

MILLSAPS COLLEGE

Community World AIDS Day
Monday, December 1, 2014
Seven o'clock in the evening
Olin Hall Atrium

WELCOME

GATHERING CHANT

Cantor will sing through once. Those gathered will continue to repeat in unison.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff is labeled 'Voice' and the second 'Vo.'. Both are in 12/8 time and G major. The lyrics are: 'Come Light of Lights in to - my heart. Come Spi - rit of wis - dom in - to - my heart. Come'. The first staff has a repeat sign at the beginning. The second staff has a triplet of eighth notes at the start and a repeat sign at the end.

READING FROM THE HINDU TRADITION—Rig Veda 10.117.1-6

*The gods have not ordained that humans die of hunger;
even to the well-fed person death comes in many shapes.
The wealth of the generous person never wastes away,
but the miser has no one to console him.*

*The one who has food may harden his heart
against a weak person who is hungry and suffering,
who comes for help, because in the past they shared food—
surely he finds no one to console him.*

*The one who is liberal gives to anyone who asks for alms,
to the homeless, distressed person who seeks food;
success comes to him in the challenge of battle,
and in future trouble he has made a friend.*

*The one who does not give to a friend is no friend,
to a comrade who comes imploring for food;
let him leave such a person—for there is no welcome there—
and rather seek out a stranger who brings comfort.*

A person who is rich should satisfy one who seeks help,

*because he is taking the long view:
For wealth revolves like the wheels of a chariot,
coming now to one, now to another.*

*In vain does the selfish person acquire food;
because that food surely results in his death;
one who does not cherish a comrade or a friend
condemns himself by eating all alone.*

COMMUNITY RESPONSE—"I am Lazarus"

Leader: I am Lazarus.
Can you see me, sores and all?
Can you hear me, calling at all?
Can you be with me, begging and all?

Choir: I am Lazarus. I live with HIV/AIDS.
I am not invisible.
I am not unapproachable.

Women: I am Lazarus. I live with HIV/AIDS.
I am loveable.
I am acceptable.

Men: I am Lazarus.
I am possible.
I am available.
I am reachable.

All: I am Lazarus.
I can see you now.
I can hear you now.
I can be with you now.
I am Lazarus.
I live with HIV/AIDS.

READING FROM THE JEWISH TRADITION—Jeremiah 20. 7-13

*O Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed;
you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed.
I have become a laughingstock all day long;
everyone mocks me.*

*For whenever I speak, I must cry out,
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"*

*For the word of the Lord has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.*

*If I say, "I will not mention him,
or speak any more in his name,"
then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.*

*For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All my close friends are watching for me to stumble.
"Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him,
and take our revenge on him."*

*But the Lord is with me like a dread warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail.
They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed.
Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten.*

*O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous,
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause*

*Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord!
For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.*

MUSICAL RESPONSE—Kindle

T. Coker

*Go out and gather in the dry sticks of ourselves:
the thoughtless words, the pettiness,
the many self-covered imperfections.
From all that destructiveness,
construct a tow'ring pyre-dead upon dead, front and center.
Then set them wildly ablaze,
watching as the brilliance grows, then glows, burns down to quiet ash.
Heart-prayers uttering, turn and walk away to newness.*

READING FROM THE ISLAMIC TRADITION—Hadith Qudsi 18

Abu Huraira reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said:

Allah the Exalted will say on the Day of Resurrection: O son of Adam, I was sick but you did not visit Me. He will say: O my Lord, how can I visit You when You are the Lord of the worlds? Allah will say: Did you not know that such-and-such servant of Mine was sick and you did not visit him, and had you visited him you would have found Me with him? O son of Adam, I asked you for food but you did not feed me. He will say: My Lord, how can I feed You when You are the Lord of the worlds? Allah will say: Did you not know that such-and-such servant of Mine asked you for food but you did not feed him, and had you fed him you would have found Me with him? O son of Adam, I asked you for drink but you did not provide for Me. He will say: My Lord, how can I give You when You are the Lord of the worlds? Allah will say: Such-and-such servant of Mine asked you for a drink but you did not provide for him, and had you given it to him you would have found Me with him.

MEDITATION

Dr. Joyce Turner-Keller

MUSICAL RESPONSE—*Break Every Chain*

T. Cobbs

*There is power in the name of Jesus
to break every chain, break every chain, break every chain.*

*There's an army rising up
to break every chain, break every chain, break every chain.*

COMMUNITY CLERGY LITANY

Voice One: Spirit of Life, you breathe on all that is fragile and strong, competent and inadequate, broken and whole.

Voice Two: You lead us from the places of pain and difficulty to your cool living waters of health and wholeness. Through you, every tear is wiped away and we are transformed by your wellsprings of life.

Voice Three: We praise you and give you thanks for the gift of life and the life-giving power of your spirit, which renews and refreshes us with hope.

Voice Four: We thank you that by the life-giving power of your spirit you bestowed upon us, your people, such gifts as are needed to respond to the situation at hand.

Voice Five: Pour on us all that we need to stop AIDS and reach out to everyone affected with compassion, healing and hope.

Voice Six: We pray for the leadership of those living with or affected by HIV and give thanks for the courage you give us to share our stories.

Voice Seven: We thank you that our stories raise awareness, invite solidarity and challenge us to join with one another in the struggle.

Voice Eight: We pray for your people. Be with us and guide us as we respond to the needs of persons living with or affected by HIV and AIDS.

Voice Nine: We pray for our public officials. Be with them and guide them in their response to HIV and AIDS.

Voice Ten: Give them courage, wisdom and resources that they may create effective and just public policies so that everyone may receive the information they need to stop the spread of HIV and everyone may access the treatment and care required for their health and wholeness.

Voice Eleven: We give you thanks that you have raised-up leaders throughout the ages – reluctant leaders, courageous leaders, surprising leaders, humble leaders, servant leaders – bestowing on each one gifts for service.

Voice Twelve: Raise up among us such leaders today who will create universal access to medical treatment and health care, effective education and prevention programs, advocacy for strong and just public policy, and the funds and other resources needed to stop AIDS.

***All:* May we know your call to be leaders in this struggle and employ the courage, wisdom and resources you have given to respond to HIV and AIDS. Amen.**

CLOSING CHANT

Cantor will sing through the phrase once.

Voice 
Be the change you wish to see,

Those gathered will continue repeating the phrase while the Cantor adds the chant:

“If we could change ourselves,
the tendencies in the world would also change.
We need not wait to see what others do.”

--Mahatma Gandhi

All conclude by singing together:

Voice 
Be the change you wish to see, in the world.

SENDING BLESSING

Bear witness to the love of God in the world, so that those to whom love is a stranger will find in you generous friends. Go in peace to love and serve.

Community Response is adapted from “I am Lazarus” by Kelvin Sauls, General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church

Community Clergy Litany is adapted from World AIDS Day Litany of 2007, by Rev. Lori Tisher, United Church of Christ

Service in Worship

Rev. Christopher Ross Donald	Presiding Minister
Ms. Ann Phelps	Cantor
Ms. Murti Patel	Hindu Reader
Ms. Merrit Corrigan	Jewish Reader
Mr. Muzamil Khawaja	Muslim Reader
Dr. Joyce Turner-Keller	Speaker

Special thanks to the Millsaps Singers and the Millsaps Gospel Choir.

Special thanks to Ms. Ann Phelps from St. Andrew’s Episcopal Cathedral for planning the interfaith service.

Special thanks to St. James Episcopal Church and the AIDS Healthcare Foundation for supporting the Community World AIDS Day Interfaith Service.

AIDS Memorial Quilt: Thanks to St. James’ Episcopal Church, the Episcopal Diocesan AIDS Committee, and Mississippi HeARTS Against AIDS 20 panels from the AIDS Memorial Quilt will be on display around Mississippi this week. This includes 12 panels which hang at Millsaps College in the Olin Hall Atrium and the Fitzhugh Memorial Chapel in the Christian Center until Saturday, December 6.

Film and Talkback: Millsaps Pride and Mississippi HeARTS Against AIDS for a screening of “Beautiful Jim” on Thursday, December 4 at 8:00pm in Olin Hall 100. “Beautiful Jim” is a Southern Documentary Project film about Jimbeau Hinson, an open, formerly active, bisexual man who is living with HIV. Jimbeau will join us for a talkback session after the film.

Walk of Grace: The Dr. Trey Mangum Memorial Walk of Grace will be on Saturday, December 6 at 9:00am, beginning at St. James’ Episcopal Church. Proceeds from the Walk of Grace will benefit Grace House, a place where people with HIV/AIDS may live with dignity, in safety, and with compassion and caring.

HIV Testing: The AIDS Healthcare Foundation’s mobile rapid-test will be at St. James’ Episcopal Church from 8:00am-1:00pm on Saturday, December 6.