

WELCOME

Thank you for coming!

Welcome to our Sunday Taize service.

A particular welcome not only to those here in our Sanctuary at First UCC Second Life but those joining us later on YouTube.

First United Church of Christ and Conference Center is a church with full real life standing in the Eastern Association; Southern California Nevada Conference of the United Church of Christ (UCC).

As we like to say:

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 if you are live with us in SL 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.

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

Taize worship is a contemplative style of worship developed in the ecumenical monastic community of Taize, France.

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

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

Lyrics for at least the refrain of the chants will be either on the screen or in Nearby Chat so you can follow along if you wish.

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

The scripture text is from the Daily Readings of the Revised Common Lectionary.

Now let's settle in, and take a moment to open our hearts to God.

As you participate with us at home, you may want to light your own candle as we light our candles here.

[candles on altar are lit]

MOMENT OF SILENCE

"Sing Praises All You People"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_NQsqK_hMkI

MOMENT OF SILENCE

“Deus, Deus Meus” (canon)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMNIw_nMbho

Lyrics:

Deus, Deus meus, sitivit in te anima mea.

Benedicat te, benedicat te in vita mea benedicat te.

English translation:

God, my God, for you my soul is thirsting.

I will bless you whole life long.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PSALM 112 (NIV)

Praise the Lord.

Blessed are those who fear the Lord,

who find great delight in his commands.

Their children will be mighty in the land;

the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Wealth and riches are in their houses,

and their righteousness endures forever.

Even in darkness light dawns for the upright,

for those who are gracious and compassionate and righteous.

Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely,

who conduct their affairs with justice.

Surely the righteous will never be shaken;

they will be remembered forever.

They will have no fear of bad news;

their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

Their hearts are secure, they will have no fear;

in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor,

their righteousness endures forever;

their horn will be lifted high in honor.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

“Nada te turbe”*

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

Chorus:

Nada te turbe, nada te espante;

quien a Dios tiene, nada le falta.

Nada te turbe, nada te espante:

sólo Dios basta

(Translation)

Let nothing disturb you,

let nothing frighten you,

everything passes,

only God stays.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

JAMES 3:13-18

Who is wise and understanding among you?

Let them show it by their good life,

by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts,

do not boast about it or deny the truth.

Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.

For where you have envy and selfish ambition,

there you find disorder and every evil practice.

But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure;

then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

TIME OF SILENT MEDITATION - about 5 minutes

PRAYER 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.

During these prayers we will be in silence.

As you read the prayers typed in chat, hold this space as sacred and safe for all who wish to offer their prayers to God.

You may wish to conclude your prayer with the words, "Lord, in your mercy" .

When you see "Lord, in your mercy," you are invited to respond

either out loud, wherever you are, or in Nearby Chat,

with the words "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.

"Let Your Servant Now Go In Peace"
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PNLdOhiW-8k>
Lyrics:
Let your servant now go in peace,
O Lord
Now go in peace,
according to your Word

GO IN PEACE.