

First United Methodist Church of Saginaw

CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE IN THE STYLE OF TAIZÉ

September 3, 2025 7:00 p.m.

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

Song: "SING TO THE LORD"

w/m Jacques Berthier, c1998 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Community, France

Sing to the Lord, all my be - ing, let ev-'ry-thing in me pro-claim God's sal - va - tion.
Lo - be den Herrn, mei-ne See - le, und al-les in mir sei-nen hei - li - gen Na-men!

Sing to the Lord, all my be - ing, and re-mem-ber all of God's mar-vel - ous deeds!
Lo - be den Herrn, mei-ne See - le, und ver - giß nicht, was er dir Gu - tes ge - tan!

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

All songs reproduced by permission. CCLI License #1003593
JOIN US for the next contemplative service at 7pm on Oct. 1, 2025!
ALL ARE WELCOME at worship on Sundays at 10am!
ALL ARE WELCOME at our FREE MEAL – Tues. Sept. 9, 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

Reading: *Bless the Work of Our Hands* – Carol Penner, *Leading in Worship blog*

Bless the work of our hands, O God.
Bless the hands that work the land;
hands that move earth,
plant seeds and harvest,
hands with callouses and dirty fingernails,
strong hands.
Bless the hands that use machines;
hands that drive cars, trucks, and forklifts,
hands on computer keyboards,
capable hands.
Bless the hands that make things;
hands that manufacture and create,
working wood and metal and plastic,
practical hands.
Bless the hands that clean;
hands that wash, mop and scrub,
hands that know what to do with soap,
determined hands.

Bless the hands that make music and art;
hands that play instruments, hold paintbrushes,
hands that are creative tools,
artistic hands.
Bless that hands that care for people;
hands that cook and feed, heal and nurture,
hands with a gentle touch,
loving hands.
Bless the hands that are generous;
hands that give away money and food,
hands that are always trying to be empty,
Christ-like hands.
Bless the tiny, baby hands.
Bless the strong adult hands.
Bless the hands that are folded in prayer.
Bless the hands that are lifted in praise.
Our hands do the work of your hands,
O God our Creator. Amen.

Silence (2 minutes)

Song: "LORD, BE GLORIFIED" – w/m Bob Kilpatrick, c 1986 Prism Tree Music, assigned 1998 to Lorenz Corp.



Scripture: Colossians 3:23

Whatever you do, put yourself into it, as if the work is done for the Lord and not for humankind.

Reading: Passages from *"On Work"* – Kahlil Gibran

When you work,
you are a flute through whose heart the whispering of the hours turns to music.
And when you work with love,
you bind yourself to yourself, and to one another, and to God.
And what is it to work with love?
It is to weave the cloth with threads drawn from your own heart,
even as if your beloved were to wear that cloth.
It is to build a house with affection,
even as if your beloved were to dwell in that house.
It is to sow seeds with tenderness and reap the harvest with joy,
even as if your beloved were to eat the fruit.
It is to charge all things you fashion with a breath of your own spirit,
and to know that all the blessed dead are standing about you and watching.
Work is love made visible.

Song: "GOD HAS CHOSEN ME"

w/m by John Bell, c 2008 Wild Goose Resource Group, Iona Community, Scotland

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with piano accompaniment in both treble and bass clefs. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

God has cho-sen me. God has cho-sen me, and in my life is plant-ed a seed.

3 (last time)
God knows that I need: its fruit shall be joy.

Prayer – Peg Wilken

Silence (10 minutes)

Song: "LET YOUR SERVANT NOW GO IN PEACE"

w/m Jacques Berthier, c1998 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Community, France

Let your ser - vant now— go in peace, O Lord, now—

Lord, O Lord,

go in peace ac - cord - ing to your word, Last time Let your

(to your word.) Last time

Benediction – *Soujour Community Church, Louisville, KY. theopensourcebook.org*

When you work,
work as though working for the Lord.

When you rest,
rest in the sovereign grace of God.

And when you celebrate,
celebrate as a people with the greatest reason
for love, joy, and celebration.

Go now in the grace and forgiveness of our Savior,
and in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Peace be with you.

Amen.

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