



# **A ZOOM CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND PRAYER**

HOSPICE CHAPLAINCY

*an interfaith service of*  
**PRAYER & REMEMBRANCE**

June 2, 2020

11:30 AM Central Standard Time

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**HOSPICE CHAPLAINCY**

**WELCOME To ALL**, this day, Hospice Chaplaincy, and hospice chaplains around the country gather for a remembrance service to pray for those affected by the two pandemics- COVID-19 and racial injustice that has deeply affected this country. We remember all who have died, their families and loved ones. We gather via zoom to pray side by side- Buddhist, Christian, Jew, Muslim, and all people of faith to remember everyone affected by this pandemic and the racial injustices in our society.

-Rev. Dr. Saul Ebema  
*President, Hospice Chaplaincy*

An Interfaith Service of Prayer and Remembrance:  
For victims of COVID-19 and Racial Injustice  
June 2, 2020

**INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE**

*Vocalize*

Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

Rev. Dr. Saul Ebema

**OPENING PRAYER**

**OFFICIANT** Let us pray.

Gracious God, we come before you in humility and pray for true love and peace.  
Guide with your wisdom the leaders of this nation, those who are feeling unheard,  
those who are grieving the death of a loved one. May your love, compassion,  
mercy and peace be felt throughout the earth.

**PEOPLE** Amen.

**READINGS FROM THE HOLY WRITINGS OF WORLD FAITHS**

**The Buddhist Tradition**

*Sutra of the Wise and the Foolish: Buddha*

Abandon evil doing. Practice virtue well. Master your own mind. This is the Buddha's teaching. Do not take lightly small misdeeds. Believing they can do no harm: Even a tiny spark of fire can set alight a mountain of hay. Do not take lightly small good deeds, believing they can hardly help: For drops of water one by one in time can fill a giant pot.

**The Hindu Tradition**

*Shrimad Bhagavatam: Canto 5, Chapter 18, Verse 9*

May the entire universe be blessed with peace and hope. May everyone driven by envy and enmity become pacified and reconciled. May all living beings develop abiding concern for the welfare of others. May our own hearts and minds be filled with purity and serenity. May all these blessings flow naturally from this supreme benediction: may our attention become spontaneously absorbed in the rapture of pure love unto the transcendent Lord.

## **The Sikh Tradition**

*Jagat Jalanda Rakh Lai, Apni Kirpa Dhar*

The world is on fire (*due to ego, self-righteousness and possessiveness*).

God, please save it with Your benevolence.

Through whichever door one comes to you!

Embrace them. The true Guru has revealed that  
those who meditate,

And reflect on the Name of God are imbued  
with bliss. Without the Supreme Lord, says

Nanak,

There is no one to bless us with forgiveness.

One who longs for all comforts and rewards should practice Truth.

Behold the Supreme Lord God near you, and meditate on the Naam, the Name of the

One Lord. Become the dust of everyone's feet, and so merge with the Lord.

Do not cause any being to suffer, and you shall go to your true home  
with honor. Nanak speaks of the Purifier of sinners, the Creator, the  
Primal Being.

## **ANTHEM**

*Lakol Z'man (To everything there is a season)*

Ben Steinberg (b.1930)

## **The Jewish Tradition**

Avot DeRabbi Natan 4:5

Once Rabbi Yochanan ben Zakkai was walking with Rabbi Yehoshua in Jerusalem and they saw the ruins of the Holy Temple that was destroyed by the Romans. Said Rabbi Yehoshua: "Alas for us that the Temple is destroyed—the only place in the world where we can find atonement with God!" Said Rabbi Yochanan ben Zakkai to him: "My son, do not be distressed. There is another way back to God that is just like the Temple. And what is that way? It is in Acts of Lovingkindness, as it is written (Hosea 6:6) 'It is Love that I desire, not sacrifices.'"

## **The Muslim Tradition**

Holy Qu'ran Fatir 35:10 and Fussilat 41:34-35

In the Name of God, most gracious, most merciful. Lord, you said and your words are true: If any do seek for glory and power, to God belongs all glory and power. To him mount up all words of purity. He exalts all righteous deeds. But those that lay the plots of evil, for them is a terrible penalty; and the plotting of such will he not abide. Goodness and evil are not equal. Repel the evil with the good. Then will he between whom and you was hatred become as it were your friend and intimate. But no one will be granted such goodness except those who exercise patience and restraint, none but persons of the greatest good fortune.

## **The Christian Tradition**

### ***Matthew 5:2-12a***

Jesus began to speak, and taught them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.”

## **WORDS OF REMBRANCE FROM ALL THE CHAPLAINS ATTENDING**

### **ANTHEM**

*And I saw a new heaven*

Edgar Bainton (1880-1956)

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: For the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared, as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; And there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain, for the former things are passed away. (*Revelation 21: 1-4*)

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

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|---------------|--|
| <b>LEADER</b> | Compassionate God, you bid us to remember this day as an act of faith in your sustaining power to bring love, justice, and mercy amid the changes and chances of this life. Be with us as we pray for this world that you love saying:<br>Reconciling God, strengthen us |
| <b>PEOPLE</b> | <b>To go into the world in peace.</b>  |
| <b>LEADER</b> | Let us pray for this nation, for Trump our president and Pence our vice-president, for the members of Congress and the Supreme Court, and for all others in  |

authority, that they may have the wisdom to lead. Grant them the courage to lead and guide us as a people confident in our freedom, that we may live courageously, without fear or prejudice.

Reconciling God, strengthen us

**PEOPLE      To go into the world in peace.**

**LEADER**      Let us pray for the leaders of the world, that they may be led to ways of justice and mercy, laying aside ancient bitterness and current resentment, for the welfare of the people they govern today, for the honor of those who have gone before, and for the sake of those yet to be born.

Reconciling God, strengthen us

**PEOPLE      To go into the world in peace.**

**LEADER**      Let us pray for all who are dying and all who have died, that they may rest in peace. Let not their lives pass vainly before us, but shine forth a new light which overcomes the darkness of our complacency and illumine for us the compassion to which we are called.

Reconciling God, strengthen us

**PEOPLE      To go into the world in peace.**

#### **ANTHEM: NEARER MY GOD TO THEE**

**LEADER**      O God, You have called us to peace, for You are peace itself.  
May we have the vision to see that each of us, in some measure, can help to realize these aims: Where there is ignorance and superstition,

**PEOPLE      Let there be enlightenment and knowledge.**

**LEADER**      Where there is prejudice and hatred,

**PEOPLE      Let there be acceptance and love.**

**LEADER**      Where there is fear and suspicion,

**PEOPLE      Let there be confidence and trust.**

**LEADER**      Where there is tyranny and oppression,

**PEOPLE      Let there be freedom and justice.**

**LEADER**      Where there is poverty and disease,

**PEOPLE      Let there be prosperity and health.**

**LEADER**      Where there is strife and discord,

**PEOPLE      Let there be harmony and peace.**

**OFFICIANT**      Eternal God of all peoples and races, you made us in your image: Look with

compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us, unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion so that the day will come when all humanity will recognize that it is one family, and serve you in harmony and peace.

**ALL        Amen.**

#### **CLOSING PRAYER**

**PEOPLE        Lord, make us instruments of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon; where there is  
discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where  
there is despair, hope; where there is darkness,  
light; where there is sadness, joy.  
Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to  
console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved  
as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are  
pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.  
Amen.**

#### **BLESSING**

**OFFICIANT    The blessing of God Almighty: the God who created us, the God who liberates us,  
and the God who stays with us throughout eternity, be with you this day and for evermore.**

**PEOPLE        Amen.**

#### **DISMISSAL**

**LEADER        Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which  
is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support  
the weak;  
help the afflicted; honor everyone; love and serve the Lord.**

**PEOPLE        Thanks be to God.**