

A Service in the style of Taizé May 12, 2024

5:30 p.m.



Welcome to Christ Church

We're delighted you've made worship with us part of your day. Everything you need for full participation in the service is in this bulletin.

If you are new, we invite you to fill out a pew card so we might get to know you better.

In recognition of Mother's Day, the theme of our service tonight will be motherhood and the divine feminine.



Our service tonight will be a quiet one of meditation, reflection, readings, and music. This worship tradition began many years ago in an ecumenical French monastic community called Taizé.

Taizé worship is meant to focus and deepen our faith through the power of prayer. We have busy souls. Our worship together tonight will be an opportunity for us to find stillness and peace in God's presence.

You are invited to participate actively in our singing, listening, praying, and meditating. Words and music will be repeated, periods of silence will be observed, and readings will be offered slowly and deliberately – all so that we may have a deep quiet grow in our hearts.



Other opportunities here at Christ Church are listed at the back of this bulletin and on a blue information sheet available at the rear of the church. Please also consider joining us for worship on a Sunday morning. We'd love to have you with us again.

Calm Me, Lord (sung first by a cantor and then repeatedly by all)



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Introductory Sentence

As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you, says God.

Isaiah 66:13

We observe about two minutes of silence to recollect God's presence within and around us.

Remembering that we are a part of the family of all people, many of whom sing the same songs, we sing the following chant in Latin:

Ubi caritas (sung first by a cantor and then by all)
(Where there is charity and Love, God is there)



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Collect

Leader God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

With the knowledge that for thousands of years the people of God have used the Psalms to express their waiting on God, all join in singing the following words:

Psalm 139:1-2, 12-17 (sung by all)



O God, you have searched me out and known me; you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

You trace my journeys and my <u>resting-places</u> and are acquainted with all my <u>ways</u>.

For you yourself created my inmost <u>parts</u>; you knit me together in my mother's <u>womb</u>.

I will thank you because I am marvelously <u>made</u>; your works are wonderful, and I know it <u>well</u>.

My body was not hidden from you, while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book; they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them.

How deep I find your thoughts, O <u>God</u>; how great is the sum of <u>them</u>!

If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the <u>sand</u>; to count them all, my life span would need to be like <u>yours</u>.

Glory to the Father, and to the <u>Son</u>, and to the Holy <u>Spirit</u>:

As it was in the beginning, is <u>now</u>, and will be forever. Amen.

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The First Reading

Julian of Norwich is celebrated as a saint by the Episcopal Church. She is revered as one of England's greatest mystics.

Julian was an anchoress, one who withdraws to a life of contemplative solitude. During her lifetime she was witness to the devastating effects of violence and sickness.

In the late 14th century at about the age of thirty, when Julian was so ill as to be near death, she received a series of visions of the universal joy and unlimited compassion of God.

She recorded these visions in "Revelations of Divine Love," the earliest surviving book to be written by a woman in the English language.

As truly as God is our Father, So just as truly is God our Mother.

In our Father, God Almighty, we have our being; In our merciful Mother we are re-made and restored.

Our fragmented lives are knit together; And by giving and yielding ourselves Through grace, to the holy spirit, we are made whole.

It is I, the strength and goodness of Fatherhood.

It is I, the wisdom of Motherhood.

It is I, the light and grace of holy love.

It is I, the Trinity, it is I, the unity.

I am the sovereign goodness in all things.

It is I who teach you to love.

It is I who teach you to desire.

It is I who am the reward of all true desiring.

All shall be well, And all shall be well, And all manner of thing shall be well. Amen.

We hold silence for about five minutes of personal reflection and waiting upon the Lord.

As the following chant begins, we light each other's candles:

Your Word, O Lord (sung first by a cantor and then by all)



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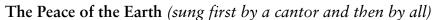
The Second Reading

Colossians 3:12-17

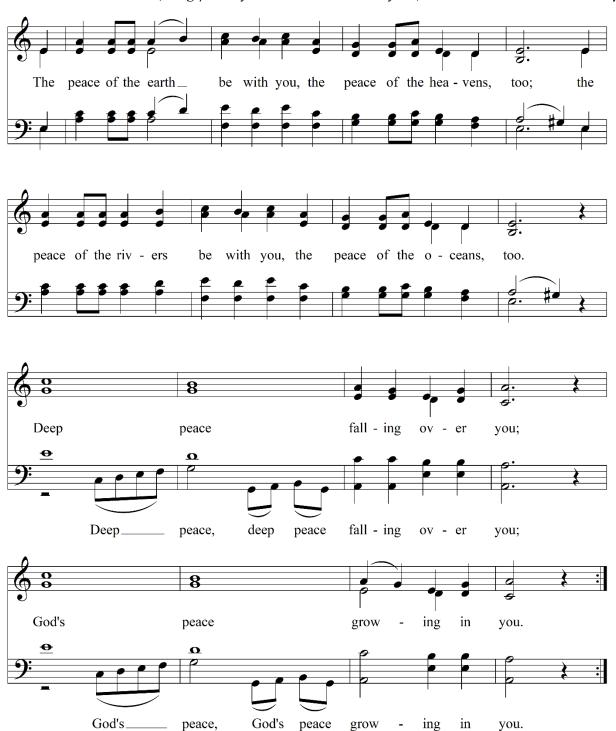
As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as God has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.



Iona Community



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The Prayers

Leader

Loving God, today we thank you especially for mothers: for all they do, all they give, and all they are. We also thank you for all those who love, nurture, and care for us as a mother.

We know that this day also can be a difficult time, bringing hurt, grief and perhaps anger to some hearts. We pray that you will draw alongside all who are hurting to comfort them and surround them with your tender care. God, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader

We pray especially today for women who are unable to hold their own children, for mothers who grieve for their children who have died, and for mothers who are worried or afraid for their child's well-being or safety.

We ask you, God, to bring healing, comfort, forgiveness and peace into the hearts and minds of those who are hurting. God, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader

We bring before you children who have lost their mothers through illness, accident, or violence; for children who now live away from their mothers, for children who live in homes that are unsafe, and for children who live in hardship or poverty. God, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader

Today in particular we ask for your healing and forgiveness in the lives of all who suffer memories of broken relationships and loss. Help us all to be sisters and brothers in Christ, a loving family for all your hurting children. God, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader

We thank you for the blessing of your mother Church; for the acceptance, nurturing, love, and care it provides to all who seek. God, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader

Loving God, trusting in your promise to hear us when we pray in faith, we ask you to bless all our relationships in the families of our homes, our church, and our communities, so that through our lives your loving will for us may be done. God, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

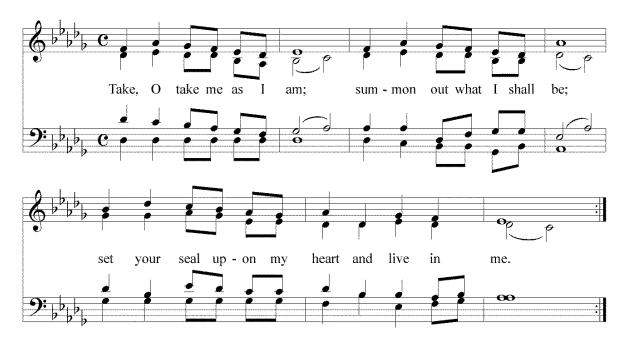
During the singing of the next song, we carry our candles forward to the altar and place them lit into the sand.

After leaving your candle in the sand, please feel free, if you wish, to touch the holy oil located in one of the small bowls nearby.

This oil, called chrism, is used in our faith tradition at baptism to signify God's unconditional love for us and our membership in the mystical body of Christ.

One option for you to consider could be to use this chrism to make the sign of the cross on your forehead.

Take, O Take Me as I Am (sung first by a cantor and then by all) Iona Community



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Be Not Afraid (sung first by a cantor and then by all)



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Following the final song, please maintain silence. The church will be open for a short time for those wishing to remain and pray.

Ongoing Prayer Groups

Centering Prayer Group – Tuesdays in the Lea Room & on Zoom – 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Meetings begin with twenty minutes of Centering Prayer followed by discussion and reading from a book about this method of Christian meditation. For more information, contact Elizabeth Clemmitt at 312 618-1238 or elizabeth.clemmitt@gmail.com.

Friends in Faith – Mondays in the Lea Room & on Zoom – 9:00-10:00 a.m.

A prayer and spiritual discussion group. For more information, contact Elizabeth Clemmitt at 312 618-1238 or elizabeth.clemmitt@gmail.com.

Women's Bible Study – Thursdays in the Parish House Library – 9:30 a.m.

Join us as we gather to pray, study the Bible, and explore how Scripture relates to our lives. For more information, contact Candy Pyle at candypyle@comcast.net.

Should You Wish to Make an Offering for Today's Service

You can leave a donation in one of the baskets at the side and back of the church, or, if you are set up with Venmo on your phone, you simply can scan this QR code which will bring you to @CCWgiving.



Taizé at Christ Church

Christ Church offers Taizé worship on the second Sunday of each month at 5:30 p.m. from September through May.

We'd love to have you with us again.

If you've been moved by our worship tonight, please invite a friend next time who might enjoy this experience, as well.

Our next three Taizé Sundays will be September 8, October 13, and November 10.



Visit us online at www.christchurchwinnetka.org

The Reverend Matthew Hanisian
The Reverend Cynthia Rigali-Lund
The Reverend Rod Quainton
Richard Clemmitt
Todd Gresick
Elizabeth Clemmitt
Wendy Samuel
Melissa Durbin
Cindy Lyman
Michelle Sweeney
Jim Caldwell
Karen Forsberg
Mario Ruiz, Steve Tracy

Rector
Curate
Assisting Priest
Organist and Choirmaster
Organ Associate
Primary Choir Director
Director of Youth Ministries
Director of Children's Ministries
Financial Manager
Parish Administrator
Facilities Manager
Rummage Director
Sextons
Vestry Wardens

Church on the Hill, Church House, and Churchyard

Gary Martin, Laura Sniader

Main Worship Space Choir Formation Parish House 470 Maple Street Winnetka, IL 60093 847-446-2850

Mailing Address Church Offices Rummage Sales and Donation Drop-off Powell Hall Chapel