

WELCOME

Thank you for coming 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 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.

Let us open our hearts to God.
MOMENT OF SILENCE

"Bless the Lord, My Soul"
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LJvrAHZ1TU8>
Lyrics:
Bless the Lord, my soul
And bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul
Who leads me into life.
MOMENT OF SILENCE

"Alleluia 17"
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hs6NN3Ip_Go
MOMENT OF SILENCE

1 John 2

John (not John the Baptist) writes:

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus, Christ, "The Righteous One;"

and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also the whole world.

And if we may obey his commandments, we know that we have come to know him.

Whoever says, "I know him," and is not keeping his commandments is a liar, and in such a person "The Truth" does not exist.

On the other hand, whomever may obey his word, truly, in this person, the wholistic love of God is perfected.

Whoever says, "I obligate myself to remain in Christ," then, as Christ walked about,

so this person should walk about, too - and this is how we will know that we are in Christ.

Beloved, I am not writing you a new commandment, but reiterating an old commandment that you have had from the beginning - the old commandment is the Word that you have heard.

Yet, I am writing you a new commandment that is true in Christ and in you - that the darkness is being eclipsed and "The True Light" shines.

Whoever says, "I am in 'The Light,'" and goes about hating a brother or sister is really still in "The Darkness."

On the other hand, whoever loves a brother or sister lives in "The Light"

and in such a person there is no cause for someone to them and lose their faith.

But whoever hates another believer is really in "The Darkness," is walking in "The Darkness,"

and does not know the way to go, because the darkness brings on blindness.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

"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 OF THE EVENING: Psalm 114

- 1 When Israel went out from Egypt,
the house of Jacob from a people of strange language,
- 2 Judah became God's sanctuary,
Israel his dominion.
- 3 The sea looked and fled;
Jordan turned back.
- 4 The mountains skipped like rams,

the hills like lambs.
5 Why is it, O sea, that you flee?
O Jordan, that you turn back?
6 O mountains, that you skip like rams?
O hills, like lambs?
7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord,
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
8 who turns the rock into a pool of water,
the flint into a spring of water.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

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.

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.

"In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful"
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uAx8gjQrsOY>

Thank you for coming! Go in peace!