

First United Methodist Church of Saginaw

CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE IN THE STYLE OF TAIZÉ

FEBRUARY 1, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

-----The beginning of the service will be denoted by the ringing of a bell.-----

Song: "LOVE IS THE WELCOME"

words Kathy Galloway, music Scottish traditional, c2003, Wild Goose Resource Group, Iona Community

Love is the wel - come that comes _ from the heart And _ o - pens its

door to the stran - ger, Which makes of its house a _ rest - ing - place for

all, For the sake of the babe in the man - - ger.

Scripture: 1 John 4:18

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear;
for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love.

Reading: *Excerpt on Openness* – David Deida

Right now, and in every moment, you are either closing or opening. You are either stressfully waiting for something – more money, security, affection – or you are living from your deep heart, opening as the entire moment, and giving what you most deeply desire to give, without waiting.

If you are waiting for *anything* in order to live and love without holding back, then you suffer. Every moment is the most important moment of your life. No future time is better than now to let down your guard and love.

Everything you do right now ripples outward and affects everyone. Your posture can shine your heart or transmit anxiety. Your breath can radiate love or muddy the room in depression. Your glance can awaken joy. Your words can inspire freedom. Your every act can open hearts and minds.

Opening from heart to all, you live as a gift to all. In every moment, you are either opening or closing. Right now, are you choosing to open and give fully, or are you waiting?

Silence (2 minutes)

Song: "THE KINGDOM OF GOD"

w/m Jacques Berthier, c2007 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Community

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "The king - dom of God is jus - tice and peace and joy in the Ho - ly Spir - it. Come, Lord, and o - pen in us the gates of your king - dom. The". The guitar accompaniment uses a variety of chords, including Em, C, Am, G/B, D, G, D, C/E, Am/C, Bm, and Em. The vocal line is simple and melodic, with a clear emphasis on the lyrics.

Scripture: John 13:34

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you.

Reading: *As You Have Loved Me* – by Steven Garraas-Holmes

Beloved,
may your love flow through me,
your heart beat in mine,
your Spirit breathe in me,
that I may love as you have loved me:
entering my life with gentleness,
inviting me into your grace,
giving me a place of belonging
in this amazing world,

calling forth the divine in me,
finding delight in me,
laying down your life for me.
May I love as you have loved me
and live gently, love deeply,
forgive feely, give generously,
bless boldly, and offer myself humbly,
that, by your grace,
you will live fully in me.

Song: "LIVE IN CHARITY"

©m Jacques Berthier, c1998 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Community

The image shows a musical score for the song "LIVE IN CHARITY". It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 2/4. The first system has the following lyrics: "Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love,". The second system has the following lyrics: "live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you." The piano accompaniment includes chords (F, C, Dm, Bb, D, G, C, Gm, C, F) and a triplet of eighth notes in the second system.

Time of Prayer – Pastor Amy Terhune

Silence (10 minutes)

Song: "WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME"

words John Bell, music Scottish traditional, c 2007 Wild Goose Resource Group, Ionia Community



Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
your name? ____ Will you go where you don't know and nev - er
be the same? ____ Will you let my love be shown, ____
____ will you let my name be known, ____ will you let my
life be grown in you and you in me? _____

Benediction: *Blessed is the Path* – Eric Williams

Blessed is the path on which you travel.
Blessed is the body that carries you upon it.
Blessed is your heart that has heard the call.
Blessed is your mind that discerns the way.
Blessed is the gift that you will receive by going.
Truly blessed is the gift that you will become on the journey.
May you go forth in peace.

-----The conclusion of the service will be denoted by the ringing of a bell.-----

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JOIN US for the next contemplative service on March 1
JOIN US for worship Ash Wednesday 2/22/23 at 7pm
JOIN US for worship on Sundays at 10am!
Find us on Facebook @firstumcofsaginaw

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