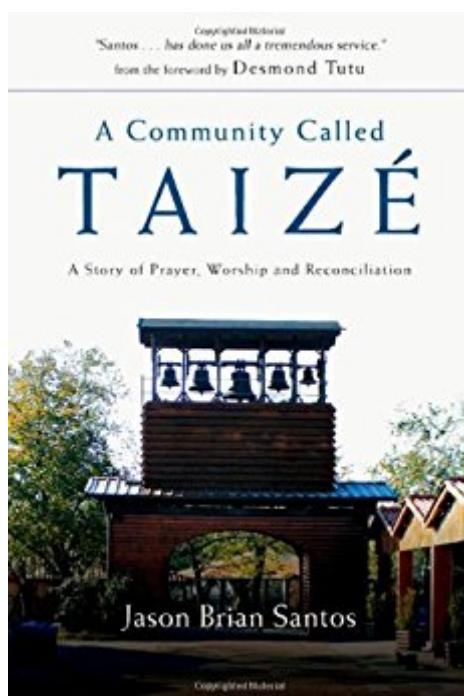


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# A Community Called Taize: A Story Of Prayer, Worship And Reconciliation



## **Synopsis**

Taizé--the word is strangely familiar to many throughout the contemporary church. Familiar, perhaps, because the chanted prayers of Taizé are well practiced in churches throughout the world. Strangely, however, because so little is known about Taizé--from its historic beginnings to how the word itself is pronounced. The worship of the Taizé community, as it turns out, is best understood in the context of its greater mission. On the day Jason Brian Santos arrived in the Taizé community its leader was brutally murdered before his eyes. Instead of making Santos want to leave, the way the community handled this tragedy made him long to stay and learn more about this group of people who could respond to such evil with grace and love. In this book he takes us on a tour of one of the world's first ecumenical monastic orders, from its monastic origins in the war-torn south of 1940s France to its emerging mission as a pilgrimage site and spiritual focal point for millions of young people throughout the world. In *A Community Called Taizé* you'll meet the brothers of the order and the countless visitors and volunteers who have taken upon themselves a modest mission: pronouncing peace and reconciliation to the church and the world.

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

An inspirational manual of life and worship in the Taize community in France. The author gives details of transportation, lodging and tourist attractions in the vicinity of the community to those who would expect to attend one of their weekly prayer services. He describes what a prayer service will include, he interviews some of the Taize brothers as well as some of the many diverse attendees that arrive from all over the world.

The Taize community is a largely Protestant, but very ecumenical, religious community in France. It is an amazing example of living out a total commitment to loving and serving God and others. This book gives you insights into its origins, its continued "success" for 60 years, its adaptability, and what it is like "on the ground," for the occasional pilgrim and (to a lesser extent) the lifelong Brothers. Taize is best known for its music, but I now understand better why we can't just pop in one of their CD's at a church service once in a while and expect the spiritual transformation and enrichment claimed by pilgrims to Taize. It starts with scriptural based theology, uses practical, but powerful rules-of-life to order the complete commitment of the community, and continually looks for ways to adapt to new situations and to meet challenges, all the while praying and turning everything over to God. While the power and world-wide affect of the Taize experience can't be neatly understood, reading this book will give you a clearer picture of what can happen when people truly let the Holy Spirit lead them, and will probably make you want to visit, as it did me.

This is an incredible book about the Taize community. I particularly loved the history and the detailed descriptions of the community today. I felt like I was there visiting myself. I also loved the authors' sensitivity to respect the community, the brothers and God's work there. Very thorough, enjoyable to read! I highly recommend it!

A Community Called Taizé is a great resource for any person interested in Taizé or wanting to use the work of Taizé in his or her own congregation. I found the review, of a day in Taizé, to be very insightful to my understanding of not only a day in the community but what the community of Taizé is all about. I am looking forward to sharing this book with anyone interested in Taizé, worship renewal, reconciliation, and ministry in the world today. Santos' thoughts on how the community of Taize's ethos is applicable to the North American Church is needed as we approach ministry in a world of constant change. It was a breath of fresh air, which came at a time most needed. I can't wait to plan my first trip to Taizé.

It is not so much the book that is remarkable as the community. The author has done justice to what can only be described as a modern miracle.

A fascinating look into a religious practice & community that is gaining fans throughout the world. Mr. Santos writes in an engaging manor.

This was so helpful in preparing for my trip to Taize

This book combines basic "story" of the Taize Community with the author's own experience and some ideas and recommendations for those who might wish to visit the community and/ or pray in the community's style.

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