

Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Peace in Ukraine

Wednesday, March 30, 2022

Winchester Town Common

Gathering Music *Gymnopedie #1* (1888) Erik Satie (1866-1925)
Peter Owens, aerophone; Jeffrey Mead, keyboards
(First Congregational Church)

Words of Welcome Rev. Will Burhans (First Congregational Church)

Opening Prayer Rabbi Cari Bricklin-Small (Temple Shir Tikvah)

Anthem *The Sorrowful Mother* Traditional Ukrainian Lenten Hymn
Adriana Repetto, soprano; Jane Ring Frank, Conductor (First Congregational Church Choir)

The sorrowful Mother stood under the cross.
She cried and spoke through tears:
O Son, my Son, for what great transgression
must you bear this bitter hour on the cross?

Lighting of Candles in Silence

Litany Prayer Rev. Nick Myers (Parish of the Epiphany)
Rev. Judy Arnold (First Congregational Church)
Rev. Heather Hinton (Second Congregational Church)
Rev. Anne Robertson (Crawford Memorial UMC)
Yongbo Hu (Chinese Christian Church of NE)

Song *Down by the Riverside (Study War No More)*
music and text: Spiritual Cantor Beth Levin (Temple Shir Tikvah)

Benediction Poem Rev. John DeNardo (First Baptist Church)

*How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of those who proclaim peace.
- Isaiah 52:7*

Let your heart break for this world.
Do not be afraid to stay there at the wound of the world,
weeping with those who weep.
There is infinite strength and blessing there.
But bear your sorrow gently;
it is held by the One who weeps for us.
Into hearts broken open the light of love shines
Look clearly on the world's injustice,
but look with eyes of mercy.
Take courage. Do not despair at the oppressors,
who are captive to the spirit of pride and violence.
Bear your outrage lightly; do not cling to it.
Let it lead you toward compassion, not anger.
Let every breath be an offering.
We have been sent to make gentle this wounded world,
to dwell as healers among fearful souls,
to shine light in this darkness.
Don't despair that you are unable.
It is not you who does this work: it is God in you.
When you touch the world's pain God enters you.
Let your tears be healing rains that bring life.
You breathe gentleness into the air that all others breathe,
in the earth we all share you sow peace.
The light shines in the darkness
and the darkness cannot overcome it.

*By Steve Garnass-Holmes
(www.unfoldinglight.net)*

OFFERING

If you feel moved to give during our prayer vigil tonight please use the QR codes below to support any one of these relief groups connected to our communities of faith and doing important work!



Hebrew Immigrant Aid
Society, Ukraine Crisis
Response



United Church of Christ
Ukraine Relief Fund



Episcopal Relief Fund for
Ukraine

*Thanks to Sarah Marino, Office Manager of First Congregational Church,
for her work on the program.*