# Taizé Service | May 2, 2024

# Prayer for Peace and Solidarity

#### Introduction

This Saturday, May 4, is World Labyrinth Day, a day when people around the world will pray in solidarity for peace at 1:00 p.m. as they walk a labyrinth in their own location. Tonight we anticipate that prayer for peace. We know that we live in a broken world.

Let's pray for peace tonight.

Some of us experienced the solar eclipse a few weeks ago. People were in awe; they were in solidarity in experiencing God at work in the universe.

That eclipse reminded us that all these planets in the universe don't just circle each other haphazardly. There is a definite pattern which we can observe. We already know when the next solar eclipse will happen in North America in 20 years.

Chant: "Give Peace to Every Heart"



Creation, the stars and the sun, the day and the night, the air and the oceans, the earth and the waters, the fishes and the fowl, the flowers and the herbs, and all their human sisters and brothers...And God said, "It is good."

And God saw that humans were suppressing hunger, disease, ignorance and suffering all over the globe, providing each human person with a decent, conscious and happy life, and reducing the greed, the power and the wealth of the few...And God said, "It is good."

And God saw that humans were living in harmony with their planet and in peace with one another, wisely managing their resources, avoiding waste, curbing excesses, replacing hatred with love, greed with

contentment, arrogance with humility, division with cooperation, and mistrust with understanding...And God said, "It is good."

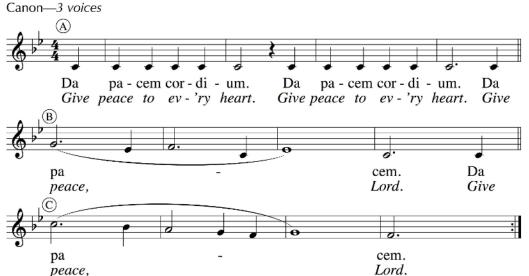
And God saw that soldiers of peace were separating the combatants of quarreling nations, that were being resolved by negotiation and reason instead of arms, and that the leaders of nations were seeing each other, talking to each other and joining their hearts, minds, souls and strength for the benefit of all humanity...and God said, "It is good."

And God saw that people were destroying their arms, bombs, missiles, warships and warplanes, dismantling their

bases, and disbanding their armies...And God said, "It is good."

And God saw humans changing their institutions, beliefs, politics, governments and all human entities to be servants of God and the people. And God saw them adopt as their supreme law, "You shall love God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind and all your strength. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no greater commandment than these. "...And God said, "It is

# Da Pacem Cordium / Give Peace



# Reading I adapted from "The New Genesis" by Robert Muller

And God saw that all nations of the Earth, black and white, poor and rich, from North and South, from East and West, and of all creeds, were sending their emissaries to study together, to think together, and to care together for the world and all its people...And God said, "It is good."

And God saw that humans were loving the whole

good."

# Give to Us Your Peace

#### **Brief silence**

Chant 5x: "Give to Us Your Peace"

**Reading II from** "Universal Kinship: St. **Francis' Most Famous** Insight"

Moreover all people should respect all creatures, animate and inanimate, which "bear the imprint of the Most

High," and they should strive to move from the temptations of exploiting creation to the Franciscan concept of universal kinship. (Adapted from SFO Rule, Par. #18)

#### Reflection

"Universal kinship" implies "integrity of creation" with a Franciscan flavor, for in kinship is how Francis believed

### Ostinato Refrain no - bis mi - ne. Do - na pa cem Do sus Christ. Give to your peace, oJe

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

1. May the leaders of the Church and all who guide us in the way of faith seek to promote the basic rights of dignity and respect as the foundation for a sure and lasting peace in our world, we pray:

# O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER

Jacques Berthier Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, 0 Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten

all things should ideally be. He understood all things to be in relationship one to another as brother and sister, because all creatures have one Father and one Mother. Thus each and every part depends on the other, and the whole depends on God. Therefore, all creatures form one family, and human beings are an integral part of the family.

And Francis' relationship with nature did have a family-like quality to it. A cricket kept him company for eight days. The lark and the falcon announced for him the time of office. Flowers consoled him. He was thankful that the sun gave him light. He walked reverently upon stones because of the One called the Rock. Also, a pheasant would not leave Francis' side when the Saint was sick but would force its way in under the brothers' habits to hide.

Now we sit in silence for a few minutes.

#### Chime

**Prayers of Petition** 

- 2. May all elected officials and those entrusted with the duty to watch over people, exercise their role with humility, as they seek to unite together in friendship the hands of those who have lived as enemies, we pray:
- 3. May the poor and the oppressed, and all those who feel as if their voice is not heard, be recognized as valuable members of society with the right to participate fully in our common life, we pray:
- 4. May the Lord continue to call holy men and women to exercise prophetic roles of calling our local, national, and global communities to more fully

embody the peace of God's kingdom, we pray:

- 5. May leaders in nations who are presently at war with each other, come to see the dignity and value of every human being and work for terms of peace, we pray:
- 6. May the dead, be brought into the peace of God's kingdom after having struggled in their earthly life, we pray:

You are invited to add additional prayers and light a votive candle from the Easter Candle.

# 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,

to

me.

Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as 428

PEACE

Am

D

REFRAIN Moderately

Em

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: "Peace"

# **Closing Prayer**

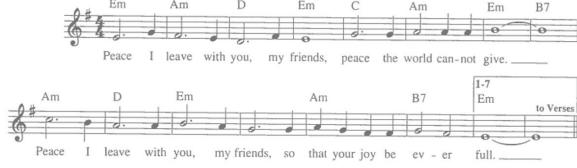
Compassionate Father, you invite us to return to your merciful embrace and to accept the challenge of daily conversion. Hear the prayers that we offer for our world, help us to shine forth among the nations as a people of peace and justice, and let us build up relationships according to the pattern of your divine life. Through Christ our Lord and Prince of Peace. Amen.

## **Closing Song: "Peace is** Flowing Like a River"

Thank you for coming. Please join us again on June 6.



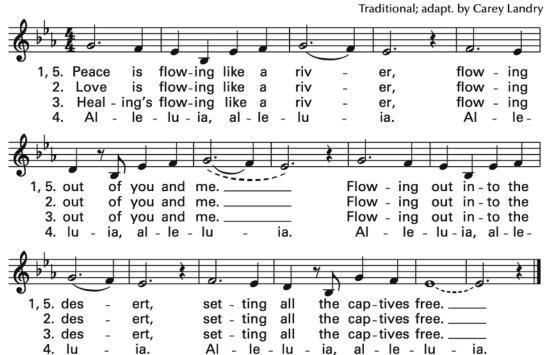
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# ArtMaking and Contemplative Practice to Celebrate World **Labyrinth Day**

May 4, 2024 | 11

a.m. - 3 p.m. central time

Join us in practicing mindfulness and contemplation through breath, mindful eating and art making, as we walk the Labyrinth together with participants from around the world at 1 pm for global peace. No art, sewing or mindfulness experience is required

# **Finding Balance:** Steadiness in God



Wednesdays |

6:30-8 p.m. | May 29, June 5, 12, 19, 26

Facilitated by Lucia Ferrara

This Simply Relevant Bible study will help women discover steadiness in God. Each week, women will study a different aspect of balance and learn how relying on God can help them find more balance in life.





# An open letter and an invitation

Dear Fellow Catholic -

My name is Doug Kinney. I am a nearly 40-year member of St Elizabeth Catholic Church in KCMO. I have served on or led many socially concerned ministries and organizations both through my church and outside of it. One of the outside organizations I belong to is MORE2, a faith-based social justice organization.

We are sponsoring a series of peaceful rallies for the Beloved Community. The first one was April 18 at the Plaza Fountain. Our intent is to proclaim the Beloved Community and denounce the vitriol that is being advanced by White christian Nationalism. We held signs along the street and heard from several clergy about the threat of WcN and it's 180 degree difference from the teachings of Jesus and the Will of God. It was a peaceful rally attended by many from different faith traditions and cultures.

https://www.kctv5.com/2024/04/18/dozens-turn-out-rally-against-white-nationalism/

Several Protestant pastors and rabbis spoke. Missing from the rally was a strong Catholic presence. I believe it critical that Catholics are a part of these rallies and should be seen at them since a great many people in the metro identify as Catholic. We need to be seen as standing with our sisters and brothers of all faiths because in the Beloved Community no one is excluded and all are welcome. That is why I invite you to attend at least one of the next 6 rallies with me and I ask you to invite your parishoners to the rallies as well. Here is a bulletin announcement to share with your parish office:

There will be 6 more rallies throughout the summer at locations in every corner of the Metro: So you can plan ahead the other rally dates are:

Thursday, May 9 - Quindaro Ruins, 27th and Sewell, KCK - noon

Thursday, June 20 - Clay County - noon

Thursday, July 18 - Johnson County KS - noon

Thursday, August 15 - Platte County - noon

Thursday, September 12 - South KC Metro - noon

Thursday, October 17 - Independence Square - noon

Details for exact locations of the last 5 rallies will be announced on this Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/MORE2KC/

Thank you. I hope to see you at one.

Doug Kinney