

Service of Lament

*For all victims of violence, and particularly for the
victims of recent mass shootings*



St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral

815 High Street, Des Moines, IA 50309

May 29, 2022 - 5:00 pm

Service of Lament

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral.

You are invited to begin this service in silent prayer.

Those worshiping online are encouraged to light a candle.

Welcome

The Rev. Nicola Bowler

All stand in body or spirit. The bell tolls for each instance of mass shooting this year in the USA.

The Litany

Officiant God the Father,
People

Have mercy on us.

God the Son,
Have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit,
Have mercy on us.

Holy Trinity, One God,
Have mercy on us.

For all victims of violence, and particularly for the victims of the recent shooting in Buffalo, New York:

Celestine Chaney, Roberta A. Drury, Andre Mackneil, Katherine Massey, Margus D. Morrison, Heyward Patterson, Aaron Salter, Jr., Geraldine Talley, Ruth Whitfield, and Pearl Young.

For the victims of the recent shooting in Uvalde, Texas:

Naeveh Bravo, Jackie Cazares, Makenna Lee Elrod, Jose Flores, Jr., Eliana "Ellie" Garcia, Uziyah Garcia, Amerie Jo Garza, Xavier Lopez, Jayce Luevanos, Tess Marie Mata, Miranda Mathis, Alithia Ramirez, Alexandria Aniyah Rubio, Annabelle Rodriguez, Maite Rodriguez, Layla Salazar, Jailah Nicole Silguero, Eliahana Cruz Torres, Rojelio Torres, Irma Garcia, and Eva Mireles.

(Rev. Edgar F. Solís, Reader of Names)

Officiant We pray to You, O Lord:
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*After each of the following petitions, respond with “**Lord, hear our prayer.**”*

For those who have been injured, that they might know your healing power, we pray to You, O Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who are afraid, that they may know Your perfect love which casts out fear, we pray to You, O Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who mourn, that they may be comforted in their distress, we pray to You, O Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who have died, that they may be received into the arms of Your mercy, we pray to You, O Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For first responders, caregivers, and all who work to protect, heal, and restore, we pray to You, O Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those in authority, both in the Church and in government, that they might lead us in the way of justice and peace, we pray to You, O Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That the world may be free of violence, racism, poverty, and oppression, we pray to You, O Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That our divisions may cease, and that all may be one in You, we pray to You, O Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That we may not repay evil for evil, but find grace to forgive, we pray to You, O Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That all people will be united in the work of Your Kingdom, we pray to You, O Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Hymn 537

Christ for the world we sing

MOSCOW

The Confession

The Rev. Jeanie Smith

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence

We confess to you, O God, our worship of unholy things fashioned not by you, but by our own hands.

Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you our fascination with those guns and weapons that claim the lives of the undefended and the vulnerable, especially of children wounded and killed in acts of random terror.

Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you our attachment to the means of violence and bloodshed, and our idolatry in claiming that they alone can save us.

Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you that our eyes have watched what is worthless, and that we have allowed our hearts to be misshapen by media that glorify violence and trivialize human life.

Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you our lack of courage and clarity in public policy, choosing individual rights over the common weal.

Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you our willingness to allow the false god of consumerism to deafen us to the cries of the injured and the grieving.

Lord, have mercy.

Protect, O God our Sun and Shield, those whom you have called to speak the truth to the powerful and the contented.

Hear us, good Lord.

Guide us, O God of the prophets, in the difficult conversations about what truly drives our fears.

Hear us, good Lord.

Officiant Lord, have mercy.

People Christ, have mercy.

Officiant Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, whose only Son came to preach peace to the nations: Hear us, we beseech You, and comfort us with Your steady Hand, as we come before You this night in the wake of unspeakable violence. In a world that seems hopeless, help us to remember that our hope rests always in You, and in the resurrection of Your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

The Readings

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah (31:15-17)

McB McManus, Reader

Thus says the Lord: A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children because they are no more. Thus says the Lord: Keep your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears; for there is a reward for your work, says the Lord: they shall come back from the land of the enemy; there is hope for your future, says the Lord: your children shall come back to their own country.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 124

The Cantor sings the refrain initially and the People join when invited

Mode 8

Refrain

Our help is in the Name of the Lord.

from *Gradual Psalms for the RCL*, ed. Bruce E. Ford, Church Publishing Incorporated

- ¹ If the LORD had not been on our side
—let Israel now say—
- ² if the LORD had not been on our side,
when enemies rose up against us,
- ³ then would they have swallowed us up alive,
in their fierce anger toward us;
- ⁴ then would the waters have overwhelmed us;
and the torrent gone over us;
- ⁵ then would the raging waters
have gone right over us.
- ⁶ Blessed be the LORD!
He has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth
- ⁷ We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- ⁸ Our help is in the name of the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth.

A Reading from the Book of Revelation (21:1-7)

Susan Leonard, Reader

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.” And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Anthem

There is a Balm in Gilead

arr. William L. Dawson
Sung by St. Paul's Cathedral Choir

A Reading from the Gospel according to John (14:23-29) The Rev. John Doherty

Jesus said to Judas (not Iscariot), "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Words of Lament

The Rt. Rev. Betsey Monnot

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Final Collect

Eternal God, in whose perfect reign no weapon is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: Guide us with your cloud by day and your fire by night and grant us wisdom and courage for the facing of this hour. All this we ask for the sake of your love. **Amen.**

The Blessing

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn 594

God of Grace and God of Glory

CYM RHONDDA

Dismissal

Ways to Work in the Path of Peace

March for Our Lives - Des Moines

June 10, 2022 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM CDT

START AT: Cowles Commons

300 E Locust St, Des Moines, IA 50309

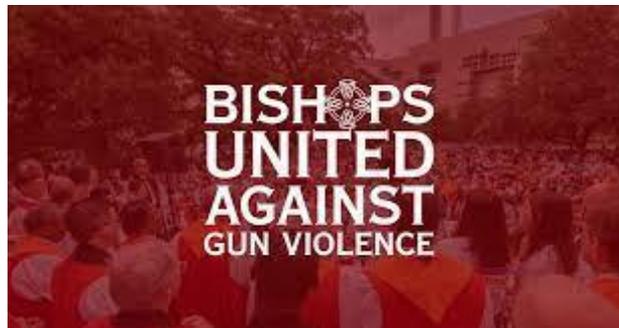
END AT: Des Moines Capitol

Prepare to Vote

November 8, 2022

All Iowans will vote on a gun amendment in November this year. It is important that we are well-educated on this amendment. Please see more information available here: <https://www.facebook.com/iowansforresponsiblegunlaws> and be prepared.

Some resources as you prayerfully consider what action God might be calling you to:



Bishops United Against Gun Violence, a network of nearly 100 Episcopal Church bishops, urges our cities, states and nation to adopt policies and pass legislation that will reduce the number of people in the United States killed and wounded by gunfire. <https://bishopsagainstgunviolence.org>



Since at least the 1970s, The Episcopal Church has resolved to support legislation that would reduce the risk of gun violence.

Visit this page for resources to respond to gun violence from The Episcopal Church. <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ogr/resources-to-respond-to-gun-violence/>

