Interfaith Prayer Service for Harmony
February 26th, 2017

Welcome
‘Through the practice of deep looking and deep listening, we become free, able to see the beauty and values in our own and others’ traditions.’ ~ Thich Nhat Hanh

Welcome to the Presence

Gathering Song
“All Are Welcome In This Place” (see yellow insert A1)

Call to Worship
One: We come from many faiths.
Any: (share the name of your faith tradition)
One: Yet we are all members of the human family—
All: friends and strangers; young and old; siblings and neighbors.
One: We call God by many names:
All: (call out your tradition’s name for God)
One: Yet we all acknowledge a Greater Power—
All: compassionate, wise and good—to whom we address our prayers.
One: God of many names, who knows us each by ours,
All: hear our prayers.

Hymn of Praise
“Bring Many Names” (see yellow insert A2)

Prayer for Wholeness
Speaker 1: Almighty God, help the weakness and the poverty of our human race that we may stand before your sovereignty.
Speaker 2: We beseech you, O merciful God, hear the prayers of those who are gathered together from among different faiths.
Speaker 3: Holy God, we come here today affirming our faith in you, who are rich in mercy and compassion.
All: Teach us likewise to be compassionate to each other, as members of your human family.
   We ask that you open to us the treasures of your grace; sprinkle upon our hearts the dew of your abundant mercy; and give us the peace that passes understanding.

Hearing Each Other’s Scripture

Meditation on Illumination
Rumi, MATNINAWI 1, 3255-3258

One:
O brother, O sister, Wisdom is pouring into you from the beloved saint of God.
You’re only borrowing it.
Although the house of your heart is lit from inside,
that light is lent by a luminous neighbor.
Give thanks; don’t be arrogant of vain;
pay attention without self-importance.
It’s sad that this borrowed state has put religious communities far from religious communion.

Torah
Reader: Therefore was a single human being created:
   to teach you that to destroy a single human soul is equivalent to destroying an entire world;
   and to sustain a single human soul is equivalent to sustaining an entire world.
   And a single human being was created for the sake of peace, that none might say: My lineage is greater than yours!

New Testament
Colossians 3:12-14
Reader: As God’s own, 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 the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.
Above all, clothe yourselves with love,
which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Qur'an

Reader: I swear by the time,
Most surely man is in loss,
Except those who believe and do good,
and enjoin on each other truth,
and enjoin on each other patience.

Quran 49:13

O mankind, indeed We have created you from male and female
and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another.
Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you.
Indeed, Allah is Knowing and Aquatinted.

Other Scripture and Sayings

Please share scriptures and sayings from your tradition
that inspire you to living in harmony with those different from you.

**Sharing Visions of Harmony**

**Invitation**

Please share the visions of peace and harmony from your religious tradition
by sharing your name, religious tradition and hope for the future.

**Prayer**

One: Loving God,
We ask you now to shower forth tranquility, peace and reconciliation
in a world that is troubled and grieved.
Enlighten our hearts
that we may collaborate in drawing peoples closer together
for the good of all humanity.
All: O God, we ask you to bless, guide and teach each and every one of us
to be bearers of peace and love,
living in harmony with all.

*Sending Song*  
*Let There Be Peace on Earth*  
(see yellow insert A3)

**Parting**

One: Go forth in every direction—
for the happiness, the harmony, the welfare of the many.
Offer your heart, the seeds of understanding,
like a lamp overturned and re-lit,
illuminating the darkness.

In our interaction with others,
gentleness, kindness, respect are the source of harmony

**Sharing Words of Peace**

Please greet each other using your tradition’s words for peace
as we enjoy refreshments together.

**Christ Presbyterian Church: An Emerging Christian Community**

1600 Washington Valley Road, Martinsville, NJ 08836
Phone: 908-722-2080  Website: ChristChurchEmerging.org
Email: cpschurch@optonline.net

Reverend Susan Joseph Rack, M.Div., Th.M.
Pastor
Bring Many Names

1. Bring many names, beautiful and good,
   Great Living God, never fully known,
   Celebrate in gratitude and wonder, holiness in joyfull darkness far beyond our seeing, closer yet than
   glory, living, loving God. Hail and Hosanna!
   Breath-ing, ever last-ing home: Hail and Hosanna!

2. Bring many names. Great living God!
Let There Be Peace On Earth

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me; Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

God as our Parent siblings all are we. Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

With God as our Parent siblings all are we. Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

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