

Celebrating the Joy of Easter

Taizé Service | April 4, 2024

Introduction

Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed! Welcome to our first Taize Service during this 2024 Easter Season!

How do we sustain our Easter joy which began last Sunday. Can we keep the glorias and bells ringing? While preparing for upcoming baptisms, confirmations, first Communions, ordinations, weddings, graduations, and the great Solemnity of Pentecost, how do we keep moving forward with focused, joy-filled energy for the fifty days of the Easter season?

Easter joy honors the fact that pain and suffering are real, and that God will accompany us through and beyond our deepest pain. Resurrection does not fix the heartbreak of our lives. The hope of the resurrection does not deny sin or loss; it acknowledges and overcomes it!

Chant 5x Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Reading One: Matthew 28:8-15

Then they went away quickly from the tomb, fearful yet overjoyed, and ran to announce this to his disciples.

And behold, Jesus met them on their way and greeted them. They approached, embraced his feet, and did him homage.

Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

While they were going, some of the guard went into the city and told the chief priests all that had happened.

They assembled with the elders and took counsel; then they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers,

telling them, "You are to say, 'His disciples came by night and stole him while we were asleep.'

Gloria 3 / Glory to God



Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994, © 1978, 1980, 1981, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

And if this gets to the ears of the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble."

The soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has circulated among the Jews to the present day.

Chant 5X Give to us your peace, O Jesus Christ.

Reading Two: "The Way of Light"

Following the model of meditating on the Way of the Cross during Lent, the Way of Light meditates on the

Give to Us Your Peace



Text: Psalm 85; Taizé Community, 1982 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994 © 1982, 1983, 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent various appearance of Jesus — from his resurrection to his ascension — in which he showed his glory to the disciples who awaited the coming of the Holy Spirit. You are invited to reflect on the station during the brief silence after each of these stations:

- 1. Jesus is raised from the dead.
- 2. The finding of the empty tomb.
- 3. Mary Magdalene meets the risen Jesus.
- 4. Mary Magdalene proclaims the resurrection to the disciples.
- 5. Jesus appears on the road to Emmaus and is known in the breaking of bread.
- 6. Jesus appears to the disciples in Jerusalem.
- 7. Jesus gives the disciples his peace and the power to forgive sins.
- 8. Jesus strengthens the faith of Thomaas.
- 9. Jesus appears by the Sea of Tiberias.
- 10. Jesus forgives Peter and commands him to feed his sheep.
- 11. Jesus commissions the disciples upon the mountain.
- 12. The Ascension of Jesus.
- 13. Mary and the disciples wait in prayer. The Holy Spirit descends at Pentecost.

Now we sit in silence for a few minutes

Petitions

Chant: O Lord, hear my prayer

- 1. For government leaders, that their decisions bring healing and goodness, we pray:
- 2. For our newly initiated at the Easter Vigil, that they rejoice as they share in Christ's resurrection, we pray:
- 3. For all who feel imprisoned by addiction, fear, and weakness, that they may be released from their shackles, we pray:
- 4. For our community of faith, that we live as an Easter people and continue to understand what the truth of the resurrection means for our mission as faithful disciples of Christ, we prayer;

Please add additional prayers and light a votive candle on the altar from the Easter Candle.

The Lord's Prayer

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER



Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me

Chant 5x: Give to us your peace, O Jesus Christ. Closing Prayer

Risen Lord, you remake what is broken, enliven what is dying, and release all that is held captive. We depend upon your Spirit to refashion us and guide us so that we may at last enter your kingdom. Who live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

Chant 5x Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth.

Thank you for coming. Please join us again on May 2. In the meantime, we invite you to check our Precious Blood Renewal Center website for other opportunities of enrichment.

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Jubilate, Servite / Raise a Song of Gladness

