

First United Methodist Church of Saginaw

CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE IN THE STYLE OF TAIZÉ

May 1, 2024 7:00 p.m.

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

Song: "SING PRAISES" — w/m Jacques Berthier, c1991 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Community.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble clef and a bass clef, with a 3/4 time signature and a key signature of two flats. The melody is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Sing prais - es, all you peo - ples, sing prais - es to the Lord. Sing". The second system continues the melody and piano accompaniment, with the lyrics: "prais - es, all you peo - ples, sing prais - es to the Lord! Sing". The piece ends with a "fine" marking and a fermata over the final chord.

Scripture: Job 12:7-10

Ask the animals, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you; ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of every human being.

Reading — *Mary de La Valette, from "Life Prayers"*

I do not have to go
To Sacred Places
In far-off lands.
The ground I stand on
Is holy.
Here, in this little garden
I tend
My pilgrimage ends.

The wild honeybees
The hummingbird moths
The flickering fireflies at dusk
Are a microcosm
Of the Universe.
Each seed that grows
Each spade of soil
Is full of miracles.

And I toil and sweat
And watch and wonder
And am full of love.
Living in place
In this place.
For truth and beauty
Dwell here.

Silence (2 minutes)

Song: "GOD IS HERE TODAY" — w/m Traditional Mexican, arr. by C Michael Hawn and Arturo Gonzales,
©1999 Choristers Guild

The image shows a musical score for the song "God is Here Today". It is arranged for voice and piano. The score is in 3/4 time and the key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are: "God is here to - day; as cer - tain as the air I breathe, as cer - tain as the morn - ing sun that ris - es, as cer - tain when I sing you'll hear my song." The score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

Scripture: Psalm 8:3-6

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet.

Reading — Stephanie Kaza, from "Life Prayers"

Please, dear Mother Earth,
Help me to stand firm on my own two feet
Drawing on the solid earth below me
Help me to know that constancy of your strength
the power that is you, oh dear Mother Earth
Help me to walk with the blood of rivers in my veins
and the dark crumbling soil of earth in my flesh

Let my muscles be strong as the tree trunks
 that rise up out of your belly
 To dance in the sky
 and sing praises to the life all around
 Beating, pulsing, rich and full
 with your sweet sure energy.
 Oh dear Mother Earth, live in this body today.
 Sing loudly in every breath I take
 Stretch wildly and flow feely
 with all the directions I move
 and come home with me,
 come home to my belly
 live deep in my soul
 oh mother earth, SING!

Song: "SPIRIT OF LIFE" — words and music by Carolyn McDade, c1981 Carolyn McDade

Spir - it of Life, come un-to me. Sing in my heart all the stir-rings of com - pas - sion.

Blow in the wind, rise in the sea; move in the hand, giv-ing life the shape of jus - tice.

Roots hold me close; wings set me free; Spir - it of Life, come to me, come to me.

Prayer — Pastor Amy Terhune

Silence (10 minutes)

Song: "THIS IS GOD'S WORLD" — w/m by John L Bell, c2008 WGRG, Ionia Community, Scotland

The image shows a musical score for the song "THIS IS GOD'S WORLD". It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "This is God's world, giv-en on loan; no oth-er earth shall be our home; so let us bless, hon-or and tend what God in love cre-a-ted." The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Benediction — Pat Cane

We join with the Earth
and with each other,
to bring new life to the land,
to recreate the human community,
to provide justice and peace,
to remember our children,

to remember who we are.
We join together
as many and diverse expressions
of the one loving mystery,
for the healing of the Earth
and the renewal of all Life.

-----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 at 7pm on June 5, 2024!
ALL ARE WELCOME at worship on Sundays at 10am!
ALL ARE WELCOME at our FREE MEAL – Tues. May 14, 5:30–6:30pm
Check out our website: www.firstumcsaginaw.org

Saginaw First United Methodist Church
4790 Gratiot Rd, Saginaw, MI 48638
Phone: (989) 799-0131
Email: firstumcsaginaw@gmail.com
Find us on Facebook @firstumcofsaginaw