

First United Methodist Church of Saginaw

CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE IN THE STYLE OF TAIZÉ

February 7, 2024 7:00 p.m.

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

Song: "COME TO ME" words from Matthew 11:28, music John L Bell, c 2998 WGRG, Iona Community, Scotland

Come to me, come to me, — weak and heav - y lad - en; —
 — trust in me, lean on me. I will give you rest. —
 lad - en;

B \flat Eb/B \flat Am7(\flat 5) D Gm Cm7 F
 8
 E \flat Am7(\flat 5)/E \flat Dm7 Gm Cm Cm7 Fsus4 F

Scripture: Isaiah 43:1b-2

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Reading: *Blessing When the World is Ending* – Jan Richardson, www.paintedprayerbook.com

Look, the world is always ending somewhere.
Somewhere the sun has come crashing down.
Somewhere it has gone completely dark.
Somewhere it has ended with the gun, the knife, the fist.
Somewhere it has ended with the slammed door, the shattered hope.
Somewhere it has ended with the utter quiet that follows the news
from the phone, the television, the hospital room.
Somewhere it has ended with a tenderness that will break your heart.
But, listen, this blessing means to be anything but morose.
It has not come to cause despair.
It is simply here because there is nothing a blessing is better suited for than an ending,
nothing that cries out more for a blessing than when a world is falling apart.
This blessing will not fix you, will not mend you, will not give you comfort;
it will not talk to you about one door opening when another closes.
It will simply sit itself beside you among the shards
and gently turn your face toward the direction from which the light will come,
gathering itself about you as the world begins again.

Silence (2 minutes)

Song: "WAIT FOR THE LORD" by Jacques Berthier, c 1998 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Community

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, — take heart!

Scripture: Isaiah 40:31

Those who wait for the Lord (who expect, look for, and hope in Him) shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings as eagles. They shall run and not be weary. They shall walk, and not faint.

Reading: *Prayer For the Weary* – Steven Garraas-Holmes, www.unfoldinglight.net

God, I am weary.
I am worn by my daily tasks,
burdened by all that is demanded of me,
tired of the world's turbulence.
Even my faith, sometimes,
is too tired to get up and go.
There is so much to do.
Restore my energy.
Be my heartbeat, my breath,
the spark of my nerves.

Like a leaf
carried on the river of your love,
Bear me through this world
by your grace,
and not by my effort.
May your love and hope and courage
rise in me like the sun,
and shine me through this day,
in the love and presence of your Spirit.
Amen.

Song: "THE LORD WILL LISTEN" by John L Bell, c 2008 WGRG, Iona Community, Scotland

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "The Lord will listen, the Lord will listen, the". The second system starts at measure 5 and continues with the lyrics: "Lord will listen to the broken-hearted." The piano accompaniment features chords and melodic lines in both hands.

Chords for the first system: F, C, Dm, Gm7, C

Chords for the second system: Am, C#dim7, Dm, Gm, F/C, C7, F

Prayer – Rev. Amy Terhune

Silence (10 minutes)

Song: "HOLY SPIRIT, COME TO US" Jacques Berthier, c 1998 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Comm.

The image shows a musical score for the song "Holy Spirit, Come to Us" in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and the lyrics: "Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us, kin - dle in us the fire of your love." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords. The second system continues the vocal line with the lyrics: "Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us, Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us." The piano accompaniment continues with similar harmonic support.

Benediction – Mary J Scifres, based on Isaiah 40, <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/01/benediction-isayah-40.html>

May you run and not be weary.
May you rise up on the wings of eagles.
May you know without doubt
that the everlasting God goes with you!

-----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 6
JOIN US for Ash Wednesday Worship on Feb. 14 at 7:00pm
JOIN US for worship on Sundays at 10am!
JOIN US for our FREE MEAL – Tues. Feb. 13, 5:30–6:30pm
Check out our website: www.firstumcsaginaw.org

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