

# Lenten Evening Prayer

in the style of *Taizé*  
Ecumenical  
Community



*Grace Lutheran Church  
3330 Gomer Street  
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598*

# 5 Spiritual Fruits

## Love

Reading

Thomas á Kempis, 1413

O Love How Deep

O love, how deep, how broad, how high!  
How passing thought and fantasy,  
that God, the Son of God, should take  
our mortal form for mortals' sake!

For us baptized, for us he bore  
his holy fast and hunger sore;  
for us temptations sharp he knew,  
for us the tempter overthrew.

For us to wicked men betrayed,  
scourged, mocked, in crown of thorns arrayed;  
for us he bore the cross's death,  
for us at length gave up his breath.

For us he rose from death again,  
for us he went on high to reign;  
for us he sent his Spirit here  
to guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

All honor, laud, and glory be,  
O Jesus, virgin-born, to thee;  
whom with the Father we adore,  
and Holy Ghost, forevermore.

## Invocation

*P: In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.*

**C: Amen**

## Veni Sancte Spiritus

*The congregation will sing the refrain continually while the cantor sings the verses.*

A musical score for the hymn 'Veni Sancte Spiritus'. It features two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff, both in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The treble staff begins with a key signature change from G major to A major (two sharps) and a common time signature change to 4/4. The bass staff remains in G major and 6/8. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the lyrics 'Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus.' are written below the notes. The score includes a repeat sign at the beginning and a double bar line at the end.

## Prayer of the Day

*P: The Lord be with you.*

**C: And also with you.**

*P: Let us pray.*

**C: Our God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are a community of love in your very essence. It was out of the need of love that you created all things; even us. And it is your intention that we love as you have loved us. So, fill us with the Spirit, that our hearts will be conformed to your will, that our minds will yield to the pull of this emotion, that our mouths will speak only out of love and our hands bring love into action. We ask this in the name of the one who loved us even to death, Jesus, our Savior. Amen.**

## Scripture Reading

## 1 Corinthians 12

*St. Paul wrote:*

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love,  
I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

And if I have prophetic powers,  
and understand all mysteries and all knowledge,  
and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains,

but do not have love,  
I am nothing.

If I give away all my possessions,  
and if I hand over my body so that I may boast,  
but do not have love,  
I gain nothing.

Love is patient;  
love is kind;  
love is not envious, or boastful, or arrogant, or rude.  
It does not insist on its own way;  
it is not irritable or resentful;  
it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.  
It bears all things,  
believes all things,  
hopes all things,  
endures all things.

Love never ends.  
But as for prophecies, they will be come to end when Christ returns.  
as for tongues, they will also cease;  
as for knowledge, it too will come to an end.

For we know now only in part, and we prophesy now only in part;  
but when the complete comes in Christ, all that is now partial will be  
worthless.

Look, when I was a child,  
I spoke like a child,  
I thought like a child,  
I reasoned like a child.  
When I became an adult,  
I put an end to my childish ways.

Right now we can only see in a mirror, dimly,  
but when Christ comes, then we will see face to face.  
Right now I know only in part;  
but then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.

And right now faith, hope, and love abide, these three;  
and the greatest of these is love.

*Silence*

## Confession & Kyrie

*P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.*

**C: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

Refrain Sung 3x by Congregation

Chords: G C am D bm em am D G

Lyrics: Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

### Cantor Verses

- 1. Lord Jesus Christ, you were sent to heal the contrite, have mercy on us.*
- 2. Lord Jesus Christ, you came to call all sinners, have mercy on us.*
- 3. Lord Jesus Christ, you intercede for us, have mercy on us.*

## Reading

## John 15

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

## Silence

### Our Eyes are Turned

Em D G D Em C Am B

O - cu - li nos - tri ad Do - mi - num Je - sum,  
Our eyes are turned to the Lord Je - sus Christ.—

Em D G D Em C Am<sup>6</sup> B Em

o - cu - li nos - tri ad Do - mi - num nos - trum.  
Our eyes are turned to the Lord God, our Sav - ior.

The musical score is written for a piano accompaniment in 3/4 time, key of D major. It consists of two systems. The first system has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 3/4. The melody is in the right hand, and the bass line is in the left hand. The lyrics are written below the notes. The second system continues the melody and bass line, with a key signature change to D major (two sharps) indicated by the '6' superscript on the Am chord. The lyrics continue below the notes.

### Meditation on Gentleness by Mother Teresa

The principle Mother Theresa repeats over and over again is that true love hurts. In her Nobel Peace Prize speech, for example, she said that it hurt God to send Jesus into the world and it hurt Jesus to love us.

“There is so much love in us all, but we are often too shy to express our love and keep it bottled up inside us. We must learn to love, to love until it hurts, and we will then know how to accept love. We must be a channel of peace. We must love until it hurts. We must be Christ. We must not be afraid to show our love. A living love hurts. Jesus, to prove his love for us, died on the cross. The mother, to give birth to her child, has to suffer. If you really love one another properly, there must be sacrifice. Love can be misused for selfish motives. I love you, but at the same time I want to take from you as much as I can, even the things that are not for me to take. Then there is no true love anymore. True love hurts. It always has to hurt. It must be painful to love someone, painful to leave them, you might have to die for them. When people marry they have to give up everything to love each other. The mother who gives birth to her child suffers much. It is the same in religious life. To belong fully to God we have to give up everything. Only then can we truly love. The word “love” is so misunderstood and so misuse.”

“I can never forget how a little child, a Hindu child, taught me how to love the great love. In Calcutta, we didn't have sugar; and a little Hindu child, four years old, he heard Mother Teresa has no sugar. And he went home and told his parents: “I will not eat sugar for three days. I will give up my sugar to Mother Teresa.” After three days the parents brought the child to our house. In his hand he had a little bottle of sugar . . . the sugar of a little child. He could scarcely pronounce my name, but he knew he loved a great love because he loved until it hurt. It hurt him to give up sugar for three days. But that little child taught me to be able to love a great love, it is not how much we give but how much loving is put in start giving.”

em

By the

am D

riv - - - ers of Ba-by-lon there we sat

em

and we wept. There we hung up our

am D em

har ps re - mem - - ber-ing home.

G am

It was there that they ask-ed us our

em am B7rit.

cap - tors for son - gs for joy. Oh,

em am em

how could we si - ng of the Lord on

am em Fine

a - li - en soil.

*Cantor: If I forget you Jerusalem, let my righthand wither, my tongue cleave to my mouth, if I prize not Jerusalem above all my joys. Antiphon*

## *Prayers from the Taizé Community . . .*

*P : Jesus our hope, in you we find the consolation with which God comes to flood our lives, and we understand that, in prayer, we can bring everything to you, entrust everything to you.*

*P : Jesus our peace, by your Gospel you call us to be very simple, very humble. You cause to grow within us an infinite gratitude for your constant presence in our lives.*

*P : God of consolation, even when we feel nothing of your presence, still, you are there. Your presence is invisible, but your Holy Spirit is always within us.*

*P : Holy Spirit, you have a call for everyone one of us. So come, prepare our hearts to discover what it is that you expect of each of us.*

*P : God of compassion, disconcerted by the incomprehensible suffering of the innocent, we pray for those who are experiencing times of trial. Inspire the hearts of those who seek the peace that is so indispensable for the whole human family.*

*P : God of consolation, you burden yourself with our burdens, so that we can move forward at every moment, from anxiety toward trust, from shadows toward light.*

**C: Gracious Lord, we give you thanks for the day, especially for the good we were permitted to give and to receive; the day is now past and we commit it to you. We entrust to you the night; we rest in surety, for you are our help, and you neither slumber nor sleep.**

**C: O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**



**C: Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory now and forever. Amen.**

## Stay with Us

gm Eb7 cm adim7 D gm dm7 Eb7

*p* Stay with us O Lord Je - sus Christ: night will soon

4 dm dm gm Em cm gm7 F Bb

fall. *mf* Then stay with us O Lord Je - sus Christ: *f*

7 cm Bb F gm D

*p* light in our dark - ness.

