

On the Way, Taizé Service – Water Security in a World of Competing Demands

 Wednesday, 27th May 2026, 19H00 | Holy Trinity Church, Geneva



Guest Speakers:

- **Dr Connie Allsopp** — *Dr of Health Policy (Canada)*
- **Alice Bouman** — *Co-Founder, Cansu Global; Expert in Water Diplomacy and Sustainability (Netherlands)*

The Gathering & Welcome – Ludo Claude

SONG #1: WAIT FOR THE LORD (Taizé)

We stand

The image shows a musical score for the song 'Wait for the Lord' in G major and common time. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: 'Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!' The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1984; MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1984
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PSALM 65:9-13, (NIV)

We sit to say the psalm antiphonically.

⁹ You care for the land and water it;
you enrich it abundantly.

The streams of God are filled with water
to provide the people with grain,
for so you have ordained it.

¹⁰ **You drench its furrows and level its ridges;
you soften it with showers and bless its crops.**

¹¹ You crown the year with your bounty,
and your carts overflow with abundance.

**¹²The grasslands of the wilderness overflow;
the hills are clothed with gladness.**

¹³ The meadows are covered with flocks
and the valleys are mantled with grain;
they shout for joy and sing.

Bible Reading

We stand for the Gospel reading

John 4: 5–15 (NIV)

⁵So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

⁷When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?” ⁸(His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.^[a])

¹⁰Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.”

¹¹“Sir,” the woman said, “you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? ¹²Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?”

¹³Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

¹⁵The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.”

Homily – Ludo Claude

We sit

SONG #2:

We stand

In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful 654

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are: "In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful; in the Lord I will re -
joice! Look to God; do not be a - fraid. Lift up your
voic - es; the Lord is near. Lift up your voic - es; the Lord is near." The score includes triplets in the vocal line of the second and third systems.

This refrain from the ecumenical monastic community at Taizé, France, is meant for repeated singing. A wonderful quilt of psalm-like phrases, it would be appropriate at any time but the concluding emphasis on the nearness of the Lord makes it especially fitting for use in Advent.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We sit or kneel.

**Lord, in your mercy;
Hear our prayer.**

Gracious and life-giving God,
you are the creator of the rivers and seas,
the giver of rain and living water.
You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
the river of God is full of water.
Teach us to cherish the gifts of creation,
and to recognise water not as a privilege for a few,
but as your gift for all people and all life.
Establish the work of our hands, O Lord —
yes, establish the work of our hands.

**Lord, in your mercy;
Hear our prayer.**

For your Church and for all who follow Christ:
make us faithful stewards of the earth you entrust to us.
As Jesus sat beside the well and spoke with the Samaritan woman,
teach us to cross barriers of fear, division, and indifference.
May we listen to the thirst of the world —
the thirst for dignity, justice, peace, and hope —
and respond with compassion and humility.

**Lord, in your mercy;
Hear our prayer.**

For our world, where water is increasingly scarce
and where competing demands bring inequality and conflict:
guide governments, businesses, scientists, and communities
toward wisdom, cooperation, and justice.
Protect rivers, lakes, and groundwater from destruction and greed.
Strengthen all who work to ensure safe and affordable water
for the poor, the vulnerable, and future generations.

Lord, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

For communities suffering from drought, pollution, floods,
or lack of access to clean water:

be their refuge and strength.

Comfort those whose crops have failed,

whose homes have been damaged,

or whose children are made sick through unsafe water.

Stir the conscience of the world

that no one may be forgotten or left behind.

Lord, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

For scientists, engineers, entrepreneurs, and all working in water security
and sustainability:

grant them creativity, integrity, and perseverance.

Bless efforts that bring purification, conservation, innovation, and
equitable distribution.

May human knowledge be guided by wisdom,

and may technology serve the flourishing of all creation.

Lord, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

For ourselves, gathered here tonight:

when we consume without thought, teach us gratitude.

When we waste what others lack, teach us responsibility.

When we encounter those who thirst — physically or spiritually —
teach us to respond with generosity and love.

May Christ, the living water,

renew our hearts and transform our lives.

Lord, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

And together we pray:

**Living God,
you water the earth and sustain all creation.
Through Christ, the living water,
quench the thirst of our restless world.
Where there is scarcity, bring justice.
Where there is conflict, bring reconciliation.
Where there is despair, bring hope.
Transform our hearts,
that we may protect the gift of water
and reflect your love in the world —
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer – All

We sit or kneel.

As our Saviour taught us, we pray

**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.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Dismissal – Ludo Claude

Go in peace,
to protect the gift of water
and to care for the earth God has entrusted to us.

Go to quench thirst where there is need,
to seek justice where resources are unequal,
and to walk gently with one another.

Go, following Christ, the living water,
that your lives may flow with mercy, hope, and peace.

Amen.

Music after the service

You are invited to light a candle in prayer during the final song.

SONG #3: (Taizé)

We stand

Be still for the presence of the Lord

David J. Evans

David J. Evans
Arranged by Mary Tim

$\text{♩} = 80$
C Em7 Am Dm7 G

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, The Ho - ly One is here;
Be still, for the glo - ry of the Lord Is shi - ning all a - round;
Be still, for the po - wer of the Lord Is mo - ving in this place;

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a tempo of 80 beats per minute. It features a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower staff. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note bass line and a more complex treble line with chords and moving lines. The lyrics are placed between the two staves.

5 C Em7 Am Dm7 Gsus4 G

Come bow be- fore Him now With re - ver - ence and fear.
 He burns with ho - ly fire, With splen-dour He is crowned.
 He comes to - cleanse and heal, To min - i - ster His grace.

9 F G/F C/E F G/F C/E G/A Am7

In Him no sin is found, We stand on ho - ly ground.
 How awe - some is the sight, Our ra - diant King of light!
 No work too hard for Him, In faith re - ceive from Him.

13 F G G/F Em7 Am Dm7 Gsus4 G C

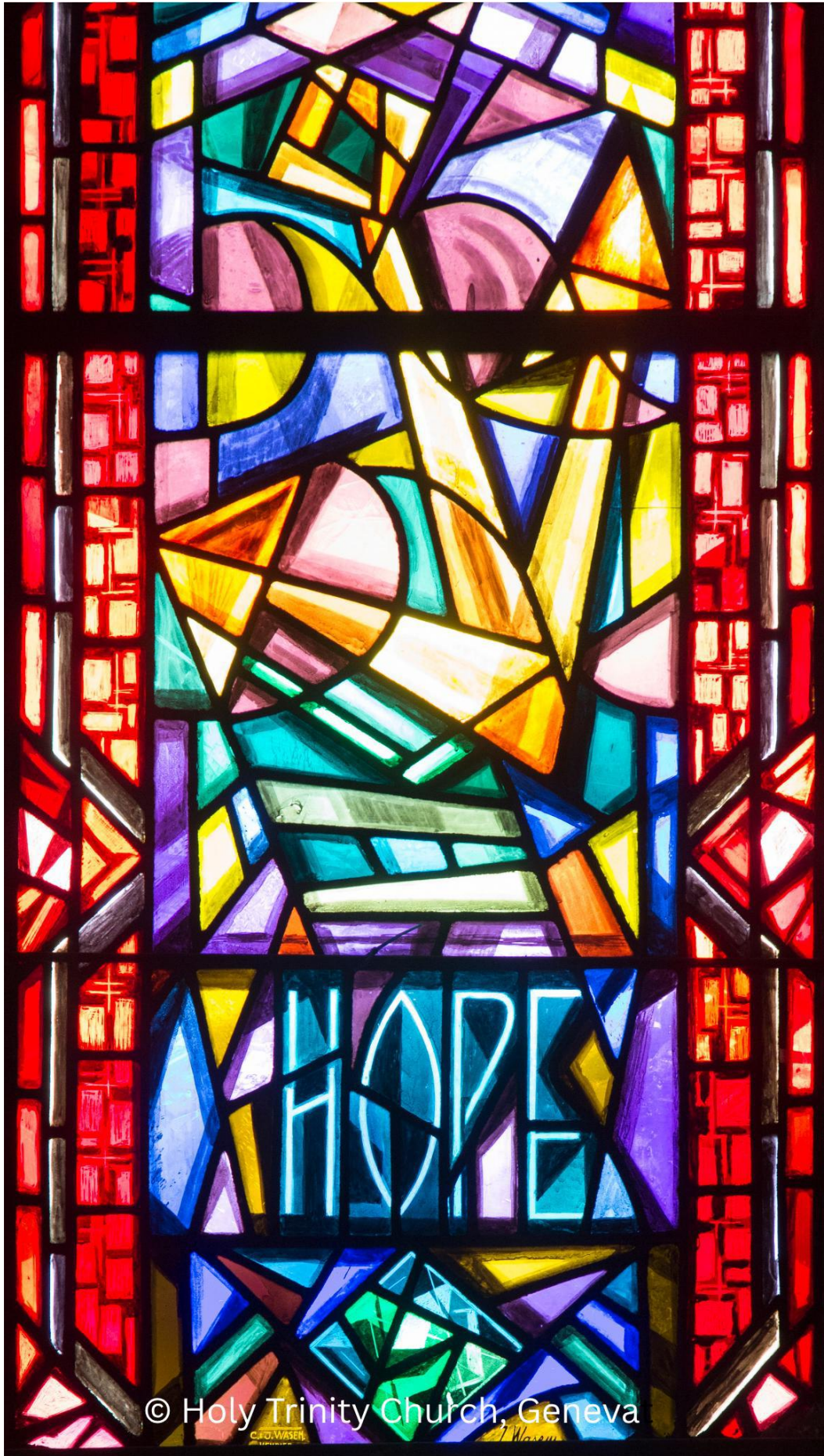
Be still, for the presence of the Lord, The Ho - ly One is here.
 Be still, for the glo - ry of the Lord Is shi - ning all a - round.
 Be still, for the po - wer of the Lord Is mo - ving in this place.

Join us downstairs in the hall for supper, discussion and networking.

On The Way - Main Group
 WhatsApp group



HTC Social Media



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