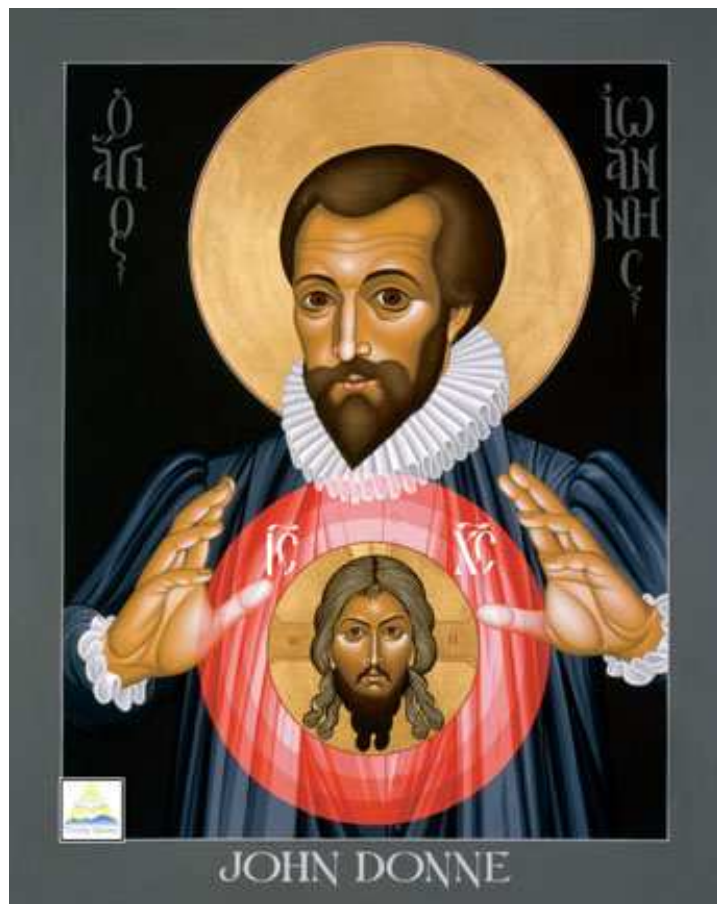


Saint Hilda's by the Sea Anglican Church

(Open arms, open hearts, open minds)

We welcome everyone.

Taizé Service - An inner journey



Icon for July

John Donne

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 peace, by chanting Shalom.

Part six – The Dismissal

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

Taizé Songs for July 2010

I Am Sure I Shall See The Goodness ...	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.
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, laudate Dominum.</i> (Sing praises, all you peoples, sing praises to the Lord.)
Da pacem cordium	<i>Da pacem cordium. Da pacem cordium. Da pa-cem. Da pa-cem. Da...</i> (Give peace to every heart. Give peace to every heart. Give pe-ace, Lord. Give pe- ace, Lord.) Give....
Silence***** Silence***** Silence***** Silence	
The Kingdom of God	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.
God is Forgiveness	<i>God is Forgiveness. Dare to forgive and God will be with you. God is forgiveness. Love and do not fear.</i>
Ubi Caritas	<i>Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas Deus ibi est.</i> (Where there is charity and love, God is to be found.)
Let your servant now go peace	Let your servant now go in peace, O in Lord. (O Lord). Now go in peace, according to your word (to your word).

Meditative Music

Prefatory Music	Gregorian Chant	Chant for Meditation
Final Blessing	Shalom	Mantras and Chants Ivo Sedláček

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

July Icon

John Donne

John Donne is one of the great mystics of the Anglican Church. He was born into a Roman Catholic family, related to Sir Thomas More. After studying at Oxford and Cambridge, he entered the civil service and looked forward to a promising career. He married his patron's daughter without permission, however, and was dismissed from his post. For ten years he and his wife lived in poverty. During this time he developed a deep spirituality which eventually led him to ordination as a priest in the Church of England. From 1621 until his death ten years later, he was dean of St. Paul's Cathedral of London.

John Donne helped bridge the Middle Ages and the modern world. Baconian science and modern astronomy were exploding medieval cosmology. Many people felt Christianity was no longer a viable spiritual path. John resisted the reductionist tendencies of his day, maintaining that reality would be robbed of its significance if it were to lose its transcendental dimension.

The years before his ordination convinced him that we live within the mystery of God. Each human being is called to be a living sacrament of Christ to the world, and in this icon Christ radiates from John's heart in a fiery orb. As we face the even greater changes in our culture, John reminds us that Christ fills us and holds the world in being. All of life, he tells us, must be transfigured in Christ.