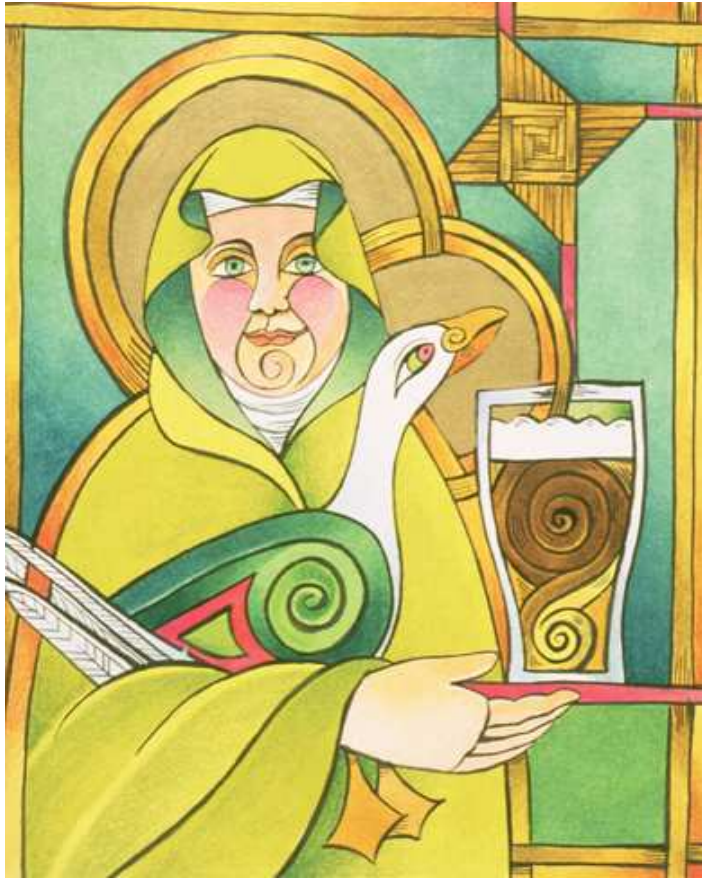


Saint Hilda's by the Sea Anglican Church

(Open arms, open hearts, open minds)

We welcome everyone.

Taizé Service - An inner journey



Icon for February St. Brigid *A Hundred Thousand Welcomes*

Simplicity is the format for our hour long candlelight Taizé service. We begin a few minutes prior to 7:00 P.M. on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Our Taizé service is comprised of six parts which often parallel the mystical meditative journey.

Part One - Preparation

We begin a few minutes before 7:00 PM. To the sounds of meditative music you are asked to place a lighted candle on the Taizé table in front of the altar. Then you are to find a comfortable place to sit and to try to focus on being intentional about what hopes you have for the meditation or contemplative period to come.

Part Two – The Journey Begins - Letting Go

Beginning with the bells of Taizé and the first chant the service begins. During this period you are invited to listen to several spiritual reflections. Following each spiritual reading you are encouraged to raise your voice in chant, in English or Latin to the simple Taizé songs presented. The meditative character of these beautiful, yet simple songs repeated over and over permit you to center yourself. An inner calming begins.

Part Three – Illumination

Illumination is a fifteen minute period of silence. Here you have an opportunity to silently pray, reflect, contemplate or meditate. For those who know Centering Prayer or any other meditative form using a sacred word or mantra this time allows the mind and heart to be open to the Presence and to receive that which may be given.

‘Silence means leaving to God what is beyond my reach and capacity.’

‘When words and thoughts come to an end, God is praised in silent wonder and admiration.’

Part Four – Union

Union begins after the period of silence has ended and the reflections and chanting resume. Any insights received or problems clarified are taken back out into the world. You may likely feel grounded and empowered and in communion with the Holy, for silence has calmed the agitated and restless mind.

‘The reasons not to love and not to forgive fade into insignificance. Inner peace leads to union with God and we take that love of God back out into the world.’

Part Five – Final Blessing

We wish each other and all creation “Deep Peace”

Part six – The Dismissal

The candles are extinguished.
We quietly go out into the night.

Taizé Songs for February 2011

The Lord is My Light	<i>The Lord is my light, my light and salvation. In God I trust, in God I trust.</i>
Laudate Omnes Gentes	<i>Laudate Omnes Gentes, Lauate Dominum.</i> (Praise the Lord all you peoples.)
Within our Darkest Night	<i>Within our darkest night you kindle a fire that never dies away. Never dies away.</i>
Shalom	<i>Shalom, Shalom etc.</i>
Silence***** Silence***** Silence***** Silence	
Ubi Caritas	<i>Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas Deus ibi est.</i> (Where there is charity and love, God is to be found.)
The Kingdom Of God	<i>The kingdom of God is justice and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Come, Lord, and open in us the gates of your kingdom.</i>
I Am Sure I Shall See	<i>I am sure I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Yes, I shall see the goodness of our God, O come trust in the Lord.</i>
Let your servant now go peace	<i>Let your servant now go in peace, O in Lord. (O Lord). Now go in peace, according to your word (to your word).</i>

Meditative Music

Prefatory Music **From Silence** *Adam Hurst*

Final Blessing **Deep Peace** *Shaina Noll*

**Icons Icons are traditionally used at Taizé services. Icons, traditional or contemporary, serve to provoke us to see, reflected in the persons or images depicted, the many facets of the face of God.*

February Icon St. Brigid (A Hundred Thousand Welcomes)

Most revered of all of Ireland's early female saints, Brigid was born of pagan\Christian parentage, and raised in the fosterage (early Irish practice of youth education) of a druid. She converted to Christianity at age 17. Noted for her prayerfulness, compassion, humility, and generosity, she founded the earliest known Celtic double monastery, housing both men (renowned for a school of art in illuminated manuscripts) and women (expert in wool industry and weaving of cloth).

She professed a profound belief in "anam cara," or soul friends, unique persons God offers us as companions on our pilgrim road. This extended to the idea that love and intimacy were essential to a sound marriage, also quite unique for her time.

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. I would like the three Marys of illustrious renown to be with us. I would like the friends of Heaven to be gathered around us from all parts. I would like myself to be a rent payer to the Lord; that I should suffer distress, that he would bestow a good blessing upon me. I would like a great lake of beer for the King of Kings. I would like to be watching Heaven's family drinking it through all eternity.

St. Brigid

Brigid loved to make beer for the poor every Easter. It was her gift to them in celebration of the greatest of all Christian feasts. Brigid felt we could see the face of Jesus most clearly in the faces of the poor. CEAD MILE FAILTE! (A Hundred Thousand Welcomes)

Her feast day is February 01.