

“Never fear to rise to meet the dawn, praising, blessing and singing Christ your Lord.”
(from Taize)

First Sunday in Lent – February 26, 2012

It is the fourth Sunday of the month and again we celebrate our intergenerational worship service: “Partners in faith.” On our journey through Lent, inspired by the worship style of the community of Taize, we have chosen to worship through short repeated songs with a meditative character. God is praised through words and silence.

Prelude - Ringing of the bells

Gathering Song # 528:

Come and fill our hearts with your peace; You alone, O Lord, are Holy;
Come and fill our hearts with your peace; Alleluia!

Welcome

Call to Worship with words from Psalm 141

232: Let My Prayer Rise Up

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Gracious God, we admit we are hesitant to walk to Jerusalem and beyond with Jesus, your son. In a world where we worry about tomorrow before enjoying today, we race by your moments of silence, of learning. In that flood of worries, which can overwhelm us, we may miss that assurance that you have not cut us off from your grace. In the deserts of our desires, we may ignore that feast of hope, of joy, of life you offer to us.

C: Forgive us and have mercy on us.

P: In love, **C: May we share your grace with everyone we meet.**

P: In hope, **C: May we wait for you all our days, as you come to us in the life and joy of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

Silence is kept

P: In every wilderness, on every road; in every moment, in every life; in every journey, in every heart, we receive the daily bread we need – God's hope, God's mercy, God's joy.

C: Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Reading: Genesis 9: 8 – 17: *The sign of the covenant*

Gospel reading: Mark 1: 9 – 15: *The Baptism and Temptation of Jesus*

Song: # 814 Take, O Take Me As I Am

Take, O take me as I am; Summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

Message

Hymn # 325: I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Offering is taken and presented

Please sing after the last petition: *(For all the beloved who rest in your mercy:)*

Great Thanksgiving

(We will be sharing communion by intinction. As you come forward, please take a wafer and dip into the chalice)

P: The Lord is with you

C: And also with you

P: Lift up your hearts

C: We lift them to the Lord

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise

Words of Institution – Pastor concludes:

“Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes”:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Lord’s Prayer

Music during communion:

Choir: A Clean Heart (Hayes)

Hymn:

Now let your servant go in peace, O Lord
Now go in peace according to your word.

Blessing

Choir: In this Holy Place (Lee/Wagner)

Liturgy: Pastor Ingrid Doerschel and all members of the body of Christ; Sermon: Pastor Markus Wilhelm and children, Lector: Waunita Garret, Music Director: Jordan Van Biert, Organ/piano: Cherie Larson, English Choir;



The Community in Taizé:

Everything began in 1940 when, at the age of twenty-five, Brother Roger left Switzerland, the country where he was born, to go and live in France. When the Second World War began, he had the conviction that without wasting time he should come to the assistance of people going through this ordeal. The small village of Taizé, where he settled, was quite close to the demarcation line dividing France in two: it was well situated for sheltering refugees fleeing the war. Friends from Lyon started giving the address of Taizé to people in need of a place of safety. Others joined him to help.

Today, the Taizé Community is made up of over a hundred brothers, Catholics and from various Protestant backgrounds, coming from around thirty nations. By its very existence, the community is a “parable of community” that wants its life to be a sign of reconciliation between divided Christians and between separated peoples.

Over the years, young adults have been coming to Taizé in ever greater numbers; they come from every continent to take part in weekly meetings. Sisters of Saint Andrew, an international Catholic community founded seven centuries ago, Polish Ursuline Sisters and Sisters of St Vincent de Paul take on some of the tasks involved in welcoming the young people.



“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, prior of the community of Taizé)