

## **Good Friday March 29, 2024**

Music for Gathering      Alas, And Did My Savior Bleed arr. W. Barnett,  
Jesus, Keep Me Near The Cross arr. A. Prestwood  
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross arr. L. Shackley

Welcome and Centering

Song                      Taize 29 Nothing can trouble  
Silence  
Song                      Taize 8 Stay with me

THE CANDLE OF ABANDONMENT Matthew 26:30-46  
THE CANDLE OF BETRAYAL John 18:2-14  
THE CANDLE OF DENIAL John 18:12-18, 25b-27

Silence  
Song                      Taize 21 Stay with us

THE CANDLE OF GUILT Matthew 27:1-10  
THE CANDLE OF JUDGEMENT John 18:33-40  
THE CANDLE OF CRUELTY John 19:1-16

Silence  
Reflection    *Pastor Michelle*  
Song                      Taize 19 In God alone  
Silence

THE CHRIST CANDLE John 19:17-24, 28-30

Silence  
Song                      Taize 20 O Lord, hear my prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Silence

***Please remain as long as you wish; please exit in silence***

***That you may enter more fully into this service featuring songs from Taizé ...***

The service of **Tenebrae**, or "Shadows," is one of the oldest of Christian services. It is an extended meditation on the passion of Christ. We enact this service as a progression from light to shadow; as the candles are extinguished, they symbolize the fading loyalty of the disciples of Jesus, and his abandonment in death.

**Taizé** prayer comes out of an ecumenical, international monastic community in France. We hope that these remarks by Brother Roger, the founder of the Taize community, will help you enter more fully into this distinctive form of common prayer. (All lyrics and quotations are from [Songs and Prayers from Taizé](#), published in the USA by GIA Publications, inc. 7404 South Mason Ave, Chicago, IL 60638)

**Much of the service will consist of meditative songs:** "Singing is one of the most important forms of prayer. A few words sung over and over again reinforce the meditative quality of the prayer. They express a basic reality of faith that can quickly be grasped by the intellect, and that gradually penetrates the heart and the whole being. These simple songs also provide a way of praying when one is alone, during the day or at night, or even in the silence of one's heart while one is working."

**Another element of Taizé prayer is silence:** "When we try to express communion with God in words, we rapidly reach the end of our capacities. Although God never stops trying to communicate with us, God never wants to impose anything on us. Often God's voice comes in a whisper, in a breath of silence. Remaining in silence in God's presence, open to the Spirit, is already prayer."

**Central United Methodist Church**  
***A Reconciling Congregation***

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*Previous Services are available on YouTube or Central's website*

**GOOD FRIDAY**

