



CANTICLE MINISTRIES
26W171 Roosevelt Road, PO Box 667
Wheaton, IL 60187-0667
630.588.9165
Fax: 630.588.9167
www.canticleministries.org

A Journey of Remembrance & Hope
Community Prayer Service Commemorating

World AIDS Day

December 1, 2009

Wheaton, IL

Thank you for attending!

**You are warmly invited to join us downstairs in
the Promenade for a Reception
and light refreshments**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

and thanks you.....

Musicians:

Ruth Hroncich
Sarah Newland
Sr. Glenna Czachor

Readers:

Sr. Theresa Langfield
Sr. Dorothy Birk
Sr. Maureen Elfrink
Sr. Jane Petzel

Service Planning Committee:

David Allen
Jeana Stewart
Sr. Glenna Czachor
Sr. Georgene Wilson
Suzie Broomes

Chapel:

Fr. Tom Borkowski
Sr. Jackie Drazen

Volunteers:

Thank you to our readers, to those who have greeted guests, handed out programs, made refreshments, or assisted in any way.

*Deepest thanks to the Justice, Peace, and Integrity of
Creation Office of the Wheaton Franciscans for their
valued collaboration on this Service, and for their
commitment to those impacted by HIV/AIDS*

We are Called

Verses



1. Come! Live in the light!
 2. Come! O - pen your heart!
 3. Sing! Sing a new song!



Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord! We are
 Show your mer - cy to all those in fear! We are
 Sing of that great day when all will be one! God will



called to be light for the king - dom, to
 called to be hope for the hope - less, so all
 reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God!
 ha - tred and blind - ness will be no more!
 sis - ters and broth - ers u - ni - ted in love!

Refrain



We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly, we are called to serve one an - oth - er;



to walk hum - bly with God!

Prelude

Instrumental

Call to Worship

Singing Bowl

Sr. Georgene Wilson

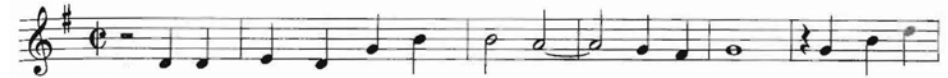
Welcome

Sr. Beatrice Hernandez, Provincial Director

Wheaton Franciscans

Refrain We Remember

Refrain



We re - mem - ber how you loved us to your death, and still we



cel - e - brate, for you are with us here; and we be - lieve that we will



see you when you come in your glo - ry, We re -



mem - ber, we cel - e - brate, we be - lieve.



Red Ribbons

The Red Ribbon is the international symbol of AIDS awareness; a symbol of respect for those individuals who are HIV positive or living with AIDS. It reminds us all of the constant need to continue the fight against AIDS. It was created in early 1991 by *Visual AIDS* in New York to serve as a global symbol in the fight against AIDS. It has become a symbol for solidarity and support of those living with HIV and AIDS, who are often discriminated against and misunderstood by the public. In the style of the yellow ribbons, which were and still are, a symbol of support of the service men and women fighting in our armed services, the RED RIBBON was born.



The Red Ribbon is....

-RED a symbol of love, passion and tolerance towards those affected.
-RED like blood, representing the pain and suffering of the many people who have died as a result of AIDS.
-RED like the anger about the helplessness which we all feel, facing a disease for which there is still no cure.
-RED as a sign of warning, not to carelessly ignore one of the most serious issues of our times.

Wearing the Red Ribbon is your first step
in the fight against AIDS.

*(volunteers will distribute Red Ribbons
for the congregation to take and wear during the service)*

One: We remember that *all of us* are created in your image. In the words of the Psalmist, we are “fearfully and wonderfully made” (139:14). Yet, in many places throughout the world, the human rights of HIV-positive people—the right to health, nondiscrimination and equality—are not protected people.

Many: **May the vision of your beloved community stimulate our engagement and deepen our commitment to strengthen human rights so that economic status no longer determines access to health care; barriers are removed to comprehensive HIV prevention, treatment, care and support; and discrimination and inequality based on gender, gender identity or sexual orientation are eliminated.**

One: We pray for all those living with and affected by HIV and AIDS—our families, friends, partners, caregivers and each one of us. We pray especially for the millions of people who have died in the course of this pandemic, and the families and loved ones they have left behind.

Hear our prayers, O God. On this day World AIDS Day and everyday send your healing Spirit, heal the broken places, restore your people and give us your peace. Bestow your wisdom and courage on every setting of your church, on every religious community, on *all* the people, leaders and nations of the world.

All: **We acknowledge we are *all* affected by HIV and AIDS. We look to you, O God, our way out of no way, trusting that you have provided all we need to achieve your mission; to live the promise to stop HIV. In Your name, we pray. Amen.**

Closing Remarks

Litany for World AIDS Day

Jeana Stewart

One: Compassionate God, we pray on this World AIDS Day with gratitude for your love that affirms the dignity and worth of each and every person. We give thanks that you empower and encourage us in the struggle to stop HIV.

Many: Bless us with the courage and wisdom to ensure universal access to prevention, treatment, care and support for all those living with and affected by HIV and AIDS in our country and throughout the world.

One: We pray for the millions of children who are so profoundly affected by this disease; the millions of children who are HIV positive, the orphans, and all those who are vulnerable and at risk.

Many: May the example of Jesus' care and concern for children inspire our deepest conviction and strongest commitments to children. Help us to ensure the treatment and care which is vital to their health and wholeness.

One: We pray for women; for HIV positive mothers who are constantly seeking accurate information and treatment in order to prevent the spread of HIV; women who experience the injustices of inequality that reduce or deny them control over their own bodies; women who suffer from violence and abuse; all those who are vulnerable and at risk.

Many: O God, grant them the courage they need. Help us to provide support and solidarity; strengthen our resolve, increase the capacity of our HIV prevention efforts, and guide our actions to work with others to address injustices and vigorously advance gender equality.



LITANY of LIGHT

Isaiah 60:1-5

Arise, Shine, your light has come; the glory of Yahweh is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you Yahweh now rises and above you, his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, and your heart throbbing and full.

John 1: 1-4

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race.

From the Koran – Sura 24: “Light”

God is the light of the heavens and the earth; the light is as a niche in which is a lamp, and the lamp is in a glass, the glass is as though it were a glittering star; it is lit from a blessed tree, an olive neither of the east nor of the west, the oil of which would well-nigh give light though no fire touched it. Light upon light! God guides to the light whom God pleases; and God teaches parables for all, and God all things doth know.

From the Zen Exercises of Buddhism

The mind mirror illumines all ingenuously.

Its penetrating, limitless rays reach everywhere in the universe.

Without exception everything is reflected in this mirror

The whole universe is a gem of light beyond the terms of in and out.



Matt 5:14-16

You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify the Holy One.

Isaiah 9:1-2

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, As they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils.



Albert Schweitzer, German philosopher

At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.

Native American Prayer (Author Unknown)

Do not stand at my grave and weep;
I am not there. I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow;
I am the diamond glints on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain;
I am the gentle autumn's rain.
When you awaken in the morning's hush,
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft star that shines at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry.
I am not there; I did not die.

Psalms 89:16

Happy the people who know you, LORD,
who walk in the radiance of your face.

ALL: Lead us from temptation to transformation...

The temptation of war;
The temptation of haughtiness;
The temptation of ethnocentrism;
The temptation of supremacy.

ALL: Provide us with the bounty of health...

The food pyramid, not the politics of food;
Acceptance, accessibility, and equality,
Love, hope and, faith,
Compassion, justice, and peace.

ALL: You deserve glory and honor...

For loving all who live with HIV/AIDS;
For making medications possible through research and science;
For the experience of comfort from friends, family, and caregivers;
For having prepared a place for me in Your home.

ALL: AMEN

for the breath we breathe.

ALL: AMEN

for Your eternal breath.

Adapted from: Rev. Kelvin Sauls United Methodist Church

Witness Speaker

Tom Nehring



Witness Speaker

Michael J. Gresk

Reflection

David Allen

Prayer

Praying the Prayer Jesus Taught

(Inspired by the Lord's Prayer)

ALL: O, Gracious God,

You know us ... You know about our HIV/AIDS.

ALL: Holy is your name ...

Prince of Peace, in the storms of rejection;

Mighty God, in the times of my weakness;

Wonderful Counselor, in the times of confusion;

Everlasting Life in the times of initial and eventual death.

ALL: May Your Beloved Community come...

Where poverty will be no more;

Where disease will be no more;

Where discrimination will be abolished;

Where justice will abound.

ALL: May Your Will become transparent in our culture...

A culture of intolerance and indifference;

A culture of ignorance and fear;

A culture of exploitation and destruction;

A culture of xenophobia and homophobia.

ALL: Set us free to experience Your forgiveness...

For actions taken and not taken;

For words said and not said;

For limiting your possibility within;

For not forgiving self or others.

Candle Memorial and Lifting Up of Names

Before you are four large candles symbolizing HOPE, FORGIVENESS, LOVE and PRAISE, along with 21 smaller candles, one for every year we have commemorated World AIDS Day. We take this time to remember our loved ones who have lived with and died as a result of AIDS.



Loving Creator, we thank you for those with whom we have shared our lives and whom we remember this day. We thank you for the goodness they have brought to us and for the blessings they have been for us. Give us faith to leave them in your care, confident in your promises.

We live in much darkness. We are often uncertain. We are sometimes afraid. In the darkness, we light a candle of HOPE.

We all have sorrows. We all know pain. Each of us carries special regrets. In our pain, we light a candle of FORGIVENESS.

We are sometimes lonely, and the world seems cold and hard. In our loneliness, we light a candle of LOVE.

We have known awe, wonder, mystery and a glimmer of perfection in our imperfect world. In our wonder, we light a candle of PRAISE.

***As we light the remaining 21 candles,
you are invited at this time to speak aloud the names of your
friends, family, and loved ones
you would like us all to remember.***

May our separate lights become one flame,
that together we may be nourished by its glow.

AMEN

Voices that Challenge

Refrain



Call us to hear the voic-es that chal-lenge, deep in the hearts of all



peo - ple! By serv-ing your world as lov - ers and dream-ers,



we be-come voic-es that chal-lenge, for we are the voice of God!

Verses 1, 2



1. Voic-es that chal-lenge: the chil - dren who long to be
the low - ly and bro-ken de-
- the old and the fear-ful who
2. Voic-es that chal-lenge: the lives and the cries of the
the young ones who dream of a
the sick and the dy - ing who



heard and re spec-ted!
stroyed by op - pres-sion!
hope for a new day!
poor and the si - lenced!
world free of ha - tred!
cry for com - pas-sion!

Verse 3



3. Voic-es that chal-lenge: the ones who seek peace by their
the wo - men who suf - fer the
the peo - ple with AIDS and those
the pro - phets and he - roes who
the hea - lers who teach us for -
the vic - tims of vio - lent a -
the Christ who gave his



wit - ness and cour-age!
pain of in - jus - tice!
plagued with ad - dic - tion!
call us to ques-tion!
give - ness and mer-cy!
buse and a - gres-sion!
life that we might live!

Text: David Haas, b.1957
Tune: David Haas, b.1957
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