



Galaxies
Evening Service
3 September 2015
Service by Pete Cowley



Welcome:

Welcome to our service tonight.



Our theme tonight is looking at Peace.

On the 21st of this Month was the International Day of Peace so are we becoming more peaceful?

If not what can we, ourselves, do? -
Work for Justice, treat all with compassion and kindness.

Be the peace you want in the world!

Call to togetherness:

Leader: We are all part of the rhythm of life.

As we mark this day of the journey, may peace be with us.

People: **May we be makers of the peace.**

Leader: Where there is confusion and discord,

People: **We will use loving-kindness as a way through.**

Leader: Where there is coldness and indifference,

People: **We will use the fire of our love to warm the coldness, to light fires of love and banish indifference.**

Leader: Where there is injustice and discrimination

People: **We will challenge it, we will speak out, we will do to ease the fear.**

Leader: Where there is joy and hope,

People: **We will celebrate and share it together.**

Leader: Let us greet one another in love and peace as we mark Peace Week and International Day of Peace this month.

People: **Before God and one another we stand in peace beside our fellow travellers in life. We listen to each other's stories and share each other's journey that we may understand each other deeply, lovingly and become friends. Amen**

Contemporary Hymn - You're the Voice (John Farnham)

We have the chance to turn the pages over
We can write what we wanna write
We gotta make ends meet before we get much older

Bridge:

We're all someone's daughters
We're all someone's sons
How long can we look at each other
Down the barrel of a gun

Chorus:

You're the voice try and understand it
Make a noise and make it clear
Oh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh, oh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh, oh-
oh

We're not gonna sit in silence
We're not gonna live with fear
Oh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh, oh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh, oh-oh

This time

We know we all can stand together
With the power to be powerful
Believing we can make it better
Oooohhh.....

Bridge

Chorus

<instrumental>

Oooohhh.....

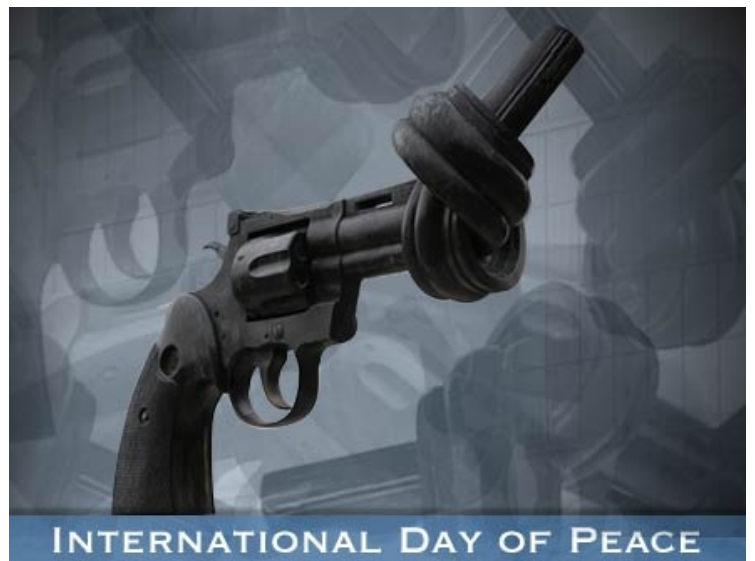
Bridge

Chorus

Chorus

Chorus

Chorus (fades out slowly)



Affirmation of Faith (all together)

I give thanks for life and put my trust in all its possibilities for good ... For my good, for the good of those whose lives mine touches, for all people, and for the earth itself;

I celebrate the honest search for meaning, for purpose, for peace, for truth and wholeness shown by people of faith through the ages, and join them in the quest;

I recognise in Jesus a man of integrity, insight and vision who continually challenges my willingness to settle for too little, both in myself, and in the world around me;

I find in the Christ of faith a source of strength and wholeness, an inspiration to new beginnings, and a spur to be all I am capable of;

I affirm the communities of trust, love and endeavour of those who, from time immemorial, have shared in the search, and who, with me, have felt our imagination quickened, our creativity fired, the boundaries of our understanding and empathy extended;

In these ways, and in the dynamic of their inter-linking I experience that which I call God
And in God I put my trust,

Now and into the future

Amen
(by Ian Harris)



Contemporary Reflection - The Dreamer



The Dreamer Translated by Kim Martin Metzger

There once was a man who was a dreamer. He believed, for instance, that there must be a way to see things ten thousand miles away. Or he figured there must be a way to eat soup with a fork. He thought there must be a way for people to

stand on their own heads, and he was sure there must be a way for people to live without fear.

The people told him, "None of those things can be done; you're a dreamer!" And they said, "You've got to open your eyes and accept reality!" And they said, "There are laws of nature, and you can't just change them!"

But the man said, "I don't know. There must be a way to breathe under water. And there must be a way to give everybody something to eat. There must be a way for everybody to learn what he or she wants to know. There must be a way to look inside your own belly."

And the people said, "Pull yourself together, mister; those things will never happen. You can't simply say you want something and then just expect it to happen. The world is the way it is, and that's all there is to it!"

When television was invented and x-ray machines, the man was able to see ten thousand miles away and he could see inside his own belly. But no one said to him, "Okay, I guess you weren't so wrong, after all." And they said nothing after someone invented diving suits that allowed people to breathe easily under water. But the man said to himself: that's what I thought. Maybe one day it will even be possible to get along without wars.

Contemporary Hymn - Give Peace a Chance (John Lennon)

Two, one two three four

Ev'rybody's talking about

Bagism, Shagism, Dragism, Madism, Ragism, Tagism

This-ism, that-ism, is-m, is-m, is-m.

All we are saying is give peace a chance

All we are saying is give peace a chance

C'mon

Ev'rybody's talking about Ministers,

Sinisters, Banisters and canisters

Bishops and Fishops and Rabbis and Pop eyes,

And bye bye, bye byes.

All we are saying is give peace a chance

All we are saying is give peace a chance

Let me tell you now

Ev'rybody's talking about

Revolution, evolution, masturbation,

flagellation, regulation, integrations,

meditations, United Nations,

Congratulations.

All we are saying is give peace a chance

All we are saying is give peace a chance

Ev'rybody's talking about

John and Yoko, Timmy Leary, Rosemary,

Tommy Smothers, Bobby Dylan, Tommy Cooper,

Derek Taylor, Norman Mailer,

Alan Ginsberg, Hare Krishna,

Hare, Hare Krishna

All we are saying is give peace a chance

All we are saying is give peace a chance

etc.

Prayers for peace



May we be filled with the strength to seek peace.

War will not end when the guns are silent.

Violence can never lead to peace.

May we be filled with the courage to seek peace.

We grieve for the harm to our own country,

The degradation suffered here and in Iraq,

The contagion of fear and distrust,

The restriction of freedoms,

The quashing of dialogue and dissent.

We grieve the terrible wounding

of those sent off to fight in a war

that is questioned all over the world.

We grieve the rupture of families here and in Iraq.

May we be filled with the compassion to seek peace

We are members of one human family.

We grasp the horror of war in all its forms.

And we struggle to embrace the suffering of all

with love and compassion.

May we be filled with the endurance to seek peace

Recognizing our weakness,

We call on the God of mercy and compassion

to guide us in the days ahead

May we be filled with the vision of peace.

(From the Fellowship of Reconciliation Interfaith Prayer)

Individual prayers from the people gathered

Passing the Peace

Leader:

Let us share our peace and love

Let us feel the power of the earth that holds us together.

Let us celebrate our gifts in song and dance.

Let us all rejoice in our power and our beauty.

People:

We open our hearts to the miracle of birth and the mystery of God's love in all creation.

We carry in us the divine light that shone so brightly the night of Christ's birth.

The gift of love, which we share tonight, deepens us as people, deepens us as sisters and brothers.



People share the peace with those around them.

The Lord's Prayer - Jim Cotter

People:

Eternal Spirit Life-giver, Pain-Bearer, Love-maker,
Source of all that is and that shall be.

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever.

Amen.



Peace Hearts

Call of Faith to Action

Leader: As we search for some sense in life.

People: *may we find that meaning in our relationships of care, compassion and tenderness.*

Leader: We talk about loving-kindness as God

People: *Let us act with loving-kindness to all people, to all animals, to all of nature on earth*

Leader: We talk about peace-on-earth

People: *Let us not only talk peace, but act peacefully in all we do, and to be peace makers. Let us listen to understand the other peoples point of view.*

Leader: Jesus the Sage challenged the authorities of his time and was tortured and then murdered for his audacity to point out bigotry, prejudice and injustice. In 2000 years the challenge remains just as strong as ever, the dangers just as great - for we are, all of us, either a part of the problem or a part of the solution.
The world needs people who live and breath loving-kindness, peace and justice.
Are we that people?

People: **Yes, we are that people**

Departure Hymn (Contemporary) - Imagine (John Lennon)

Imagine there's no heaven
It's easy if you try
No hell below us
Above us only sky
Imagine all the people
Living for today...
Imagine there's no countries
It isn't hard to do
Nothing to kill or die for
And no religion too
Imagine all the people
Living life in peace...
You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope someday you'll join us
And the world will be as one
Imagine no possessions
I wonder if you can
No need for greed or hunger
A brotherhood of man
Imagine all the people
Sharing all the world...
You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope someday you'll join us
And the world will live as one



Notices



