

WELCOME

Thank you for coming!
Welcome to our Lenten Taize service.

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.
There is a bulletin for the service 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 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 Psalm and the New Testament Daily Readings from the Revised
Common Lectionary.

Let us open our hearts to God.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

VIDEO: Nada te Turbe
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fvfTVxgkWpo>

MOMENT OF SILENCE

VIDEO: The Kingdom of God
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WL1_IhVTJmk
Chorus:
The kingdom of God is justice and peace
and joy in the Holy Spirit.
Come, Lord, and open in us the gates of your kingdom.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PSALM 118:1-2, 19-29

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!
Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

* * *

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord.

The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

VIDEO: Stay With Us, O Lord Jesus Christ
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ygxWfRC-J8>

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PHILIPPIANS 2:12-18

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Do all things without murmuring and arguing,

so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world.

It is by your holding fast to the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you— and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me.

TIME OF SILENCE 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 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.

VIDEO: Within Our Darkest Night

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EqQsZK570X8>

Lyrics:

Within Our Darkest Night

You kindle a fire that never dies away,

That never dies away.

Thank you for coming!