

First United Methodist Church of Saginaw
CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE IN THE STYLE OF TAIZÉ
July 5, 2023 7:00 p.m.

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

Song: "THE KINGDOM OF GOD"

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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
(Last time ♪)

Scripture: Romans 13:8

Owe no one anything, except to love one another;
for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

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JOIN US for the next contemplative service on August 4!
JOIN US for worship on Sundays at 10am!
Find us on Facebook @ firstumcofsaginaw

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Check out our website: www.firstumcsaginaw.org

Reading: *Freedom* – by Steven Garraas-Holmes

Love is the greatest power God has given you.
In loving, you become your deepest self.
The deepest freedom is the freedom
to unleash that love upon the world,
to give the deepest gift in yourself.
True freedom is the freedom to love everyone
regardless of what society (or your instinct) says they deserve,
regardless of how they treat you,
regardless of what they seem to ask for.
The best freedom is to be free of whatever keeps you from loving perfectly.
God has unlocked all the gates.
The hardest part of life is walking out of prison.

Silence (2 minutes)

Song: "LIVE IN CHARITY"

Jacques Berthier, c1991 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 line. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 2/4. The first system of music has the lyrics: "Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love,". The second system has the lyrics: "Live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you." The piano accompaniment features chords and melodic lines that support the vocal melody. There are some decorative elements like dashed lines and circles around certain notes in the piano part.

Scripture: Mark 3: 32-35

A crowd was sitting around Jesus, and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you." And Jesus replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

Reading: *Family* – by Katherine Hawker

We are the people of God.
Together we are family.

I was married,
and in a holy union,
and never married,
and married twice,
and widowed.
We are the people of God.
Together we are family.

I am older
and younger,
and in between,
facing my first serious relationship,
knowing the joy of love,
enduring betrayal,
tasting the grief of a dying partner.

We are the people of God.
Together we are family.

I am an only child,
and have ten siblings
and have raised two children
and no children.
We are the people of God.
Together we are family.

I am part of a family,
the human family
the family of faith
my family of origin
the family of my choosing.
We are the people of God.
Together we are family.

Song: "WHO IS MY MOTHER, WHO IS MY BROTHER?"

words by Shirley Erena Murray, music by Jack Schrader, c1992 Hope Publishing Co.



1. Who is my moth - er, who is my broth - er?
2. Dif - ferent - ly a - bled, dif - ferent - ly la - beled
3. Love will re - late us — col - or or sta - tus
4. Bound by one vi - sion, met for one mis - sion



all those who gath - er round Je - sus Christ: Spir - it-blown peo - ple,
wid - en the cir - cle round Je - sus Christ: Crutch - es and stig - mas,
can't seg - re - gate us, round Je - sus Christ: Fam - i - ly fail - ings,
we claim each oth - er, round Je - sus Christ: Here is my moth - er,



born from the Gos - pel sit at the ta - ble, round Je - sus Christ.
cul - tures' e - nig - mas all come to - geth - er round Je - sus Christ.
hu - man de - rail - ings — all are ac - cept - ed, round Je - sus Christ.
here is my broth - er, kin - dred in Spir - it, through Je - sus Christ.

Time of Prayer – Pastor Amy Terhune

Silence (8 minutes)

Song: "HOW GOOD AND PLEASANT IT IS"

words Psalm 133, melody traditional Israeli

May be sung as a round

arr. John L Bell, c2007 Wild Goose Resource Group, Iona Community, Scotland

How good and plea-sant it is when God's peo-ple live to - ge - ther.

Good it is — when God's peo - ple live to - ge - ther.

The image shows a musical score for the song "How Good and Pleasant It Is". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 6/8. The lyrics are: "How good and plea-sant it is when God's peo-ple live to - ge - ther." and "Good it is — when God's peo - ple live to - ge - ther." The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and bar lines.

Benediction: *We Are One With You* – Thomas Merton

O God, we are one with you. You have made us one with you.
You have taught us that if we are open to one another, you dwell in us.
Help us to preserve this openness and to fight for it with all our hearts.
Help us to realize that there can be no understanding where there is mutual rejection.
O God, in accepting one another wholeheartedly, fully, completely, we accept you,
and we thank you, and we adore you, and we love you with our whole being,
because our being is your being, our spirit is rooted in your spirit.
Fill us then with love, and let us be bound together with love as we go our diverse ways,
united in this one spirit which makes you present in the world,
and which makes you witness to the ultimate reality that is love.
Love has overcome. Love is victorious.

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