Taizé Prayer Service
Christian Life Center (CLC)
Duration: 40–60 minutes
Setting: Evening or Night Prayer

1. Preparation of the Space (Before People Arrive)

- Dim lighting; sanctuary or prayer space kept simple.
- Central prayer focus:
    - Cross (Taizé cross if available)
    - Open Bible on a stand or Monstrance for the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
    - Several candles (placed low and visible)
- Chairs arranged in a semi-circle or facing the prayer center
- Soft instrumental Taizé music playing quietly as people enter

2. Opening Chant (5 minutes)
Purpose: Gather the assembly into prayer

- Begin with a familiar Taizé chant, repeated several times
  Examples:
    - "The Lord Is My Light"
    - "Jesus, Remember Me"
    - "Bless the Lord"
- Leader remains seated or minimally visible; allow the chant to carry the prayer without explanation

Optional: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

3. Words of Welcome (1 minute)

- Very brief—no teaching or announcements
  Example:

"We gather in silence and song to rest in the presence of God. Let us open our hearts to the Word and to the Spirit's peace."

4. Optional Candle Ritual (CLC Discretion)

- Participants may be invited to light a candle in silence:
    - For a personal intention
    - As a sign of trust in God
- No spoken instructions during the ritual

5. Devotion (Psalm / Canticle or Taizé Chaplet)
Option 1: Psalm / Canticle

- Sung or read slowly
  Suggested Psalms:

    - Psalm 27
    - Psalm 23
    - Psalm 131
- Sung refrain (Taizé-style) between verses if possible

Option 2: Taizé Chaplet

- Sung refrain (Taizé-style) or mantra prayer for each beat of the Chaplet

6. Scripture Reading (3 minutes, if suitable)

- One short reading proclaimed slowly
  Suggested texts:
    - John 1:1–5
    - Matthew 11:28–30
    - Romans 8:18–27
    - Isaiah 43:1–3
- Pause briefly in silence after the reading

7. Extended Silence (7–10 minutes)
This is the heart of Taizé prayer

- Absolute silence; no movement, music, or commentary
- Leader models stillness
- Optional: a single bell may mark the beginning and end of the silence

8. Meditative Chant Response (5 minutes)

- Resume with a gentle chant, repeated slowly
  Examples:
    - "In God Alone"
    - "Wait for the Lord"
    - "Nada Te Turbe"
- Volume remains soft; avoid building intensity

9. Intercessory Prayer (5–7 minutes)
Structure:

- Intentions read slowly (by leader or several readers)
- Sung response after each intention (same refrain each time)

Example Intentions:

- For peace in our world and communities
- For those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit
- For unity among Christians
- For the mission of the Church

Responses:

- "Kyrie Eleison"

- “O Lord, Hear My Prayer”

10. Lord’s Prayer (2 minutes)

- Spoken slowly, or sung if familiar

11. Final Blessing

- If a priest or deacon is presiding, he blesses the people
- Include the Monstrance if the Blessed Sacrament is exposed

12. Closing Chant (5 minutes)

- A chant of hope or trust
  Examples:
  - “My Hope Is in You, Lord”
  - “Ubi Caritas”
- Allow the chant to fade naturally rather than ending abruptly

13. Dismissal in Silence

- Leader may quietly say:

“Let us go in peace.”

- People depart in silence

Christian Life Center (CLC) | Taizé Prayer Service

1. Preparation (Before People Arrive)
Dim lighting; simple sanctuary. Central focus: Cross, Bible or Monstrance, candles. Chairs semi-circle or facing center. Soft Taizé music.

2. Opening Chant (5 min)
- Begin familiar chant (repeat several times)
  Examples: "The Lord Is My Light," "Jesus, Remember Me," "Bless the Lord"
- Leader seated or minimally visible

3. Welcome (1 min)
"We gather in silence and song to rest in God's presence. Let us open our hearts to the Word and the Spirit's peace."

4. Optional Candle Ritual
- Participants may light a candle silently for intentions or trust in God

5. Devotion (Psalm / Canticle or Taizé Chaplet)
Psalm / Canticle: Psalms 23, 27, 131 – sung or read slowly, with Taizé-style refrain
Chaplet: Sung refrain or mantra for each beat

6. Scripture Reading (3 min)
- One short reading slowly proclaimed
  Examples: John 1:1–5, Matthew 11:28–30, Romans 8:18–27, Isaiah 43:1–3
- Pause briefly in silence

7. Extended Silence (7–10 min)
Absolute silence; leader models stillness. Optional bell at start and end

8. Meditative Chant Response (5 min)
Gentle chant, repeated slowly: "In God Alone," "Wait for the Lord," "Nada Te Turbe"

9. Intercessory Prayer (5–7 min)
Intentions read slowly; sung response after each
Responses: "Kyrie Eleison" / "O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

10. Lord's Prayer (2 min): Spoken slowly or sung
11. Final Blessing: Priest/deacon blesses people; include Monstrance if exposed
12. Closing Chant (5 min): "My Hope Is in You, Lord," "Ubi Caritas"
13. Dismissal in Silence "Let us go in peace." All Depart silently