## Ash Wednesday Taizé Service

March 2, 2022 7:00 p.m.

Welcome friends in Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today and to celebrate the love of God in Jesus Christ. We extend a warm greeting of Christian Fellowship to you.

The beginning of the service will be denoted by the ringing of a bell.

#### The Gathering Words 2 Corinthians 5:20-21

So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

#### The Call to Worship

We despise our fragility.

God is our hope in life and in death.

We are terrified by shapeless threat.

In Christ we are held, in life and in death.

God chooses redemption and releases the bonds of fear.

May God prepare our hearts and minds to be renewed in Christ. Amen.

Taize Hymn

Kyrie/ Lord Have Mercy

see insert

#### The Call to Confession:

We confess as one body before God alone. We confess as persons known and beloved by God. Let us pray together with our distinct voices, trusting the Spirit to intercede for us all.

#### The Prayer of Confession

Holy God, how quickly we defend ourselves. Our minds are full of excuses, justification, and denial. The sense of threat distances us from one another and hardens our hearts. Humble us. Hold us. Heal us. Forgive us, O God, our creator and sustainer. Our hope and restoration depend on you alone.

#### The Assurance of Pardon

The Spirit guides us as we navigate the known and the unknown of this world. Our defenses crumble in the presence of God's holiness.

Our hearts are softened in the presence of Christ's mercy.

Trust the good news of the gospel; nothing in life or death, nor any power, can take from you the love of God.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen!

Taize Song O Lord, Hear My Prayer

The Scripture Reading Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
Psalm 51:1-8

page 7-8 NT page 627 OTHym

The Reflection

#### The Prayer

Lord our God, we render our hearts to you, with fasting and weeping and mourning. With our hearts and not our garments, help us to show not just our outward signs of repentance but our inner most. May the mark of ashes on our forehead be a sign and reconciliation to you and giving up something for this season of Lent, in our brokenness, cleans us of our sins before you O Lord. Give us your grace and strength and love. In our sorrow and remorse, help us return to the Lord, for God is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. God of grace, restores us once again into a right relationship, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Taize Hymn Jesus, Remember Me see insert

#### The Litany of Ashes

We bow our heads before you, O God, aware of our sinfulness and our shortcomings. Remembering our baptism, the watermark of the cross upon us, we also receive this ashen cross upon our foreheads, another sign that in life and in death, we belong to you. In the name of Jesus Christ, crucified risen and coming again, we pray. Amen.

Hymn Sign Us with Ashes
Congregation sings refrain only

see insert

The Imposition of Ashes

(Please join in the Imposition your Ashes by making the sign of the Cross on your forehead)

"You are dust, and to dust you shall return" Amen! (Genesis 3:19)

Hymn O For a Closer Walk with God

Pew hymnal 396

Congregation sings verses 1, 2 & 4

Charge & Benediction Matthew 6:20-21

But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Amen!

The conclusion of the service will be denoted by the ringing of a bell.

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# Second Presbyterian Church

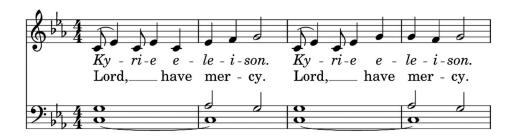
2665 Midland Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603 Phone: (989) 792-1023 March 2, 2022



Seeking and Serving Christ, We are a Place for Growing Christians.

### Taizé Songs

## 577 Lord, Have Mercy





# 471 O Lord, Hear My Prayer The Lord Is My Song

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1982, 1991; © 1982 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.) MUSIC (HEAR MY PRAYER 5.5.6.D): Jacques Berthier, 1982; © 1982 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)



## 599. Jesus, Remember Me

Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom. Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.

