

# First United Methodist Church of Saginaw

## CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE IN THE STYLE OF TAIZÉ

### February 5, 2025 7:00 p.m.

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

#### Song: "GOD WELCOMES ALL"

words John L Bell, music traditional South African, c2008 WGRG, Iona Community, Scotland

The musical score is written for two staves, treble and bass clef, in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and homophonic, consisting of chords and single notes. The lyrics are: "God welcomes all, strangers and friends; God's love is strong and it never ends." The score ends with a double bar line.

#### Scripture: John 13: 34-35

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

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JOIN US for the next contemplative service at 7pm on March. 5, 2025!

*Note: this will be our Ash Wednesday Service of Worship*

ALL ARE WELCOME at worship on Sundays at 10am!

ALL ARE WELCOME at our FREE MEAL – Tues. Feb. 11, 5:30-6:30pm

Check out our website: [www.firstumcsaginaw.org](http://www.firstumcsaginaw.org)

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Find us on Facebook @firstumcofsaginaw

Reading: *Shantideva Prayer, Adapted* – Karen G. Johnston, <https://www.uua.org>.

May I be a guard for those who need protection;  
when I seek protection, may I find it and share it.

For those who wish to cross to a further shore, may I be a boat, a raft, a bridge.

May I be open to the companionship of others as I make my way to places still before me.

May I be a lamp in the darkness for all who seek it;

May that light never be extinguished from my own sight and my own heart.

May I be a resting place for the weary and be healing medicine for all who are sick;

May I know the salve of others for my own afflictions,  
whether of the body or of the mind, or of the heart.

Where others see scarcity, may I see a vase of plenty, a tree of miracles.

As part of the boundless multitudes of living beings,

May I bring sustenance and awakening, freedom from sorrow,  
and may I delight in our common existence.

Holding most tenderly those with broken hearts, let us sit together in stillness.

Silence (2 minutes)

Song: "LIVE IN CHARITY"

w/m Jacques Bethier, ©1991 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Community

Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love,

Live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you.

Scripture: Micah 6:8

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you?  
To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Reading: *Inauguration* – Steven Garraas-Holmes, <https://unfoldinglight.net>.

Today, God, you create me anew; today I inaugurate a new life.  
By the power invested in me by the Holy Spirit  
I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute your call in my life,  
and will to the best of my ability uphold your commandments.  
I will act with love and gentleness, with reverence and forgiveness toward all people.  
I will practice humility, generosity, and truthfulness.  
I will honor and delight in the diversity of the human family,  
respecting the true unity of all people  
and the oneness and sacred worth of all living things.  
I pledge to live, speak, and act for justice and peace.  
I accept the power you give me to resist evil, injustice, and oppression  
in whatever forms they present themselves.  
I will stand against all violence, disrespect, and bullying.  
I will speak out against meanness, give voice to those who are silenced,  
and include those who are outcast.  
I acknowledge that I shine with your light, O God, that my life is not mine but yours.  
This day I pledge to do your will, not mine,  
for your sake and the sake of the healing of the world.  
I understand that this pledge will often set me against my culture,  
and that the culture will resist me.  
With your help and those of like mind and heart, I will persevere.  
I give you thanks. I ask your blessing. I trust your grace. Amen.

Song: "WHEN THE NIGHT BECOMES DARK"

w/m 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 covers the first line of lyrics: "When the night be - comes dark, your love, O Lord,". The second system covers the second line: "is a fire; your love, O Lord, is a fire." The score includes a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp and a bass clef staff. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff: Em, Am6, E, Am, E in the first system; Am, E, C6, Dm, C, F6, E, Am in the second system. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across two notes.

Prayer – Pastor Amy Terhune

Silence (10 minutes)

Song: "SPIRIT OF CHRIST JESUS" w/m Jacques Berthier, c 1991 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Community

Musical score for the song "SPIRIT OF CHRIST JESUS". The score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a 2/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat. The bass staff has a 2/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of Christ — Je - sus, Spir - it of lov - ing kind - ness, con -". The second system also has a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a 2/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat. The bass staff has a 2/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are: "firm your heart and keep it; con - firm your heart and keep — it." The score includes various musical notations such as triplets, slurs, and dynamic markings.

Benediction – Mary Jo Bowman, <https://re-worship.blogspot.com>

How shall we worship our God?  
We have heard what the Lord requires of us.  
Leave empty talk and pride behind.  
We must walk the walk.  
Prepare to step out in faith, even into troubled waters.  
Only God knows where we might need to go.  
Don't be afraid.  
Jesus will guide our steps along the way,  
Teaching us to walk humbly,  
To love boldly,  
To serve God with body, soul, mind, and strength.  
Let us pray for the humility and courage  
To follow where the Spirit leads.

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