HYMNS AND SONGS FOR LENT AND EASTER THAT TRANSCEND STYLE

PREPARED BY REV. DR. TRACIE JERNIGAN MINISTER OF WORSHIP ARTS FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, WILMINGTON, NC

Inspiration

A theme of centering the heart. Imagery of labyrinth. Use of finger labyrinths. "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You." Saint Augustine in *Confessions*

PRAYER & DEVOTION







Breath Prayer

Inhale: Help me see You Exhale: In and around me.

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Centered Description

Barrett Owen, FBC Wilmington, NC

God wants us to live our lives from the center . . . to be centered. Think about a circle. All circles have centers and circumferences. The center is the deepest place from within the circle and the same distance to everything else. The circumference is the shallower and showier edge.

Our lives are like circles, and God desires for us to live out of our center. This is the place we feel welcomed, loved, and whole. It is the place we feel forgiven. But it's also the place where we're most honest and most vulnerable about ourselves.

The circumference is easier. This is a much showier and shallower life that receives tremendous praise and blame from others. We don't have to be honest about ourselves out here. We must be free to receive what the world brings. Our tendency is to live on the circumference, but this is a spiritual trap.

We are all circumference people. We substitute spiritual for superficial. We want quick and easy before we get challenging and thought-provoking.

And I think deep down you know what I am talking about when I say living a life on the circumference. It's the furthest point from the center while still being in the circle. It is calling yourself a Christian and changing nothing about your ordinary life.

But this can change if we learn to turn from the circumference and start moving toward our center. This turning is an inward journey to our soul or repentance where we feel more unified with God because low and behold that is where God resides, at the center.

But a word of caution: You don't choose your center. All you can do is repent – turn from your circumference and start heading towards the center. The Spirit of God will let you know when you have arrived. Your soul will know it, but it finally feels whole.





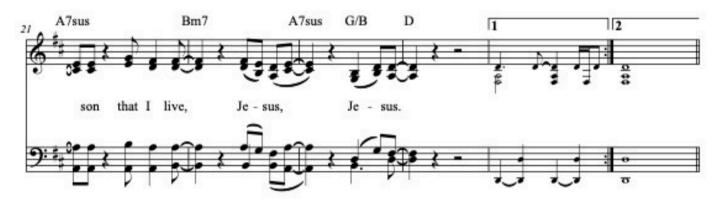






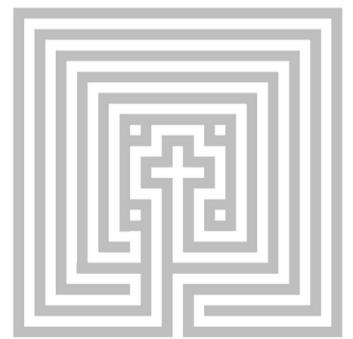
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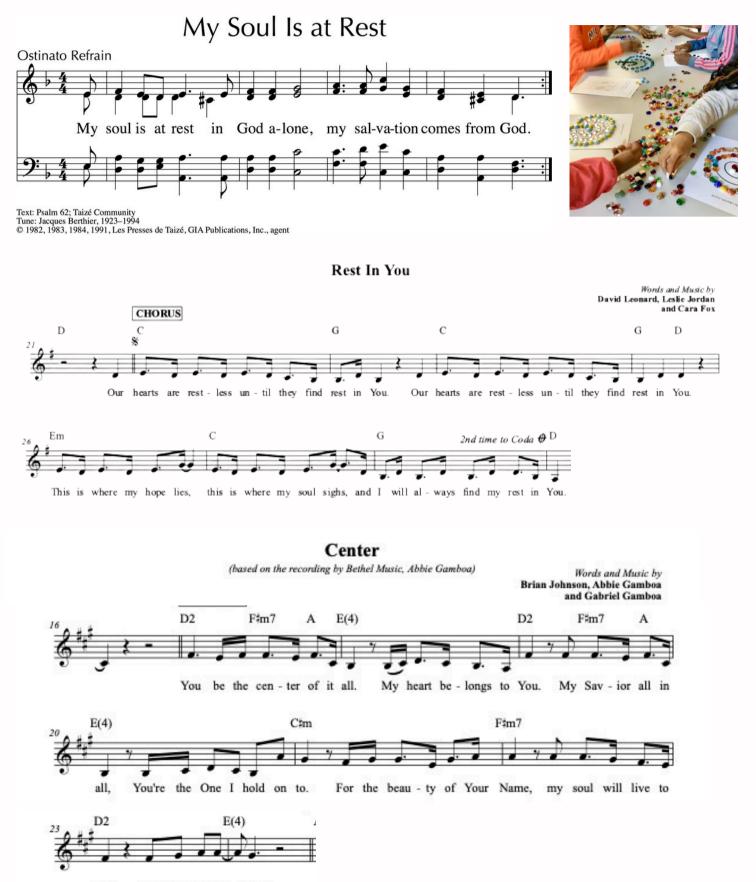
DARKNESS CANNOT DRIVE OUT DARKNESS





Finger Labyrinth from Hand Weaving Pattern by Linda Smith Gurganus Created on Microsoft Excel 31 x 31 Six-Circuit Cross Labyrinth July 31, 2024

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say, "Je - sus, I love You."

Inspiration

A theme of repentance, dust, confession, and forgiveness. "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin." Psalm 51



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Create in Me a Clean Heart

HYMNS AND SONGS FOR LENT AND EASTER THAT TRANSCEND STYLE

POLYPHONY: THE ARTIST'S HEART

	DRIVE OUT THE DARKNESS Porter's Gate	2
INTRO	Piano one time through chorus chords	1
CHORUS	C Em F Come, O Come Be our light C/G G F G C Drive out the darkness Come, Jesus, Come	
VERSE 1	C Em F Fm Every year under the thorn Every wrong that we have known C Em F Fm Every valley will be raised Ancient ruins will be remains	
CHORUS	C Em F Come, O Come Be our light C/G G F G C Drive out the darkness Come, Jesus, Come	
VERSE 2	C Em F Fm Every weapon made for war Every gun and every sword C Em F Fm Will be melted in the flame To be used for gardening	
CHORUS	C Em F Come, O Come Be our light C/G G F G C Drive out the darkness Come, Jesus, Come H	
VERSE 3	C Em F Fm In the emptiness of grief Through the night of suffering C Em F Fm In the loss and in the tears God of comfort, O be near	
CHORUS 2	C Em F Come, O Come Be our light C/G G Drive out the darkness C Em F Come, O Come Be our light C/G G Drive out the darkness	Soul
ENDING	F C G Come, and end all the violence F C G Come, do not be silent F C G Come, cling to your promise F C G Come, break all injustice	

F

G C (hold)

Come, Jesus, Come



HILDEGARD OF BINGEN

