

Maundy Thursday Taizé Service

April 9, 2020, 7:00 PM / Join via Facebook Live at <https://www.facebook.com/uccgrandledge/>

As we are worshiping in our homes for this service, please move to a quiet room of your home and dim the lights. Take a few minutes to light a candle, if available, and then relax and center your thoughts.

For this service, we will meditate on the word Maundy. What does “Maundy” mean? Derived from the Latin word *mandatum*, meaning “commandment,” Maundy refers to the commands Jesus gave his disciples at the Last Supper: to love with humility by serving one another and to remember his sacrifice.

Song **Live in charity and steadfast love.**
 Live in charity; God will dwell with you.

Call to Worship

Come, people of God! Let us offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and lift up his name in the presence of his people. For our Creator is gracious and merciful, full of compassion and love. While we were still helpless, he came to save us.

Song **Come and fill our hearts with your peace**
 You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly
 Come and fill our hearts with your peace, amen

Song **Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God’s holy name**
 Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life

Scripture Meditation: *(Following Taizé tradition, the scripture meditation will be read in several different languages.)*

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another" *(John 13:34 – followed by the same verse in Japanese and then German)*

Let’s spend a few moments reflecting on what this means to us. Or what it might mean to a neighbor. Or even to someone we haven’t met yet and maybe never will. How are our actions affecting the thoughts and actions of others?

Song **Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten**
 Those who seek God shall never go wanting *(repeat from beginning)*
 (Final Verse) **God a-lone fills us.**

Song **Sing, praise and bless the Lord**
 Sing, praise and bless the Lord, Peoples! Nations! A-men!

Prayers of the People *(Please speak your prayers or concerns out loud at home or type them to share with the group. Please join in the sung response after each prayer or concern.)*

Response **Ky-ri-e, Ky-ri-e, E-le-i-son. Ky-ri-e**

Prayer

This hour **we turn to you**, O Lord, in full knowledge of our frailty, our vulnerability, and our great need as your mortal creatures. **We cry to you**, as one human family, unsure of the path ahead, unequal to the unseen forces around us, frightened by the sickness and death that seem all too real to us now. **Stir up your strength and visit us**, O Lord; be our shield and rock and hiding place! **Guide our leaders**, our scientists, our nurses and doctors. Give them wisdom and fill their hearts with courage and determination. **Make even this hour, O Lord, a season of blessing** for us, that in fear we find you mighty to save, and in illness or death, we find the cross to be none other than the way of life. All this we ask in the name of the One who bore all our infirmities, even Jesus Christ our Risen and Victorious Lord. **Amen.**

Song **O Lord, hear my prayer**
 O Lord, hear my prayer
 When I call, answer me
 O Lord, hear my prayer
 O Lord, hear my prayer
 Come and listen to me

Song **Stay with me, remain here with me**
 Watch and pray, watch and pray

Parting Scripture *(John 1:1-9)*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.