

Gale PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
LENT COMMUNION – TAIZÉ
March 2nd, 2021



Welcome to a service of singing, silence and Holy Communion. Please feel free to sit quietly or to join in as you feel comfortable.

We will follow a style based on the worship of the Taizé Community, a form of Christian worship simple and uncluttered.

Taizé is a small village in eastern France. It is the home of a Christian monastic community made up of people from many different countries. The community has developed a unique style of meditative singing which focuses on the repetitive chanting of short phrases from the Bible and other Christian texts in a range of languages. We will use some of those songs here.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

OPENING SILENCE

CHANT: Jesus Remember Me (#206)

**Jesus, remember me,
when You come into Your Kingdom.**

MEDITATIVE SILENCE

CHANT: Ubi Caritas (#501)

Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas deus ibi est.

(Live in Charity and steadfast love. Live in chairity: God will dwell with you.)

WE SHARE GOD'S WORDS

A reading from Psalm 23

You, Lord, are my shepherd. I will never be in need. You let me rest in fields of green grass. You lead me to streams of peaceful water, and you refresh my life. You are true to your name, and you lead me along the right paths. I may walk through valleys as dark as death, but I won't be afraid. You are with me, and your shepherd's rod makes me feel safe. You treat me to a feast, while my enemies watch. You honour me as your guest, and you fill my cup until it overflows.

Your kindness and love will always be with me each day of my life, and I will live forever
in your house.

[Jesus prayed these age-old prayers of his people]

PSALM 116 (with refrain)

REFRAIN:

**When I call upon the Lord with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me**

LEADER: I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

PEOPLE: **Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

L: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

P: **Then I called on the name of the Lord: "O Lord, I pray, save my life!"**

REFRAIN

L: Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.

P: **The Lord protects the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.**

L: Return, O my soul, to your rest, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

P: **For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. I walk before the Lord in the land of the living. I kept my faith, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted"; I said in my consternation, "Everyone is a liar."**

REFRAIN

L: What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?

P: **I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord, I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.**

L: Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones. O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds.

P: **I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem.**

ALL: Praise the Lord!

REFRAIN

WE PRAY

“The exchange with God becomes real for us in prayer: by his Holy Spirit, God comes to dwell within us. By his word and by the sacraments, Christ gives himself to us. In return, we can surrender everything to him.”
(Brother Alois, *Letter from Cochabamba*)

MEDITATIVE SILENCE

SACREMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

CHANT: Eat This Bread (#527)

**Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst.**

This is the table of the Heavenly Feast, the joyful celebration of the people of God. Christ invites everyone to eat the bread of life, to drink the cup of the new covenant.
Jesus said, "I am the bread of life.
Those who come to me shall never hunger;
Those who believe in me shall never thirst."

SHARE THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARED REFLECTIONS

SENDING

The Jude Benediction

Now to him is able to keep you;
Who is able to keep you from stumbling,
And to make you stand in the presence;
Of his glory, blameless with great joy.

To the only God our saviour;
Through Jesus Christ our lord;
Be glory, majesty, dominion and power
For now, all time, and forever.

Amen ...