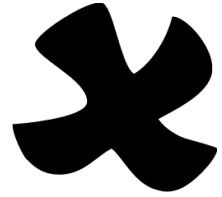


During Lent, we pattern our prayer after the French Taizé community, which uses short, simple songs that are easily learned and repeated as a vehicle for meditation. Each song begins with a single voice or instrument and grows gradually. Rather than indicating in advance how many times the chant is to be sung, we allow the Spirit to guide.



The great beauty of this style of prayer is that the musicians guide and support, rather than directing or performing. If you find your voice or mind growing weary of the repetition, stop and listen for a moment. Rejoin as you feel drawn back to the prayer. Harmony and improvisation are welcome, as they weave strands of color in the tapestry of sound.

GATHER

PRELUDE

WELCOME

As we gather, I invite you to take a few deep breaths. As we breathe in, we welcome the Holy Spirit who gathers us in this place. As we breathe out, we release our shoulders and any tensions that can be released. The theme for our gatherings this season is "Fire." Let the warmth of this space enfold you.

PROCESSION OF FIRE

GATHERING SONG

The Lord Is My Light

Theme I A1 A2 B1 B2

The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion: in God I trust, in God I trust.

Theme II A1 A2 B1 B2

The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion: in God I trust, in God I trust.

PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Holy God, creator and creating force, gather us now.
Let this place,
the ancestral land of the Dakota people,
be holy ground to us this night.
Let your creative Spirit guide our spirits.
Open our hearts to your heart,
our breaths to your breath,
our souls to your soul,
our minds to your mind. Amen.**

WORD

MARCH 1: FIRE AS BURNING BUSH

The ancient contemplative practice of lectio divina developed to enrich the experience of God's living Word. Lectio divina, or "holy reading," offers a process for personal or group meditation. At the heart of this practice is the cultivation of deep listening. Tonight we will take some time to dwell in the story of Moses encountering God in the burning bush (*Exodus 3*).

MARCH 8: REFLECTION ON CAMPFIRES

Member Julian Schroeder offers a personal reflection on fire.

MARCH 15: TENDING THE FIRE INSIDE

The Prayer of Examen is a daily spiritual practice credited to Saint Ignatius of Loyola. It's a technique of prayerful reflection on the events of the day in order to detect God's presence and to discern God's direction for us. St. Ignatius Loyola described this practice in his Spiritual Exercises. Jesuits (and others) have been using it since the sixteenth century.

MARCH 22: FIRE AS MYSTERY

The ancient contemplative practice of lectio divina developed to enrich the experience of God's living Word. Lectio divina, or "holy reading," offers a process for personal or group meditation. At the heart of this practice is the cultivation of deep listening. Tonight we will take some time to dwell in the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (*Daniel 3*).

MARCH 29: TO BE DETERMINED

INVITATION TO THE FIRE

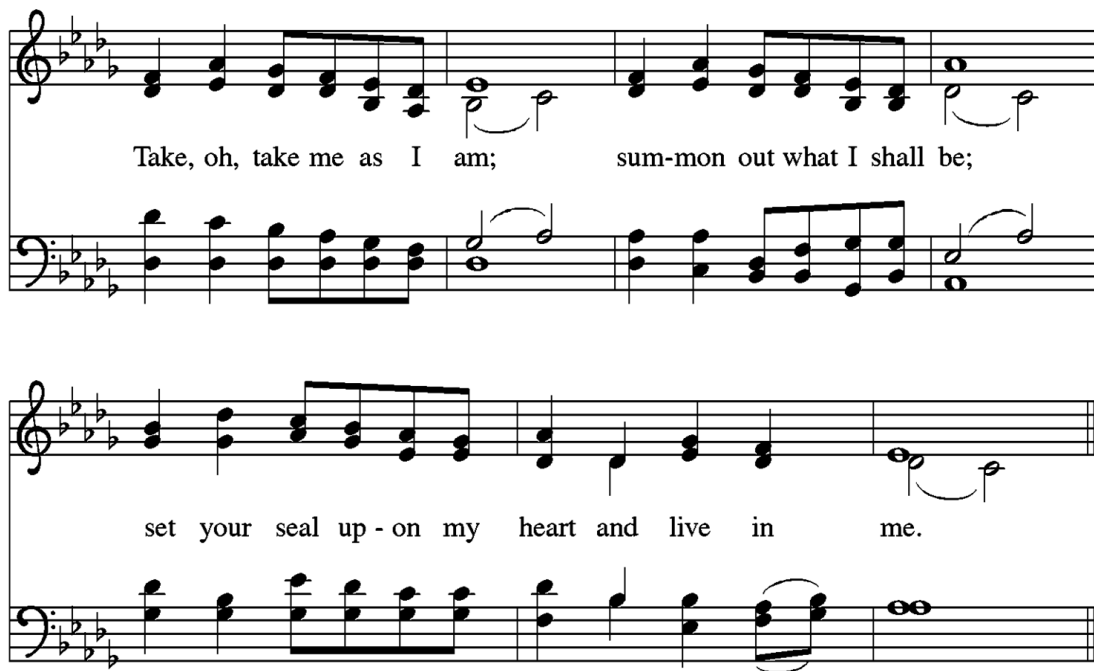
MUSICAL REFLECTION

*For the next several minutes, you are invited to listen, to sing,
or to kneel around the central fire.*

SONG FOR REFLECTION

Take, O Take Me As I Am

John L. Bell



Take, oh, take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be;

set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

SONG FOR REFLECTION *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*

Jacques Berthier

In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord I will re -

joice! Look to God, do not be a - fraid. Lift up your

voic - es, the Lord is near. Lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near.

Beginning with "O Lord, hear my prayer," we will alternate between verses.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:
The Lord, is my song, the Lord, is my praise:

when I call all my hope an - swer me. comes from God. O Lord, hear my prayer, O the
Lord, is my song, the Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O The
Lord, is my praise: God, the well-spring of life. The

LORD'S PRAYER

We pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Creator, our Mother, our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

EVENING SONG

Watch, O Lord

Marty Haugen

Refrain



Watch, O Lord, with all those a - wake this night,



Watch, O Lord, with all those who weep; Give your

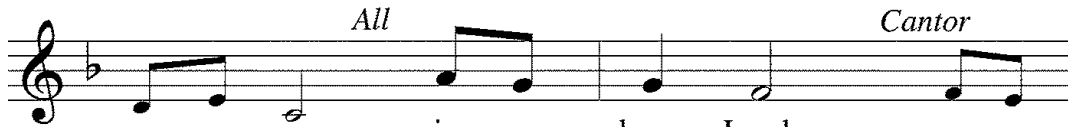


an-gels and saints charge o-ver all who sleep.

Verses



in your love, Lord;



in your love, Lord;



in your love, O Lord of all.

+BENEDICTION

The holy Three, holy One,
increase our hope,
strengthen our faith,
deepen our love,
and grant us peace.

Amen.

+PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

You are invited to remain in the Bartsch Room and visit with your neighbors.

Piano: Phil Radtke

Oboe: Bryanne Kleinert

Special thanks to Jody Liedholm for designing and setting up the worship space.

March 2023