

First United Methodist Church of Saginaw

CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE IN THE STYLE OF TAIZÉ

JANUARY 4, 2023 7:00 p.m.

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

Song: "GLORY TO GOD"

w/m Jacques Berthier, c1998 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Community

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of two lines of music. The first line contains measures 1 through 4, and the second line contains measures 5 through 8. Chords are indicated above the staff: Dm, Gm, C, and F. The lyrics are written below the staff, with syllables aligned with the notes. The lyrics are: "Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est! Glo - ri - a. glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"

Scripture: Matthew 2: 8-12

Herod sent the wise men to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

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 JOIN US for the next contemplative service on February 1, 2023!
 JOIN US for worship on Sundays at 10am!
 Find us on Facebook!

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Reading: *Prayer of the Magi* – Stephen Garnaas-Holmes, www.unfoldinglight.net

God of truth, open my eyes to your light
and give me faith to follow,
to seek signs of your grace, to notice,
in nature, in dreams, in people.

Give me devotion to seek your presence,
to come close to you, to draw near.

Give me faith to forsake all else that glitters
and follow the light of your love alone.

Give me resolve to leave the familiar
and make of my life a holy pilgrimage.

Give me humility to ask directions,
to seek help from other seekers.

Give me steadfastness to seek and not turn back,
despite challenges of distance and strangeness.

Give me courage to stand against Empire
and its desire to use me.

Give me generosity to give of my gifts.

Give me insight to bow to holiness
in whomever I may see it.

Give me wisdom and readiness
to go by a new road.

May all I do today honor you.

God of love, may this day be a new life,
guided by the light of your presence,
led by wonder, trust, and love. Amen.

Silence (2 minutes)

Song: "TAKE, O TAKE ME AS I AM"

w/m John Bell, c 1995 the Iona Community, Scotland, admin. by GIA Publications, Inc.

The image shows a musical score for the song "TAKE, O TAKE ME AS I AM". It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system contains the lyrics: "Take, O take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall". The second system contains the lyrics: "be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

Scripture: Isaiah 43: 18-19

Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Reading: *The Year as a House* – by Jan Richardson, www.paintedprayerbook.com

Think of the year as a house:
door flung open in welcome,
threshold swept and waiting,
a graced spaciousness
opening and offering itself to you.

Let it be blessed in every room.
Let it be hallowed in every corner.
Let every nook be a refuge
and every object set to holy use.

Let it be here that safety will rest.
Let it be here that health will make its home.
Let it be here that peace will show its face.
Let it be here that love will find its way.

Here let the weary come, let the aching come,
let the lost come, let the sorrowing come.

Here let them find their rest
and let them find their soothing
and let them find their place
and let them find their delight.

And may it be in this house of a year
that the seasons will spin in beauty,
and may it be in these turning days
that time will spiral with joy.

And may it be that its rooms will fill
with ordinary grace
and light spill from every window
to welcome the stranger home.

Song: "THE LOVE OF GOD COMES CLOSE"

w/m by John L Bell, c1998 Wild Goose Resource Group, Iona Community, Scotland

The love of God comes close where stands an open door
to let the stranger in, to mingle rich and poor:
the love of God is here to stay, embracing those who walk his way.

The image shows a musical score for the song "THE LOVE OF GOD COMES CLOSE". It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "The love of God comes close where stands an open door". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "to let the stranger in, to mingle rich and poor:". The third staff contains the melody for the third line: "the love of God is here to stay, embracing those who walk his way." The music is written in a simple, accessible style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

Time of Prayer — Pastor Amy Terhune

Silence (10 minutes)

Song: "LORD JESUS CHRIST, YOUR LIGHT SHINES"

w/m by Jacques Berthier, c 1998 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Community

Lord Je - sus Christ, your light shines with - in us.

Let not my doubts nor my dark-ness speak to me. Lord Je - sus Christ, your

light shines with-in us. Let my heart al-ways wel - come your love.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The second system starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The third system starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

Benediction: by Kris, www.revgalblogpals.org

Radiant Morning Star, you are both guidance and mystery.
Visit our rest with disturbing dreams, and our journeys with strange companions.
Grace us with the hospitality to open our hearts and homes
to visitors filled with unfamiliar wisdom bearing profound and unusual gifts. Amen.

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