

# Finding Peace

*after a Death by Suicide*

Welcome

Gathering Song

*Jesus Christ, Inner Light*

Je - sus Christ, in - ner light, let not our own dark - ness con - quer us.

Je - sus Christ, in - ner light, en - a - ble us to wel - come your love.

Text sugg. by Br. Roger, Taizé Community

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Opening Reading

*Excerpts from If You Would Have Known, Shelby N. Merchen*

You left without a warning;  
you left without saying "goodbye."  
You left us with only questions.  
The most important one is "why?"

Why did you believe  
you had to face this world alone?  
Why did you suffer silently?  
We would have helped if we had known.

How long had you been hurting  
before deciding you were done?  
I'm glad your pain has ended,  
but our pain has just begun.

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

2 Corinthians 1:3-7

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 31:10, 11, 15 and 17

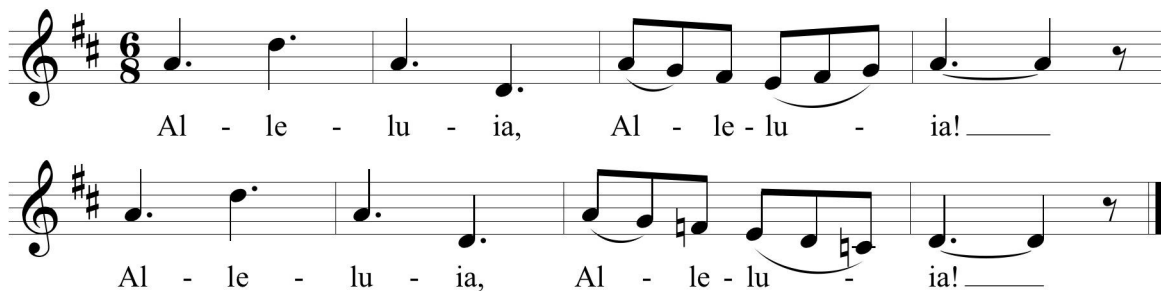


Let your hearts take — com-fort, all who hope in the Lord.

1. Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in distress. My eyes are wasted with grief, my soul and my body.
2. For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighs. Affliction has broken down my strength, and my bones waste away.
3. But as for me, I trust in you, O LORD, I say you are my God. Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love.

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Gospel Acclamation (*Choir/Cantor first, then all*)



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Gospel

John 6:37-40

Quiet Reflection (Instrumental)

Romans 8:38-39

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Universal Prayer



1. Long be-fore the moun-tains came to be and the land and



2. Des - ti - ny is cast, and at your si-lent word we re - turn to



3. Teach us to make use of the time we have. Teach us to be



1. sea and stars of the night, through the end-less sea - sons of all



2. dust and scat-ter to the wind. A thou-sand years are like a sin-gle mo-ment



3. pa - tient e - ven as we wait. Teach us to em-brace our ev-'ry joy and



1. time, you have al - ways been, \_\_\_\_\_ you will al - ways be.

2. gone, as the light that fades \_\_\_\_\_ at the end of day.

3. pain. To sleep peace - ful - ly, \_\_\_\_\_ and to rise up strong.



In ev - 'ry age, O God, you have been our ref - uge.



In ev - 'ry age, O God, you have been our hope.

## BLESSING

Bless, O God of eternal life,  
all who have died  
by their own hand.

Grant them peace  
from their inner turmoil  
and the compassion of your love.

Comfort those who mourn  
their loved ones.

Strengthen them to face the questions of pain,  
the guilt and anger,  
the irreparable loss.

Help us to reach out in love  
to others who prefer death  
to the choices of life  
and to their families who grieve.

Amen.

*Lead Us to Your Light*

Lead us to your light, \_\_\_\_\_ lead us out of \_\_\_\_\_

The first system of the musical score is written for piano and voice. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff for the voice and a bass clef staff for the piano accompaniment. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 3/4. The piano part features a steady accompaniment of eighth notes in the right hand and quarter notes in the left hand. The vocal line begins with the lyrics 'Lead us to your light, \_\_\_\_\_ lead us out of \_\_\_\_\_'.

dark-ness, Lead us to your light. \_\_\_\_\_ Come Je-sus come.

The second system of the musical score continues the piece. It also consists of two staves: a treble clef staff for the voice and a bass clef staff for the piano accompaniment. The piano part continues with the same accompaniment pattern. The vocal line continues with the lyrics 'dark-ness, Lead us to your light. \_\_\_\_\_ Come Je-sus come.' The system ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Text and Music: Carol E. Browning, b. 1956, © 2001, GIA Publications, Inc.

