



An Interfaith Service of



Remembrance and Hope for Health Care for All

October 20, 2009
12:00 noon

National City Christian Church
Washington, DC

Gathering Music

On the steps
In the sanctuary

Raymond Bilter
Charles Miller

Silent Meditation

Excerpt from "A Buddhist Prayer for One Who Has Died"
I hold you close to me, I release you to be so free.
Because I am in you, and you are in me. ~ Thich Nhat Hanh

Greetings and introductions

Rev. Dr. Stephen Gentle

Call to Prayer

Rev. Dr. Stephen Gentle

Prayer for Healing

Mi'shebeirach – Debbie Friedman

Cantors Rosalie Boxt and Laura Croen

Prayer of the people (*in unison*)

Rev. Dr. Stephen Gentle

In the sacred bonds of our common humanity, we give thanks for the life that we share and for our calling to care for each other. We acknowledge that we have failed to care for every member of our human family, and have not ensured that all may receive the health care they need for the life that you intend. We pray for forgiveness for hearts that have been slow to feel another's pain, for hands that have been still when a caring touch was needed, and for voices that have remained silent while millions suffer for lack of health care. Amen.

Tolling of a bell of remembrance

A story of remembrance

Reflection and Prayer

Jean Sammon

Response in dance

Pastor Lois Void

Lighting of a candle of hope

Response of the people (*in unison*)

We remember our brothers and sisters who have died for lack of needed health care. May the valleys and the burdens of sickness and disease be conquered when we raise our voices of faith to the simple, moral, and merciful imperative of caring for one another.



Tolling of a bell of remembrance

A story of remembrance

Reflection and Prayer

The Right Reverend Eugene Taylor Sutton

Response in song

Cantor Laura Croen

Gesher Tzar M'od – Baruch Chait

Translation:

*The entire world is but a narrow bridge,
but the most important thing is not to be afraid.*

Lighting of a candle of hope

Pastor Lois Void

Response of the people (*in unison*)

We remember our brothers and sisters who have died for lack of needed health care. May the valleys and the burdens of sickness and disease be conquered when we raise our voices of faith to the simple, moral, and merciful imperative of caring for one another.



Tolling of a bell of remembrance

A story of remembrance

Prayer

Rev. Noemi Parrilla-Mena

*Por los desamparados que sufren sin atencion medica, pedimos misericordia Senor.
Transforma nuestra indiferencia por el dolor del projimo, en amor y accion.
Derrama tu gracia transformadora para que podamos procurar la sanidad de todos. Amen.*

Translation:

*For the homeless that suffer without health care we ask your mercy, O Lord.
Transform our indifference for the pain of our neighbor, into love and action.
Pour your transforming grace upon us, that we might seek the wellbeing of all.*

Response in song (*in unison*)

Nada te Turbe – Jacques Berthier

*Nada te turbe, nada te espante.
Quien a Dios tiene, nada le falta.
Nada te turbe, nada te espante.
Quien a Dios tiene, nada le falta.
Solo Dios basta.*

Translation:

*Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten;
Those who seek God shall never go wanting.
God alone fills us.*

Lighting of a candle of hope

Pastor Lois Void

Response of the people (*in unison*)

*Recordamos a nuestros hermanos y hermanas quienes han muerto por falta de cuidado medico.
Que los valles y las cargas de la enfermedad sean conquistados cuando levantamos nuestras voces de fe al imperativo simple, moral y misericordioso de cuidar los unos de los otros.*



Tolling of a bell of remembrance

A Story of Remembrance

Reflection and Prayer

Response in song

Amazing Grace – Traditional Melody

Raymond Bilter

Lighting of a candle of hope

Pastor Lois Void

Response of the people (*in unison*)

We remember our brothers and sisters who have died for lack of needed health care. May the valleys and the burdens of sickness and disease be conquered when we raise our voices of faith to the simple, moral, and merciful imperative of caring for one another.



Tolling of a bell of remembrance

A Story of Remembrance

Rebecca Katz

Silent meditation

A Muslim prayer for one who has died: Grant protection to our living and to our dead and to those of us who are present and those who are absent, and to our young and to our old folk and to our males and to our females. O Allah! Whosoever Thou grantest to live among us, cause him to live in Islam (submission) and whosoever of us Thou causest to die, make him die in faith. Peace be on you and the mercy of Allah.

Response in Song

Save a Life – Debbie Friedman

Cantor Rosalie Boxt

Lighting of a candle of hope

Pastor Lois Void

Response of the people (*in unison*)

We remember our brothers and sisters who have died for lack of needed health care. May the valleys and the burdens of sickness and disease be conquered when we raise our voices of faith to the simple, moral, and merciful imperative of caring for one another.



Call to hope and action

Rev. Graylan Hagler

Response of the people (*in unison*)

Rev. Dr. Stephen Gentle

In hope let us commit to changing our broken health care system; to challenge our elected leaders with the moral call for compassionate reform; to urge them to stand up with courage to fight the dangers of the status quo; to transcend the sins of greed and of profits earned at the cost of denying needed care; and to create a health care future that includes everyone and works well for all of us.

Response in song (*in unison*)

Let Our Light Shine – Linda Hanna Walling

*Let our light shine, let our voices be heard, til justice flows down like a river,
Til all who are broken by sickness and pain, may come to the waters of healing. (Repeat)
Let our light shine, let our voices be heard. (Repeat)*

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Stephen Gentle

Leader: Let our light shine,
People: Let our voices be heard!
Leader: Let our light shine,
People: Let our voices be heard! (*louder!*)
Leader: Let our light shine,
People: Let our voices be heard! (*louder!!*)

Postlude

Charles Miller

Service Participants

Raymond Bilter, Social Justice Intern, United Methodist Church, General Board of Church and Society, Washington, DC

Cantor Rosalie Boxt, Cantor, Temple Emanuel, Kensington, MD

Cantor Laura Croen, Cantor, Temple Sinai, Washington, DC

Rev. Dr. Stephen Gentle, Senior Minister, National City Christian Church, Washington, DC

Rev. Graylan Hagler, Senior Minister, Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, Washington, DC; President, Ministers for Racial, Social, and Economic Justice, United Christ of Christ

Rebecca Katz, Eisendrath Legislative Assistant, Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism

Rev. Noemi Parrilla-Mena, Pastor, Hispanic Ministries, National City Christian Church, Washington, DC; Hispanic Ministry Specialist, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Capital Area

Charles Miller, Minister of Music and Organist, National City Christian Church, Washington, DC

Jean Sammon, Field Coordinator, NETWORK: A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby; member St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Washington, DC

The Right Reverend Eugene Taylor Sutton, Bishop, The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland

Pastor Lois Void, Alive in Christ, Dancing with a Purpose Ministries, Inc., Washington, DC

A National Day of Remembrance and Hope

As we pray together in this service, we are joining with thousands of others in faith communities across the country in observance of a National Day of Remembrance and Hope. Services of remembrance, prayer vigils, educational forums, postcard-writing campaigns, legislative visits, telephone calls, and more, are being organized by members of Faithful Reform in Health Care, a national interfaith coalition of organizations and individuals raising a faith-inspired vision for our health care future. These events are among over 500 events that are being organized by numerous labor, senior, children, racial and ethnic minority, provider, and advocacy organizations around this October 20 National Day of Action.

Sponsors:

American Baptist Home Mission Society
 American Muslim Health Professionals
 Asbury United Methodist Church, Atlantic City, NJ
 Buddhist Peace Fellowship
 California Church IMPACT
 California Council of Churches
 Catholic Healthcare West
 Colorado Council of Churches
 Community of Christ Ecumenical and Interfaith Ministries,
 Blue Springs, MO
 Delaware Ecumenical Council on Children and Families
 Disciples Advocacy and Witness Network, Washington, DC
 Area
 Disciples Center for Public Witness
 Disciples Justice Action Network
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 Faithful Reform in Health Care
 Greater Bridgeport Protestant Campus Ministry, CT
 Howard Divinity School Student Government Association
 Illinois Campaign for Better Health Care Faith Caucus
 Islamic Medical Association of North America
 Mary House Catholic Worker, Austin, TX
 Medical Mural Advocacy Project, Washington, DC

Metropolitan Community Churches
 Mennonite Central Committee Washington Office
 National Council of Jewish Women
 National Episcopal Health Ministries
 NETWORK: A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby
 New Mexico Conference of Churches
 North Carolina Council of Churches
 Pennsylvania Council of Churches
 People of Faith of Greater Binghamton, Binghamton, NY
 Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Washington Office
 Progressive Christian Alliance
 Progressive National Baptist Convention
 RESULTS Faith in Action Project
 Sojourners
 The Episcopal Church
 United Church of Christ Justice and Witness Ministries
 United Methodist Church General Board of Church and
 Society
 Washington Association of Churches
 Wisconsin Council of Churches
 World Without Borders - An Interfaith Sufi Ashram, San
 Pedro, CA

Appreciation is expressed to...

- National City Christian Church and its staff for graciously hosting and assisting in the planning of this service.
- Members and friends of Faithful Reform in Health Care who participated in the planning and sponsorship of this event and events across the nation.
- All whose passion for a more compassionate health care future brought us together in this place to raise a moral witness for health care reform.

Following the service you are invited to visit the fair trade store in the lower level of the building.