 My days pass away like a shadow, *
and I wither like the grass.
- 24 And I said, "O my God, do not take me away in the midst of my days; *
your years endure throughout all generations.
- 25 In the beginning, O God, you laid the foundations of the earth, *
and the heavens are the work of your hands;
- 26 They shall perish, but you will endure;
they all shall wear out like a garment; *
as clothing you will change them, and they shall be changed;
- 27 But you are always the same, *
and your years will never end.
- 28 The children of your servants shall continue, *
and their offspring shall stand fast in your sight."

Antiphon Like a sheep before its shearers is mute,
so he opened not his mouth.

By oppression and judgment, he was taken away.

The fifth set of candles is extinguished.

THE READING

Jeremiah 17:5-10, 14-17

Thus says the Lord:
Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.
They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.
They shall live in the parched places
of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.
Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.
They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.
It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.
The heart is devious above all else;

it is perverse—
who can understand it?
I the Lord test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.
Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed;
save me, and I shall be saved;
for you are my praise.
See how they say to me,
'Where is the word of the Lord?
Let it come!'
But I have not run away
from being a shepherd in your service,
nor have I desired the fatal day.
You know what came from my lips;
it was before your face.
Do not become a terror to me;
you are my refuge on the day of disaster.

RESPONSORY

Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked:
From the clutches of the evildoer and the op

The sixth set of candles is extinguished.

SUNG RESPONSE

Taizé: Stay with Me

Stay with me, remain here with me,
watch and pray, be-tet, watch and pray, be-tet.

Stay with me, remain here with me,

watch and pray, watch and pray.

THE PRAYERS

Jesus, faithful servant of God,
sometimes it is difficult for us to know how to be faithful:
Help us discern your will and follow you with gladness.

Jesus, faithful servant of God,
in this most holy of weeks, we see the brokenness of our world:
Help us be people who faithfully bring forth justice.

Jesus, faithful servant of God,
we know the world longs for healing:
Help us be the people of hope and bearers of light.

Jesus, faithful servant of God,
we want to be the people you long for us to be:
Help us walk in your way of love.

Please add your own prayers aloud, or in silence.

The Celebrant prays the Collect.

Christ our victim,
whose beauty was disfigured upon the cross:
Open wide your arms to embrace our tortured world,
that we may not turn away our eyes,
but abandon ourselves to your mercy.
We pray this in your name. Amen.

THIRD NOCTURN

The seventh set of candles is extinguished.

THE PSALM

Antiphon Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrow:
And by his scourging we are healed.

PSALM 130

*The first verse is intoned by the Cantor.
All who wish may then join in singing with the Choir on a monotone.*

- 1 Out of the depths have I called to you; O God, hear my voice; *
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
- 2 If you were to note what is done amiss, *
O God, who could stand?
- 3 For there is forgiveness with you; *
therefore you shall be feared.
- 4 I wait for you, O God; my soul waits for you; *
in your word is my hope.
- 5 My soul waits for you, more than sentries for the morning, *
more than sentries for the morning.
- 6 O Israel, wait upon God,
for with God there is mercy;
- 7 With God there is plenteous redemption; *
God shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

PSALM 62

- 1 For God alone my soul in silence waits; *
from God comes my salvation.
- 2 God alone is my rock and my salvation, *
my stronghold, so that I shall not be greatly shaken.
- 3 How long will you assail me to crush me, all of you together, *
as if you were a leaning fence, a toppling wall?
- 4 They seek only to bring me down from my place of honor; *
lies are their chief delight.
- 5 They bless with their lips, *
but in their hearts they curse.
- 6 For God alone my soul in silence waits; *
truly, there is my hope.

Antiphon Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrow:
And by his scourging we are healed.

The eighth set of candles is extinguished.

THE READING

1 Corinthians 1:23-29

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

But we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God.

RESPONSORY

My flesh also shall rest in hope:

You will not let your holy one see corruption.

The ninth set of candles is extinguished.

SUNG RESPONSE

Taizé: Jesus, Remember Me

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

**Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom.**

THE PRAYERS

God of mercy,
Make us wise with your foolish love.

God of our salvation,
Open our eyes again to see the power of your cross.

God of all who seek to follow,
Guide us in your faithful way that leads through death to life.

A moment of silent prayer is kept.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Now gathering our prayers into one, we pray as Jesus taught us:

All chant the following on a single tone

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The People now blow out their candles.

The remaining candle is removed and hidden for a time.

A loud noise, signifying Matthew's account of the earthquake at the crucifixion (Mt. 27:50–54) is made. Then the light returns and is placed on the altar.

The Celebrant prays the final Collect.

Loving God,
we pray you graciously to behold this your family
for whom our brother Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed,
and given into the hands of the violent,
and to suffer death upon the cross.
Amen.

You may remain for a few minutes of meditative prayer, or depart quietly.

