

# First United Methodist Church of Saginaw

## CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE IN THE STYLE OF TAIZÉ

### April 2, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

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

#### Song: "HOW GOOD AND PLEASANT"

words Psalm 133:1, melody traditional Israeli, arr John L Bell, c2007 WGRG, Iona Community, Scotland

*May be sung as a round.*

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together.

Good it is when God's people live together.

#### Scripture: Romans 12: 4-5

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

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JOIN US for the next contemplative service at 7pm on May 7, 2025!  
ALL ARE WELCOME at worship on Sundays at 10am!  
ALL ARE WELCOME at our FREE MEAL – Tues. April 8, 5:30-6:30pm  
Check out our website: [www.firstumcsaginaw.org](http://www.firstumcsaginaw.org)

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Reading: *Do Not Be Alone Right Now* – Karen G Johnston

Do not be alone right now. Gather together.

Gathering together grows courage: in ourselves and in others who see the numbers swelling. It is a small thing, but right now it is an important thing.

Great sources of wisdom remind us: just because you cannot stem the tide of *all* hate, it is still right to do the thing you can do. These things add up: your one thing and my one thing; his one thing and their one thing and her one thing. Together it becomes a BIG thing.

Do not be alone right now. Any liberation—all liberation—is collective liberation. My freedom is bound with yours and yours with mine. Inextricably.

Let us together cast our lots doing this BIG thing: bending the moral arc of the universe towards justice.

Silence (2 minutes)

Song: "DO ALL THE GOOD YOU CAN"

words John Wesley, music by Edward Bonnemere, arr Cynthia Wilson, c2011 Abingdon Press

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. Chord symbols are placed above the notes. The lyrics are: "Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." The score ends with a double bar line.

Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, —

5 — in all the ways you can, — in all the plac-es you can, —

9 — at all the times you can, — to all the peo-ple you can, —

13 — as long as ev - er — you can. —

Scripture: Ephesians 4:16

From Him, the whole body, fitted and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love through the work of each.

Reading: *Small Stones* – Steven Garraas-Holmes, [www.unfoldinglight.net](http://www.unfoldinglight.net)

There are times, beholding the wounds of the world,  
we feel inadequate. We haven't done enough.  
Yes, there are those who give their blood on the ramparts,  
who are tireless in their work for justice and healing.  
It is only together that we are they.  
Remember you are not asked to save the world,  
or even a single creature.  
You are asked to listen,  
to hear what you are called to do,  
great or small, and to do that.  
In the stone wall I walk past every morning  
there are small stones  
that hold the great ones in place.  
In the chorus you only sing one part  
but when you change your note  
you change the whole chord.

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

w/m by John Bell, c 1995 The Iona Community, Scotland, admin by GIA Publications

*During the singing of this song, you are invited forward to place your stone in the bowl of water.*

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The first system covers the first two lines of lyrics, and the second system covers the last two lines. Chord symbols are placed above the vocal line.

Chord symbols for the first system: Db, Ebm/Db, Ab/Db, Db, Gb/Bb

Chord symbols for the second system: Absus, Ab, Gb, Ab/Gb, Db/F, Ebm, Absus, Ab

Lyrics: Take, O take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

Silence (10 minutes)

Song: "THE KINGDOM OF GOD"

w/m Jacques Berthier, c 2007 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Comm.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are: "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". Chord symbols are placed above the notes: Em, Em, C, Em/B, Am, G/B, D, G, D, C/E, Am/C, D, G, C, Em/B, Am, G/B, D, Bm, Em, Am/C, D, G, Em.

Benediction — Dr. Derek Browning

Generous God,  
here are our gifts of time;  
here are our gifts of talents;  
here are our gifts of treasure;  
building stones for Your Kingdom,  
awaiting shaping and placing  
within your loving purpose. Amen.

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