

Interfaith Sunday

Nurturing Faith, Hope and Healing



November 17th, 2024
10:30 am Worship

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

CARILION PEAL

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

GATHERING MUSIC

Improvisation

WELCOME

Pastor David Gray (BHPC)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rabbi Eric Abbott (BJC)

Imam Abdul Sheikh Jalil (IDARA)

Chancel Players (BHPC)

*HYMN 488

The God of Abraham Praise

Leoni

UNISON READINGS

Pastor Denise Diaab (BHPC), Imad-ad-Dean Ahmad (MIIC)

**“Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty...
under God’s wings you will find refuge; God’s faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.”**

- From Psalm 91

**"Show (your) gratitude to God. Any who is (so) grateful does so to the profit of his own
soul...God is free of all wants, Worthy of all praise...If any desire a reward in this life, We
shall give it to him; and if any desire a reward in the Hereafter, We shall give it to him. And
swiftly shall We reward those (with) gratitude."**

- From Koran (31:12 and 3:145)

INVITATION TO CHILDREN

DCYFM Rosanna Howard (BHPC)

*Children are invited, with the permission of their parents, to come forward and sit on the
Chancel steps for the Children’s Message.*

Spirit of the Living God

Living God

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me, Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

DCYFM Rosanna Howard (BHPC), Ashfia Khan (MIIC), Becky Leavey (BJC)

Children ages 3 to 5th grade are invited to Church School following the Children’s Message.

Parents may pick up their children from the third floor classrooms after the worship service.

REFLECTING GOD'S LOVE FOR CHILDREN

Go Now in Peace

Go Now In Peace

The musical score is written on two staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 3/2 time signature. It contains a whole rest followed by a double bar line with repeat dots. The melody then begins with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4 and B4, then a quarter note C5, and continues with a descending line of eighth notes: B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4. The second staff continues the melody with eighth notes C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, and ends with a whole note D3. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Instruments

Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the love of
God sur - round you ev - ery-where, ev - ery-where you may go.

READING OF SACRED TEXTS

Pastor Denise Diaab (BHPC), Rabbi Eric Abbott (BJC), Imam Refai Arefin (ICCP)

ANTHEM

Study War No More

Joshua Fishbein

(b. 1984)

Commissioned in November 2017 by the Donald Sinclair Sutherland Endowment for the
Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir
Matthew Robertson, conductor

Lo yisá goi el goi cherév,
V'ló yilm'dú od milchamáh.

Nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
[And] neither shall they learn war anymore.*

- *Isaiah 2:4; translation from the King James Bible*
*inserted by the composer

We fight a fierce war within. What is the point of fighting with others .

- *from Masnavi; translated by Brad Gooch and
Maryam Mortaz, used with permission*

Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and right doing, there is a field, I'll meet you there.

- *from The Book of Love: Poems of Ecstasy and Longing;*
translated by Coleman Barks, used with permission

A CONVERSATION

How Can Our Faith Help Us Deal With This Challenging, Complex Time?

Pastor Denise Diaab (BHPC), Imad-ad-Dean Ahmad (MIIC), Rabbi Eric Abbott (BJC),
Pastor David Gray (BHPC), Imam Abdul Sheikh Jalil (IDARA), Imam Tarek Elgewhary (ICCP)

*HYMN 374

v. 1

Dickinson College

God, make us servants of your peace. Where there is hate, may we sow love.
Where there is hurt, may we forgive. Where there is strife, may we make one.

CALL FOR OFFERING Pastor David Gray (BHPC), Imad-ad-Dean Ahmad (MIIC)

Today's special offering is being made for The Islamic-American Zakat Foundation. It is a 501 (c)(3) organization whose mission is to provide assistance for food, shelter, clothing and transportation for the poor and needy, orphans, wayfarers, and other persons and needs deserving of charity. All residents of the U.S. may apply regardless of faith, race, or ethnicity, but most reside in the DMV. Scan the QR code to make an offering or place your offering in the offering plate with "interfaith offering" written in the memo or on the envelope. As in past years, loose offering will go to church expenses. As we make our offerings, we encourage you to fill out the fellowship pads in the pews; fellowship pads can be passed to the end of your row and back so that we might greet each other in our rows by name following the service.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Leonard Bernstein

Simple Song

(1918-1990)

Sing God a simple song: Lauda, Laudē... Make it up as you go along: Lauda, Laudē...
Sing like you like to sing. God loves all simple things,
For God is the simplest of all.

I will sing the Lord a new song to praise Him, to bless Him, to bless the Lord.
I will sing His praises while I live all of my days.

Blessed is the one who loves the Lord, blessed is the one who praises Him.
Lauda, Laudē... And walks in His ways.

For the Lord is my shade, is the shade upon my right hand,
And the sun shall not smite me by day nor the moon by night.

I will lift up my eyes to the hills from whence comes my help.
I will lift up my voice to the Lord singing Lauda, Laudē.

Said in unison.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

Pastor Denise Diaab (BHPC)

Gracious God, we thank you for your gifts to us. We praise you for the opportunity to worship you this day. Use these gifts which we return to you for your work in the world and help us to be agents of your love and grace. Amen.

***HYMN OF PARTNERSHIP**

Come Ye Thankful People, Come

St. George's Windsor

Come, ye thankful people, come, gather in our sacred home.

Gather Christian, Muslim, Jew, Covenant of love renew.

God, our Maker, does provide for our wants to be supplied;

He has brought us through the night, He has filled this house with light.

Come, ye thankful people come, raise your voice in unison:

For the earth which God did form, for the hearth which keeps us warm,

For the ark and for the dove, for His peace and for His love;

He has brought us through the night, He has filled this house with light.

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise your voice in unison:

Through this house and o'er the land, joining us in heart and hand;

Make us grateful people, Lord, help us not your blessings hoard;

Since you bring us through each night, may we kindle Your pure light.

Words by BHPC Elder Susan Bowis (based on Hymn 551)

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

Imam Tarek Elgewhary (ICCP), Rabbi Eric Abbott (BJC), Pastor David Gray (BHPC)

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Interfaith Brunch

Immediately following the service everyone is invited to join us in Memorial Hall for brunch and conversation. All are welcome.

A Music Note

“Juxtaposing words in Hebrew from the Book of Isaiah with a modern English translations of 13th-century Muslim poet Jalal Al-Din Rumi, my choral composition *Study War No More* calls out against violence and invites the listener to a place without war. I hope that my music will facilitate sentiments of understanding and reconciliation among peoples.” - Joshua Fishbein

Celebrations & Concerns: Please Pray With Us

We hold in God’s healing presence those who are experiencing grief and loss.

We give thanks to God for joys and celebrations:

- We are truly grateful for our covenant community and look forward to our annual Interfaith Worship Service and Brunch.

We hold in God’s healing presence those who are suffer pain, ill health or other concerns including:

- Those hospitalized, injured, facing/recovering from surgery, being treated for chronic illness, ALS, or Parkinson’s, recovering from Covid, awaiting medical results, receiving hospice care, and/or isolated from the community.
- Those facing challenging issues and/or difficult decisions.

We hold in God’s healing presence the suffering people of our world, and all the places where people are experiencing hurt and division:

- Prayers for our present and incoming government leaders and for healing and unity for our country.
- The people hurting throughout the world.
- Those who live in hope for an end to gun violence.
- Those affected by hate, discrimination, and intolerance in all its forms.
- Those suffering from mental illness and/or addiction.
- Those who are caregivers.

Today's Interfaith Service Project : Thanksgiving Baskets

After the 10:30 a.m. Service | Library

Stop by the library on your way to the Interfaith Brunch to help assemble Thanksgiving baskets. These baskets will provide Thanksgiving dinner to families in need in Montgomery County.

Help Out with Smart Sacks | Following the Interfaith Service

All are welcome to help pack Smart Sacks in the Lounge! This is a family-friendly mission opportunity that provides supplemental food to families in Montgomery County who are food deficient over the weekends. Help by filling a Smart Sack with the provided items.

Witnessing Faith, Hope, and Healing, One Day at a Time

What is the Inter-Congregational Partnership Committee?

As spiritual siblings sharing sacred space, the Inter-Congregational Partnership Committee (ICPC) looks for and plans opportunities to nurture connections between our congregations through joint service projects and interfaith activities. If you are interested in joining ICPC, contact your congregation's ICPC member or call Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church's office at (301)365-2850 so we can help connect you.

Join Us for More Interfaith Events Sponsored by ICPC:



Interfaith Picnic



Authors Among Us



New Story Leadership



Pulpit Exchange

Look for more info on upcoming ICPC events from your congregation's communications.

