

YOM HASHOAH



Interfaith Holocaust Remembrance Service

Sunday, May 5 | 3 PM

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Latrobe

Thank you for joining us this afternoon for our community's annual service of remembrance.



PRELUDE

Georgia Evans

Mariage d'Amour

Paul de Senneville (1933-2003)

WELCOME

Rev. Bill Schaefer

OPENING MUSIC

Emma Bell and Georgia Evans

Shalom Chaverim

Unknown

READING #1

Carlotta Paige

I Believe In Love

Alyssa Barlow (b. 1982)

How long will my prayers seem unanswered?
Is there still faith in me to reach the end?
I'm feeling doubt I'm losing faith
But giving up would cost me everything
So I'll stand in the pain and silence
And I'll speak to the dark night

I believe in the sun even when it's not shining
I believe in love even when I don't feel it
And I believe in God even when He is silent
And I, I believe

Though I can't see my stories ending
That doesn't mean the dark night has no end
It's only here that I find faith
And learn to trust the one who writes my days
So I'll stand in the pain and silence
And I'll speak to the dark night

I believe in the sun even when it's not shining
I believe in love even when I don't feel it
And I believe in God even when He is silent
And I, I believe

No dark can consume Light
No death greater than this life
We are not forgotten
Hope is found when we say

Even when He is silent

I believe in the sun even when it's not shining
I believe in love even when I don't feel it
And I believe in God even when He is silent
And I, I believe

READING #2

Sister Gemma Del Duca

Prayer for Forgiveness

(Congregation, please respond with the text in bold.)

For the sin of silence, for the sin of indifference,
We ask your forgiveness, O Lord.

For the secret complicity of the neutral, for the closing of borders,
We ask your forgiveness, O Lord.

For the sin of silence, for the closing of borders,
We ask your forgiveness, O Lord.

For all that was done, and all that was not done,
We ask your forgiveness, O Lord.

For the sin of denial that continues to this day,
Open our hearts to the truth, O Lord.

Let there be no forgetfulness before the Throne of Glory; let there be remembrance within the human heart;
Cause us to never forget all the atrocities against humankind, O Lord.

And let there at last be forgiveness when your children, O God, are free and at peace.
Blessed are you, O Lord, for your mercy.

Let us give thanks to the Lord for forgiving our transgressions. Let us also remember all the brave men and women who gave refuge to those who escaped the horrors of the Holocaust. For they were the courageous ones who acted as human beings in the world gone mad.

May their memory endure, may it inspire truth and loyalty in our lives, in our religious commitment and tasks.

May their memory be a blessing and a sign of peace for all humanity. And let us say...
Amen!

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

מִזְמוֹר לְדָוִד: יְהוָה רֹעִי, לֹא אֶחְסָר.

He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside the still waters.

נָאֹת דָּשָׂא, יִרְבִּיצֵנִי; עַל-מֵי מְנַחֹת
יְנַהֲלֵנִי.

He restores my soul; He guides me in
straight paths for His name's sake.

נַפְשִׁי יִשׁוּבָב; יְנַחֲנֵי בְּמַעְגְּלֵי-צְדָק, לְמַעַן
שְׁמוֹ.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You
are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they
comfort me.

גַּם כִּי-אֶלֶךְ בְּגִיא צַלְמוֹת, לֹא-אִירָא רָע--
כִּי-אַתָּה עִמָּדִי;
שִׁבְטְךָ וּמִשְׁעַנְתְּךָ, הִמָּה יְנַחֲמֵנִי.

You prepare a table before me in the
presence of my enemies; You have anointed
my head with oil; my cup runs over.

תַּעֲרֹךְ לִפְנֵי, שִׁלְחָן-- נֶגֶד צָרָרִי;
דִּשְׁנַתְּ בְּשֶׁמֶן רֹאשִׁי, כּוֹסֵי רוּיָהּ.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in
the house of the God forever.

וְהָ, טוֹב וְחֶסֶד יִרְדְּפוּנִי-- כָּל-יְמֵי חַיֵּי;
וְשִׁבְתִּי בְּבֵית-יְהוָה, לְאָרְךָ יָמִים.



Reading #4:

Father James Podlesny, OSB

Psalm 102

Hear my prayer, Lord;
let my cry for help come to you.
Do not hide your face from me
when I am in distress.
Turn your ear to me;
when I call, answer me quickly.
For my days vanish like smoke;
my bones burn like glowing embers.
My heart is blighted and withered like grass;
I forget to eat my food.
In my distress I groan aloud
and am reduced to skin and bones.
I am like a desert owl,
like an owl among the ruins.
I lie awake; I have become
like a bird alone on a roof.
All day long my enemies taunt me;
those who rail against me use my name as
a curse.

For I eat ashes as my food
and mingle my drink with tears
because of your great wrath,
for you have taken me up and thrown me
aside.
My days are like the evening shadow;
I wither away like grass.
But you, Lord, sit enthroned forever;
your renown endures through all
generations.
You will arise and have compassion on
Zion,
for it is time to show favor to her;
the appointed time has come.
For her stones are dear to your servants;
her very dust moves them to pity.
The nations will fear the name of the Lord,
all the kings of the earth will revere your
glory.
For the Lord will rebuild Zion
and appear in his glory.
He will respond to the prayer of the
destitute;
he will not despise their plea.



SIX CANDLES FOR THE SIX MILLION

INTRODUCTION

James Paharik

Six million Jewish men and women, one million children among them, were taken by other human beings to die in gas and fire, their very ashes spewed from the chimneys of Auschwitz to mingle with the soft breezes of the air and fall, nameless and graveless, spread over a continent that had itself become a graveyard. Not only did Jews die, caught in the eddies and swirls of the Holocaust, but millions of Poles and Gypsies, Russians, and other Europeans also ended their lives as victims of Nazism's diabolically efficient technology of death. But to the Jewish in Nazi Europe of itself meant alienation and death.

Everyone Has a Name (adapted)

Zelda (1914-1984)

*(Congregation, please respond with the text in **bold**.)*

Unto every person there is a name.

Unto every person there is a name bestowed upon him by God and given him by his father and mother.

Unto every person there is a name accorded to her by her stature and the manner of her smile and given her by her style of dress.

Unto every person there is a name conferred on him by the mountains and given him by his walls.

Unto every person there is a name.

Six memorial candles will be lit. After each candle is lit, members of the assembly who were given cards will stand up and read the name on their cards. The numbers on the cards correspond to the candle that is lit.

CANDLE 1

Irene Rothschild

In memory of the helpless infants, children, and teenagers who were cut down like young trees before their time, before they had a chance to experience life.

We shall not forget.

(Light candle and read names.)

Unto every person there is a name granted her by the constellations and given her by her neighbors.

Unto every person there is a name.

CANDLE 2

Rev. Sarah Rossing

In memory of all the others who died with their children in their arms.

We shall not forget.

(Light candle and read names.)

Unto every person there is a name assigned him by his sins and given him by his yearnings.

Unto every person there is a name.

CANDLE 3

Rev. Paul Grueso

In memory of all mothers and fathers who were cruelly separated from their families.

We shall not forget.

(Light candle and read names.)

Unto every person there is a name given her by her enemies and given her by her love.

Unto every person there is a name.

CANDLE 4

Rev. Chris Combs

In memory of all scholars, teachers, and rabbis who were the first to be seized.

We shall not forget.

(Light candle and read names.)

Unto every person there is a name derived from his festivals and given him by his labor.

Unto every person there is a name.

CANDLE 5

Leticia Fournier

In memory of the Heroes of the Resistance who fought the Nazis – so few against so many.

We shall not forget.

(Light candle and read names.)

Unto every person there is a name presented her by the seasons and given her by her blindness.

Unto every person there is a name.

CANDLE 6

Dorothy Hufford

In memory of the Martyrs who gave their lives to help their brothers and sisters under the Nazis.

We shall not forget.

(Light candle and read names.)

Unto every person there is a name bestowed on him by the sea and given him by his death

Unto every person here is a name bestowed by God and given him by his father and mother.

EL MALEI RACHAMIM - Memorial Prayer for the Departed

Joel Last

In Memory of the Six Million

Exalted, compassionate God, grant perfect peace in Your sheltering presence, among the holy and the pure, whose radiance is like the heavens, to the souls of all the men, women, and children of the House of Israel who were slaughtered, strangled, and burned in the Shoah. May they rest in paradise. Master of mercy, may they find eternal shelter beneath Your sheltering wings, and may their souls be bound up in the bond of life. Adonai is their portion. May they rest in peace. And let us say: Amen.

אֵל מְלֵא רַחֲמִים, שׁוֹכֵן בְּמְרוֹמִים, הַמְצִיא
מְנוּחָה נְכוֹנָה תַּחַת כְּנָפֵי הַשְּׁכִינָה, בְּמַעְלוֹת
קְדוּשִׁים וְטְהוּרִים, כְּזֹהַר הַרְקִיעַ מִזְהִירִים,
לְנַשְׁמוֹת כָּל־אֲחֵינוּ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל שֶׁנִּטְבְּחוּ
בְּשׂוֹאָה, אֲנָשִׁים נָשִׁים וְטָף, שֶׁנֶּחְנְקוּ
וְשֶׁנִּשְׂרְפוּ וְשֶׁנֶּהְרְגוּ, שֶׁמָּסְרוּ אֶת־נַפְשׁוֹתֵיהֶם
עַל קְדוּשַׁת הַשָּׁמַיִם, בְּגֵן עֵדֶן תְּהִי מְנוּחָתָם. אָמֵן
בְּעַל הַרְחָמִים, הַסְּתִירֵם בְּסֶתֶר כְּנָפֶיךָ
לְעוֹלָמִים. וְצָרוּר בְּצָרוּר הַחַיִּים אֶת־
נַשְׁמוֹתֵיהֶם. יְהוּה הוּא נַחְלָתָם. וַיְנַוְחוּ
בְּשָׁלוֹם עַל מִשְׁכְּבוֹתֵיהֶם. וְנֹאמַר אָמֵן.

PRESENTATION

Dr. Jonathan Zisook

The Holocaust in Memory

Jonathan Zisook serves on the faculty of Sociology and Jewish Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. He is a sociologist of religion and a scholar of the Holocaust and its aftermath in East Central Europe. Jonathan is the editor of From Centre to Periphery and Beyond: The History and Memory of National Socialist Camps and Killing Sites (2024) and is currently completing a monograph on the politics of Holocaust memory in contemporary Poland. Jonathan's research has been supported by the Polish-U.S. Fulbright Commission, the Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial to the Holocaust, and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. He received a PhD in Sociology from the City University of New York and an MA in Modern Jewish History from Yeshiva University.

MOURNERS KADDISH

Rabbi Sara Perman

Auschwitz

יִתְגַּדֵּל

Lodz

וְיִתְקַדֵּשׁ

Ponar

שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא.

Babi Yar

בְּעֶלְמָא דִּי בָּרָא כְרַעוּתָהּ,

Maidanek

וְיִמְלִיךְ מַלְכוּתָהּ

Birkenau

בְּחַיִּיכוּן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוּן

Kovno

וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָלְבֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל,

Janowska

בְּעֶגְלָא וּבְזִמְן קָרִיב,

וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן.

יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעָלְמָא וְלַעֲלָמֵי עֲלַמְיָא.

Theresienstadt

יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח

Buchenwald

וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרוֹמֵם

Treblinka

וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא וְיִתְהַדָּר

Vilna

וְיִתַּעֲלֶה וְיִתְהַלָּל

שְׁמֵהּ דְקַדְשָׁא בְרִיךְ הוּא,

Bergen-Belsen

Mauthausen

Dachau

Minsk

Warsaw

לְעֵלָא לְעֵלָא

מִן כָּל בְּרִכְתָּא וְשִׁירְתָּא

תְּשַׁבְּחָתָא וְנַחֲמָתָא,

דְּאִמְרֵי בְּעֵלְמָא,

וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן.

יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמַיָּא, וְחַיִּים עַל יְנוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן.
עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרוֹמָיו, הוּא יַעֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם עַל יְנוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Rev. Bill Schaefer

O God, help us to understand that grief and love go hand in hand, that the pain which loss inflicts is the measure of a love stronger than death. Though we cry in the anguish of our hearts, may we be like children who know that their parent is near, and who cling unafraid to the trusted hand.

(Congregation, please respond with the text in bold.)

In the rising of the sun and in its going down, we remember them.

In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter, we remember them.

In the opening buds and the rebirth of spring, we remember them.

In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer, we remember them.

In the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of autumn, we remember them.

In the beginning of the year and at its end, we remember them.

When we are weary and in need of strength, we remember them.

When we are lost and sick at heart, we remember them.

When we have joys we yearn to share, we remember them.

So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a part of us, as we remember them.

Thank you to everyone who made this event possible

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

Christ the Divine Teacher School

Joel Last

Congregation Emanu-El Israel

The National Catholic Center for Holocaust Education at Seton Hill University

Rabbi Sara Perman

Sacred Heart and St. Cecilia Parishes

St. Matthias Lutheran Church

St. James Lutheran Church

Mrs. Lisa Thackrah

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Ligonier Valley

Westmoreland Diversity Coalition

Dr. Jonathan Zisook

Yom HaShoah is the day Israel commemorates the victims of the Holocaust (the Shoah). The full name is “Yom HaShoah Ve-Hagevurah”— in Hebrew translated as the “Day of (remembrance of) the Holocaust and the Heroism.”

Yom HaShoah was created on April 12, 1951, by a resolution passed by the Knesset (Israeli Parliament). The 27th day of Nisan was proclaimed as “Holocaust and Ghetto Uprising Remembrance Day – a day of perpetual remembrance for the House of Israel.” This date was chosen because it falls between that of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, which began on the first day of Passover, and Yom Hazikaron – the memorial day for Israel’s fallen soldiers. This year, Yom HaShoah falls on Monday, May 6th.