

WELCOME

First United Church of Christ and Conference Center is a church with full real life standing in the Southern California Nevada Conference of the United Church of Christ (UCC).
It's good to be real in Second Life!

And as a UCC church, we'd like you to know that "No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

Our service will be in voice and text.

Music will be on the media viewer, so be sure that you have voice and media turned on.

If you don't know how to do that, let someone know and we'll try to help.

There will be a link in Nearby Chat so you can watch it in your browser if the viewer isn't working for you.

Whenever possible, lyrics for at least the refrain will be either on the screen, in Nearby Chat, or a link will be provided so you can follow along if you wish.

There is a bulletin for the service, if you want one, in the red binder near the door.

Taize worship is a contemplative type of worship developed by the ecumenical monastic community of Taize, France.

It incorporates repetitive prayers set to music, sometimes in different languages, along with moments of silent prayer, scripture, and other readings or prayers.

The use of repetitive sung prayers allows us to turn off our thinking mind and allow the music and prayer to sink into our hearts.

I encourage you, if you are some place where you feel safe doing so, to try singing along with the sung prayers once you get the rhythm.

The scriptures are the Daily Readings from the Revised Common Lectionary.

Let us open our hearts to God.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

"Bonum est Confidere"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RPNzZwBYZrc>

Chorus:

Bonum est confidere in Domino,

Bonum sperare in Domino

(Translation)

It is good to trust and hope in the Lord"

MOMENT OF SILENCE

"In Our Darkness"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E9RMJ3Tafds>

Lyrics:

In our darkness there is no darkness with you O Lord,

The deepest night is clear as the day.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

2 KINGS 4:18-31 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

When the child was older, he went out one day to his father among the reapers.

He complained to his father, "Oh, my head, my head!"

The father said to his servant, "Carry him to his mother."

He carried him and brought him to his mother;

the child sat on her lap until noon, and he died.

She went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, closed the door on him, and left.

Then she called to her husband, and said, "Send me one of the servants and one of the donkeys, so that I may quickly go to the man of God and come back again."

He said, "Why go to him today? It is neither new moon nor sabbath."

She said, "It will be all right."

Then she saddled the donkey and said to her servant,

"Urge the animal on; do not hold back for me unless I tell you."

So she set out, and came to the man of God at Mount Carmel.

When the man of God saw her coming, he said to Gehazi his servant, "Look, there is the Shunammite woman;

run at once to meet her, and say to her,

"Are you all right? Is your husband all right? Is the child all right?" She answered, "It is all right."

When she came to the man of God at the mountain, she caught hold of his feet.

Gehazi approached to push her away. But the man of God said,

"Let her alone, for she is in bitter distress; the Lord has hidden it from me and has not told me."

Then she said, "Did I ask my lord for a son? Did I not say, Do not mislead me?" 2

He said to Gehazi, "Gird up your loins, and take my staff in your hand, and go.

If you meet anyone, give no greeting, and if anyone greets you, do not answer; and lay my staff on the face of the child."

Then the mother of the child said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave without you."

So he rose up and followed her.

Gehazi went on ahead and laid the staff on the face of the child, but there was no sound or sign of life.

He came back to meet him and told him,

"The child has not awakened."

MOMENT OF SILENCE

"Seigneur, Tu gardes mon ame"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bn5Z3p8N2X8>

Lyrics:

Seigneur, Tu gardes mon ame

O Dieu to connais mon Coeur.

Condui-moi sur le chemin d'eternite

Condui-moi sur le chemin d'eternite

(Translation)

Lord, you watch over my soul
You know my heart
Lead me on to eternity
Lead me on to eternity

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PSALM 30 (NRSV)

I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up,
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.
O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.
O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol,
restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.
Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.
For his anger is but for a moment;
his favor is for a lifetime.
Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.
As for me, I said in my prosperity,
"I shall never be moved."
By your favor, O Lord,
you had established me as a strong mountain;
you hid your face;
I was dismayed.
To you, O Lord, I cried,
and to the Lord I made supplication:
"What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the Pit?
Will the dust praise you?
Will it tell of your faithfulness?
Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me!
O Lord, be my helper!"
You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have taken off my sackcloth
and clothed me with joy,
so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.
O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

TIME OF SILENT MEDITATION - about 5 minutes

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In the silence of our hearts or in words typed in Nearby Chat
let us give thanks for the gift of this day
and pray for the life of the world ...
if you have a prayer of joy or concern that you wish to lift to God, and have
supported by the energy of those gathered here, type it in Nearby Chat at this time.

Please conclude your prayer with the words, "Lord, in your mercy" so we know you are finished.

When you see "Lord, in your mercy," you may wish to respond with "hear our prayers."
Lord, in your mercy,

Lord hear our prayers
those voiced here today
those spoken only in the depths of our hearts
those for which we have no words,
we lift them all up to you
with faith that you know, better than we,
what is needed.
We pray all this, in the name of the one who taught us to pray together:
Our Father
who art in heaven
hallowed be thy name
thy kin-dom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil
for Thine is the kin-dom
and the power
and the glory, forever.
Amen.

“Nada te turbe”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=go1-BoDD7CI>

Chorus:

Nada te turbe,
nada te espante
quien a Dios tiene, nada le falta
Nada te turbe,
nada te espante
solo Dios, basta.

(Translation)

Let nothing disturb you,
let nothing frighten you,
everything passes,
only God stays.

Thank you for coming! Go in peace!