

WELCOME

Thank you for coming!
Welcome to our 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.

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 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

VIDEO: Our Soul is Waiting

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8kLqeX03msc>

Chorus:

Our soul is waiting for God,
Our hearts find joy in the Lord.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

VIDEO: By Night

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YSTdw3Vth0A>

Lyrics:

By night we hasten in darkness
To seek for the living water
Only our thirst lights us onward
Only our thirst lights us onward

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Matthew 16:5-12

When the disciples reached the other side, they had forgotten to bring any bread. Jesus said to them, "Watch out, and beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees."

They said to one another,

"It is because we have brought no bread."

And becoming aware of it, Jesus said,

"You of little faith, why are you talking about having no bread?

Do you still not perceive? Do you not remember the five loaves for the five thousand,

and how many baskets you gathered?

Or the seven loaves for the four thousand, and how many baskets you gathered?

How could you fail to perceive that I was not speaking about bread?

Beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees!"

Then they understood that he had not told them to beware of the yeast of bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

VIDEO: Ubi Caritas

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X9e_Q01ATho

Lyrics:

Ubi caritas et amor,

Ubi caritas, Deus ibi est

[where charity and love are, God is there]

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PSALM OF THE EVENING: Psalm 73 (Proper 12 - Friday)

- 1 Truly God is good to the upright,
to those who are pure in heart.
- 2 But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled;
my steps had nearly slipped.
- 3 For I was envious of the arrogant;
I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
- 4 For they have no pain;

their bodies are sound and sleek.
5 They are not in trouble as others are;
they are not plagued like other people.
6 Therefore pride is their necklace;
violence covers them like a garment.
7 Their eyes swell out with fatness;
their hearts overflow with follies.
8 They scoff and speak with malice;
loftily they threaten oppression.
9 They set their mouths against heaven,
and their tongues range over the earth.
10 Therefore the people turn and praise them,
and find no fault in them.
11 And they say, "How can God know?
Is there knowledge in the Most High?"
12 Such are the wicked;
always at ease, they increase in riches.
13 All in vain I have kept my heart clean
and washed my hands in innocence.
14 For all day long I have been plagued,
and am punished every morning.
15 If I had said, "I will talk on in this way,"
I would have been untrue to the circle of your children.
16 But when I thought how to understand this,
it seemed to me a wearisome task,
17 until I went into the sanctuary of God;
then I perceived their end.
18 Truly you set them in slippery places;
you make them fall to ruin.
19 How they are destroyed in a moment,
swept away utterly by terrors!
20 They are like a dream when one awakes;
on awaking you despise their phantoms.
21 When my soul was embittered,
when I was pricked in heart,
22 I was stupid and ignorant;
I was like a brute beast toward you.
23 Nevertheless I am continually with you;
you hold my right hand.
24 You guide me with your counsel,
and afterward you will receive me with honor.
25 Whom have I in heaven but you?
And there is nothing on earth that I desire other than you.
26 My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.
27 Indeed, those who are far from you will perish;
you put an end to those who are false to you.
28 But for me it is good to be near God;
I have made the Lord God my refuge,
to tell of all your works.

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 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: Magnificat

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kfhvLjJ1wdQ>

Lyrics:

Magnificant anima mea Dominum

[My soul magnifies the Lord]

Thank you for coming!