

First United Methodist Church of Saginaw

CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE IN THE STYLE OF TAIZÉ

November 6, 2024 7:00 p.m.

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

Song: "WHEN THE NIGHT BECOMES DARK"

w/m by Jacques Berthier, c 1991 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Community

The musical score is written for guitar and voice in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. The second system also has a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. Chords are indicated above the notes.

Chords: Em, Am⁶, E, Am, E, Am, E, C⁶, Dm, C, F⁶, E, Am

Lyrics:
When the night be - comes dark, your love, O Lord,
is a fire; your love, O Lord, is a fire.

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13: 8-10, 12-13

Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will come to an end. As for tongues, they will cease. As for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part. But when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part, but then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

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JOIN US for the next contemplative service at 7pm on Dec. 4, 2024!
ALL ARE WELCOME at worship on Sundays at 10am!
ALL ARE WELCOME at our FREE MEAL – Tues. Nov. 12, 5:30-6:30pm
Check out our website: www.firstumcsaginaw.org

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Reading: *A Litany For All the Saints* – by John Birch

Saints of days long gone
standing on the seashore and mountain top
considered the might of the elements
that you had created
the roar of the wind and waves
the constancy of the tides and seasons.
To them, Lord, it was evidence enough
that your creative Spirit
was still empowering this fragile world,
encircling their lives
as the very wind and mist
that swirled around them.
We have so little time
to contemplate this world

and complain when wind and rain
conspire to spoil our day
Yet in doing so we often fail
to gain the comfort and reassurance
that your saints felt in their isolation.
We forget that it was your creative breath
that set this universe in motion
and still moves across the world
Not always predictably,
but there to be seen and felt;
there to offer the comfort and reassurance
of a God who is constant and eternal.
Thank you, Creator God
for the constancy and ample evidence
of your love for this world.

Silence (2 minutes)

Song: "WHEN WE ARE LIVING"

verse 1 only - words anon. translated by Elise S Eslinger, music traditional Spanish, c1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

D Em A7 D Bm
1) When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus, and when we're
Em A7 D G
dy - ing, it is in the Lord. Both in our liv - ing,
Em A F#m refrain: Bm Em A7 D
and in our dy - ing, we be - long to God, we be - long to God!

Scripture: Romans 8: 38-39

I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow – not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below – indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reading: *All Saints Day* – Steve Garnaas-Holmes

I praise the Saints who have graced us:
the Great Saints, Francis and Teresa and the gang;
but especially the Lesser Saints,
those who have humbly, perhaps unknowingly, shed light in our lives.
I am grateful for the people who have blessed you – yes, you, dear reader,
who have loved you more than necessary,
who have taught you and forgiven you and shown you what love is possible.
I give thanks for those who endured silently
and those who showed you how to rise up and shout.
I bless those who didn't yell at you, and showed you a new path.
I thank God for the saints whose brokenness, whose imperfections, faults and failures
showed you what a glorious light can shine in a cracked lantern.
For all who have helped you know your own belovedness
I give thanks, because now you, dear one, are sanctified, too: chosen as Love's vessel,
no more deserving or adequate or worthy than others, but loved, and chosen as Love's vessel.
May you know with certainty that you can't know who you have blessed,
but that, like all Saints, you have.

Song: "LORD, JESUS CHRIST"

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

During this song, in honor of someone having gone before, you may come forward to light your candle and place it in the sand.

Lord Je - sus Christ, your light shines with - in us. Let not my
doubts nor my dark - ness speak to me. Lord Je - sus Christ, your
light shines with - in us. Let my heart al - ways wel - come your love.

Prayer – Pastor Amy Terhune

Silence (10 minutes)

Song: "NIGHT HAS FALLEN"

words Malawi evening hymn, adapted Tom Colving, music traditional Malawi, arr John L Bell, c 1997 WGRG, Iona Community

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The score is divided into two systems. The first system is for the vocal line, with lyrics for 'Cantor' and 'All'. The second system is for the piano accompaniment, with lyrics for 'Gra - cious Spi - rit, guard us sleep - ing.'.

Cantor All

1) Night has fal - len. Night has fal - len.
2) Dark - ness now has come. Dark - ness now has come.
3) We are with you, God. We are with you, God.
4) See your child - ren, Lord. See your child - ren, Lord.
5) Keep us in your love. Keep us in your love.
6) Now we go to rest. Now we go to rest.

Gra - cious Spi - rit, guard us sleep - ing.

Benediction – Jan L Richardson

God of the generations,
when we set our hands to labor,
thinking we work alone,
remind us that we carry
on our lips, the words of prophets,
in our veins, the blood of martyrs,
in our eyes, the mystics' visions,
in our hands, the strength of thousands.

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