

“You must be the change you wish to see in the world.”
Gandhi
TAKE BACK THE SITE VIGIL
RECLAIMING THIS SITE FOR NONVIOLENCE

In memory of

Victim of DATE fatal shooting

CALL TO PRAYER

OPENING SONG *Amazing Grace*

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved and set me free!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fear relieved.
How precious did that grace appear,
The hour I first believed.

Our God has promised good to me.
God's Word, my hope secures.
God will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.

PRAYER (all): Loving God, source of all comfort and peace, we come before You today with broken hearts, mourning the loss of [Name], grieving with everyone who suffers here. As we remember the joy [Name] brought to the world, may we become more mindful of Your presence and learn to seek Your face in each person we meet so that we may live in harmony and without fear. May Your grace transform despair and hatred into hope and compassion. Amen.

WORDS OF COMFORT [A BFP member or other organizer offers a brief reflection about the life of the person who was killed.]

HOLY GROUND CONSECRATION RITE [The following song is sung by the assembly while a BFP member or other organizer sprinkles the ground with blessed water.]

SONG **HOLY GROUND** *(Christopher Beatty)*

This is Holy ground. We're standing on Holy ground
For our God is present and where God is, is Holy.
This is Holy ground. We're standing on Holy ground.
For our God is present and where God is, is Holy. (2x)

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 5

- READER** Come closer, O God, come closer each day
and understand our hopes.
Listen to our constant prayer and wordless cries,
for every sound we make is meant for You.
- ALL** We know You take no joy in wickedness.
Bragging, lies, empty promises and cruelty all hurt You.
You weep for every drop of blood that is spilled.
- READER** Yet with abundant love, You pull us into Your home,
into moments of perfect worship,
into times of speechless awe.
- ALL** O God, walk beside us, keeping us from danger and fear.
Make Your paths straight before us.
Teach us to speak with honesty and kindness,
for our tongues can sow division,
and our words invite death.
- READER** Let our mouths bring forth new life instead,
flowering vines, leaves and fruit of every color
blooming always, in obedience to You.
- ALL** Let us keep rejoicing in you.
Let us always delight in Your name.
Let us feel your grace surrounding us each day
giving us courage to strive for justice.
(Jacqueline Sanchez-Small, OSB)

SILENT REFLECTION

READER We pray now with words attributed to St. Francis of Assisi: O God, make me an instrument of your peace.

ALL Where there is hatred, let me sow love.
Where there is injury, pardon.
Where there is doubt, faith.
Where there is despair, hope.
Where there is darkness, light.
Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Maker, grant that I may not so much

seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love. For it is in giving
that we receive. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.
It is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life.

CALL TO COMMITMENT

LEADER We now re-commit ourselves to living in a way that offers hope, healing and peace to our neighbors, praying together:

ALL We commit ourselves to reverence,

LEADER Choosing respect in every encounter.

ALL We commit ourselves to openness,

LEADER Choosing to recognize and reverse negative assumptions and beliefs about others.

ALL We commit ourselves to compassion,

LEADER Choosing to listen to the experience and ideas of others.

ALL We commit ourselves to unity,

LEADER Choosing to do all we can to bridge divisions in our community, our nation, our world.
We pray together:

ALL May my mind think no harm.
May my lips speak no harm.
May my hands do no harm.
May the children of tomorrow bless the work I offer.

OSB)

(Mary Lou Kownacki,

CLOSING SONG **HOLY GROUND** *(Christopher Beatty)*

This is holy ground. We're standing on holy ground
For our God is present and where God is, is holy.
This is holy ground. We're standing on holy ground.
For our God is present and where God is, is holy.

CLOSING COMMENTS [open the floor to comments from family and friends]