

First United Methodist Church of Saginaw

CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE IN THE STYLE OF TAIZÉ

MARCH 1, 2023 7:00 p.m.

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

Song: "IT IS GOOD TO TRUST" – Jacques Berthier, c 1991 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Community

♩ = 58

The musical score is written on two staves in 2/4 time with a tempo of 58. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the song, with guitar chords Dm, A SUS, A, Dm, C, and F. The second staff contains the melody for the second line, with guitar chords Gm, C, F, Dm, Gm7, Am, and Dm. The lyrics are: "It is good to trust in the Lord our God, trust and hope in the Lord our God."

It is good to trust in the Lord our God,
trust and hope in the Lord our God.

Scripture: Genesis 2:7 The Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

Reading: *Blessing the Dust* – Jan Richardson

All those days you felt like dust, like dirt, as if all you had to do was turn your face to the wind and be scattered to the four corners or swept away by the smallest breath as insubstantial – did you not know what the Holy One can do with dust?

This is the day we freely say we are scorched.

This is the hour we are marked by what has made it through the burning.

This is the moment we ask for the blessing that lives within the ancient ashes, that makes its home inside the soil of this sacred earth.

So let us be marked not for sorrow, and let us be marked not for shame.

Let us be marked not for false humility or for thinking we are less than we are –

but for claiming what God can do within the dust,

within the dirt, within the stuff of which the world is made

and the stars that blaze in our bones

and the galaxies that spiral inside the smudge we bear.

Silence (2 minutes)

Song: "ASHES TO ASHES" -Dan Schutte, c 2013 Daniel L Schutte

A musical score for the song "Ashes to Ashes" by Dan Schutte. The score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The first system starts with a five-measure rest for the voice, indicated by a bracket with the number '5'. The lyrics are: "Ash - es to ash - es, from dust un - to dust. The". The second system starts at measure 10 and has lyrics: "cross on our fore - head, your prom - ise, O God. _____ Read - y us to". The third system starts at measure 15 and has lyrics: "fol - low the way of your Son, _____ to rise from these". The fourth system starts at measure 19 and has lyrics: "ash - es, re - deemed in the fire of your love. _____". The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines in both hands, with some measures containing rests.

Scripture: Psalm 51: 10-12 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

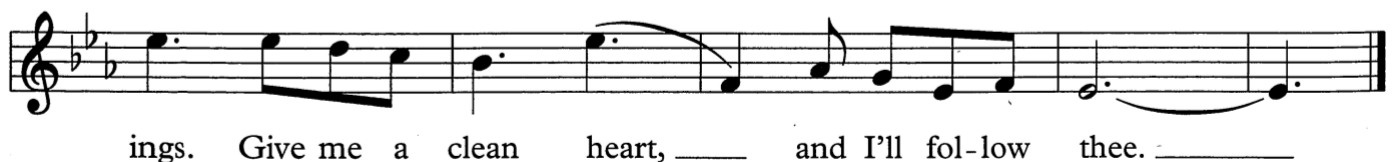
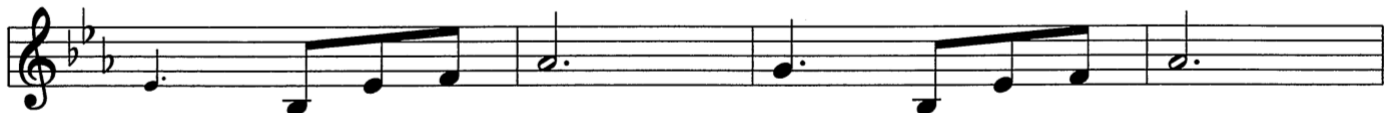
Reading: *Lent-* by Steve Garraas-Holmes

Lent is when we go downstairs,
down into the basement of our souls,
into the dark, dingy, dirty places,
and clear out the junk we need to get rid of.
In Lent we don't need to beat ourselves up.
We need to lighten our load,
bag up those fears and desires
that are leaking all over everything,
take our guilt and shame out to the curb.
It's not easy to lay our hands on broken things,
to look deep into the gummed up works.
That's why Jesus shines with his light,

shines so we can see our way down into the dark,
see to lift up the junk and hand it over,
so he can haul it out into the light of the dumpster.
The light Jesus shines is good with dark places,
so we know even from the deepest hole down there
we'll come out. The light will lead us. We'll be OK.
Mucking around down there we get dirty,
and we come up with grime on our hands
and ashes on our foreheads for everybody to see.
But we're free of all that blame and disappointment.
And the darkest, deepest cellar hole
becomes an empty tomb.

Song: "GIVE ME A CLEAN HEART" – Margaret Douroux, c 1970 Margaret P Douroux

The pebble you have been given represents something you would like to let go of. During this song you may bring it forward and place it in the bowl of water.



Time of Prayer —Pastor Amy Terhune

Silence (10 minutes)

Song: "GIVE PEACE TO EVERY HEART"

—Jacques Berthier, c 1991 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Community

Musical score for the song "GIVE PEACE TO EVERY HEART". The score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves of music. The first staff begins with a circled letter 'A' above the first measure. The lyrics under the first staff are: "Give peace to ev - 'ry heart. Give peace to ev - 'ry heart. Give". The second staff begins with a circled letter 'B' above the first measure and a circled letter 'C' above the third measure. The lyrics under the second staff are: "peace, _____ Lord. Give peace, _____ Lord. Give". The music features a simple melody with quarter and eighth notes, and a bass line with dotted quarter notes.

Benediction: *by Ruth C Duck*

Creating God, still Center of the world you have made,
we come to you in this season of turning and returning.
We do not know how to seek you with our whole hearts,
but we know you are our source and our destiny.
In the midst of life, we return to you, we turn toward you.
We thank you that you receive even the broken heart,
the troubled conscience, the conflicted spirit.
Seeking you in secret, may we honor you in public,
through Jesus Christ, our path homeward to you. Amen.

-----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 April 5, 2023!
JOIN US for worship on Sundays at 10am!
Find us on Facebook @firstumcofsaginaw

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