



INTERFAITH PRAYER SERVICE
REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY CELEBRATION
MLK Memorial Waterfall, Yerba Buena Gardens
16 January 2012
Sponsored by the San Francisco Interfaith Council

Welcome

Rita R. Semel, Executive Vice Chair
San Francisco Interfaith Council (SFIC)

Invocation

Rev. Arelious Walker, Pastor
True Hope Church of God in Christ

Musical Refrain

Cantor Roslyn Barak, Congregation Emanu-El

We shall overcome; We shall overcome; We shall overcome some day! Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, We shall overcome some day!

Excerpt from, "Letter from Birmingham Jail"

Rev. Martin Luther King, 16 April 1963

Read by Rev. Ronald Kobata, Resident Minister
Buddhist Church of San Francisco

"I am cognizant of the interrelatedness of all communities and states. I cannot sit idly by in Atlanta and not be concerned about what happens in Birmingham. Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. Never again can we afford to live with the narrow, provincial "outside agitator" idea. Anyone who lives inside the United States can never be considered an outsider anywhere within its bounds...Now is the time to make real the promise of democracy and transform our pending national elegy into a creative psalm of brotherhood. Now is the time to lift our national policy from the quicksand of racial injustice to the solid rock of human dignity."

Musical Refrain

Cantor Roslyn Barak, Congregation Emanu-El

We'll walk hand in hand; We'll walk hand in hand; We'll walk hand in hand some day! Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, We'll walk hand in hand some day!

Excerpt from, "Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence"

Rev. Martin Luther King 4 April 1967

Read by Imam Abu Qadir Al-Amin

San Francisco Muslim Community Center (MCC)

"This call for a world-wide fellowship that lifts neighborly concern beyond one's tribe, race, class and nation is in reality a call for an all-embracing and unconditional love for all men. This oft misunderstood and misinterpreted concept -- so readily dismissed by the Nietzsches of the world as a weak and cowardly force -- has now become an absolute necessity for the survival of man. When I speak of love I am not speaking of some sentimental and weak response. I am speaking of that force which all of the great religions have seen as the supreme unifying principle of life. Love is somehow the key that unlocks the door, which leads to ultimate reality. This Hindu-Moslem-Christian-Jewish-Buddhist belief about ultimate reality is beautifully summed up in the first epistle of Saint John: 'Let us love one another; for love is God and everyone that loveth is born of God and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. If we love one another God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.' "

Musical Refrain

Cantor Roslyn Barak, Congregation Emanu-El

We shall all be free; We shall all be free; We shall all be free some day! Deep in my heart, I do believe, We shall all be free some day!

Spoken Word

Mary Booker

Providence Baptist Church

Musical Selection

"A Man Named Martin," composed by Cantor Lisa Levine

Sung by Cantor Roslyn Barak, Congregation Emanu-El

Introduction of the Mayor

Michael G. Pappas, M.Div., Executive Director

San Francisco Interfaith Council

Greetings & Remarks

The Honorable Edwin M Lee, Mayor

City & County of San Francisco

Closing Prayer

Rev. James DeLange, Chair

San Francisco Interfaith Council

Invitation to MLK Program at Novellus Theater

Aaron Grizzell, Administrator

Northern California Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Foundation

Musical Refrain

Cantor Roslyn Barak, Congregation Emanu-El

We shall overcome; We shall overcome; We shall overcome some day! Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, We shall overcome some day!