### Taizé Service | June 5, 2025

## 'He Loves Us'

### The Sacred Heart of Jesus

#### Introduction

One of Pope Francis' legacies is his encyclical letter published during the last year of his life, which is entitled in English, "He Loved Us." He uses the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus as the illustration of that love.

In the Catholic Church, the month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. One of the most beautiful aspects of our faith is that through the incarnation, the Son of God shared fully in our humanity. This means that when we say that God loves us, he does so, not in a disembodied way, but as one of us. He experiences the affection, the tenderness, warmth, and passion that we experience in loving another. The Sacred Heart reminds us that in Christ, God loves us with a human heart, and each one of us is the object of his love.

Chant 5x: "We adore you, Jesus Christ"

#### A reading from the Book of the prophet Ezekiel.

For thus says the Lord GOD: Look! I myself will search for my sheep and examine them.

As a shepherd examines his flock while he himself is among his scattered sheep, so will I examine my sheep. I will deliver them from every place where they were scattered on the day of dark clouds.

I will lead them out from among the peoples and gather them from the lands; I will bring them back to their own country and pasture them upon the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and every inhabited place in the land.

In good pastures I will pasture them; on the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down on good grazing ground; in rich pastures they will be pastured on the mountains of Israel.

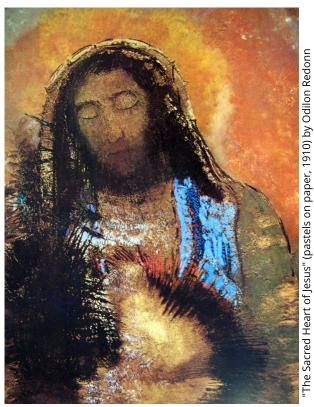
I myself will pasture my sheep; I myself will give them rest.

The lost I will search out, the strays I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, and the sick I will heal. (Ezekiel 34: 11-16)

Chant refrain by all 2x and verses by cantor: "Christ Jesus."

### A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans.

Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the holy



"The Sacred Heart of Je Musée d'Orsay

Adoramus te Christe / We Adore You, Jesus Christ



Spirit that has been given to us.

For Christ, while we were still helpless, yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly.

Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die.

But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

How much more then, since we are now justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath.

Indeed, if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, once reconciled, will we be saved by his

Not only that, but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. (*Romans* 5:5-11)

#### Now we sit in silence for a few minutes

#### **Petitions**

#### Response: "O Lord, hear my prayer"

- 1. For those who suffer from a heart condition and for the doctors who seek to heal them, we pray:
- 2. For all who feel unloved, for whatever reason, that they may know how truly loved they are, we pray:
- 3. For parents, teachers, coaches, and guardians, who are examples of modern day shepherds, we pray:
- 4. For all who have participated at Precious Blood Renewal Center over the past year and for blessings on the June 28 celebration, we pray:
- 5. Please add other prayers as you light a votive candle on the altar.

#### Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon: where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

#### O divine Master,

Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

### Chant refrain by all; verses by cantors: "Like a Shepherd" (Music on next page)

#### **Closing Prayer**

O God, you pour out your love on us.

May we in turn lavish that love on others, as your Son Jesus did in his life, death, and resurrection. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### O Christe Domine Jesu / Christ Jesus





Text: Psalm 23; Taizé Community, 1984 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994 © 1982, 1983, 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

#### O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER





#### Closing Song, Chant 5x: "Ubi Caritas"

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#### LIKE A SHEPHERD



Text: Based on Isaiah 40:9ff; Ezekiel 34:11ff; Matthew 11:28ff. Text and music © 1976, Robert J. Dufford, SJ, and OCP. All rights reserved.

### **Upcoming Events at the Renewal Center**



June 28, Saturday — 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. — Summer Picnic Celebration! — A fun for all program. Grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, potato salad and lawn games. Join us for good food and conversation. Meet the folks you've only seen on Zoom!

First Thursdays of the Month — 6:30-8 p.m. — Teach Us to Pray — We all want to grow our prayer lives. Each month for a year, practitioners of a variety

of prayer styles, mostly from the Catholic tradition, but also from other faiths, will demonstrate prayer in their particular style. Check the website for each month's details.

**Sept. 8-Oct. 5, Mondays — 6:30-8 p.m. — Book Study for Couples: The 5 Love Languages —** Discover simple and effective ways to strengthen your relationships to experience greater joy and satisfaction. Revolutionize how you communicate and experience love.



# What is Taizé?

Taizé is an ecumenical, meditative prayer experience using music, chants and scripture. All are welcome.

Taizé prayer is practiced throughout the world. It is a meditative candle-lit form of community prayer that includes simple chants sung repeatedly, silence and prayers of praise and intercession.

In prayer, we enter the silence, stilling the mind, opening the heart, surrendering to the action of the Spirit ever molding us into the image of Christ. The candles used in the service symbolize the presence of the risen Christ, who conquered darkness and sin and offers new life to all humankind.

Taizé Prayer comes from an ecumenical, monastic community in France and has spread to numerous spots around the world.

From the depths of the human condition, a secret aspiration rises up. Today many are thirsting for the essential reality: an inner life, signs of the Invisible. Nothing is more conducive to communion with the living God than meditative common prayer. When the mystery of God becomes tangible through the simple beauty of symbols, when it is not smothered by too many words, then a common prayer awakens us to heaven's joy on earth.

All the videos of our Taize prayer services are available here. https://www.pbrenewalcenter.org/blog/category/taize-prayers



