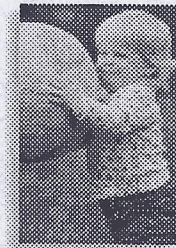
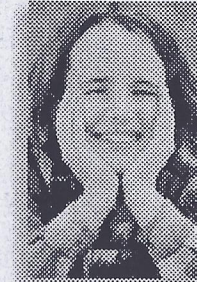
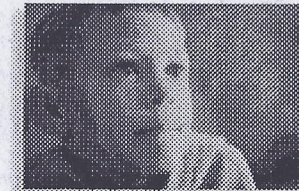


# 3rd Annual Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast

The Honorable Mayor Willie Brown  
San Francisco, California



## *"Embracing Our Children & Our Youth"*



### SPONSORS Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast 2000

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Baha'i Community of SF  
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San Francisco Muslim Community Center  
San Francisco United Methodist Mission  
Mrs. Rita R. Semel  
St. John's United Church of Christ  
St. Francis Lutheran Church

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Tuesday, November 21, 2000  
6:30 - 8:30 O'Clock in the Morning  
Cathedral Hill Hotel  
San Francisco

Hosted by:  
SAN FRANCISCO INTERFAITH COUNCIL



Prayers from Faith-Communities in The City

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**Interfaith Prayer Book compiled and assembled by  
The San Francisco Interfaith Council  
401 Baker Street  
San Francisco, CA 94117  
(415) 474-1321**

## A PRAYER FOR CHILDREN

### Prayers from Faith-Communities in The City

**The future world  
is what human beings  
want it to be  
and children are our future.**

**O**, God our Father, we thank Thee for this day. We Thank Thee for Thy loving kindness. We freely confess Our inadequacies and our needs for help from Thee. We Would exchange our weakness for Thy strength, our foolishness For faith so strong that we seek not tasks equal to our power But power equal to our tasks.

May Thy Spirit abide in our hearts. Help us to share Thy truths as they are revealed in Thy word. Help us as Christians this day, this hour, to reappraise our own importance

As vessels of clay which contain the priceless treasure Of divine truths. Help us to share this truth in all of its Fullness. Bless every church that are open in Thy name Bless the children and youth as they go to school and Play in the streets every day. Bless the hungry and Homeless. Have us to know that the power of the Holy Spirit dwells in dedicated Christians, that The power of the Holy Spirit still changes lives.

These blessing we ask in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

AMEN

Lue A. Martin  
Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church

## A PRAYER FOR CHILDREN FROM THE ORTHODOX TRADITION

Most Merciful Lord, who gives food to the birds of the sky and to all living things on earth, who watches over the flower that sprouts amidst the rocky cliffs, nourish, bring up, and protect our children also.

Help us, O Lord, to plant in their souls what is good and useful for the Church and community, and what is pleasing to you, so that your holy name may be glorified through them. Fill them, O Lord, with the enlightened wisdom and holy understanding that come down from you.

Protect them from the snares of enemies both visible and invisible. Command your angels always to be their enlightened guides and counselors in all good works.

We ask you, O Lord, to open their minds, so that they may know you. Amen.

It is a blessing to be here together.

It is a blessing that we can share this breakfast together.

It is a blessing that we are here together this morning, November 21st in the year 2000.

For we are people of many faiths, many languages, many racial and ethnic backgrounds.

We are people of different cultures, different political views, different sexual orientations. And, in a world where people are killing each other because of their different faiths, different

languages, different racial and ethnic backgrounds,

It is a blessing that we can gather together to share juice and coffee, fruit and cereal, eggs and rolls. In

a world where people hate each other because of their different cultures, different political views, different sexual orientations, it is a blessing that

we can gather together to share a meal, to join in peaceful conversation, to pray together. Let us be

mindful of this blessing, let us know how

important this coming-together is, and let us give thanks.

The United Universalist Church  
Rev. Margo Campbell Gross

## GAYATRI MANTRA

AUM BHOOR BHUWAH SWAHA,  
TAT SAVITUR VARENYAM  
BHARGO DEVASAYA DHEEMAHI  
DHIYO YO NAHA PRACHODAYAT.

Oh God! You are the Giver of Life,

Remover of pain and sorrow,

You are the Bestower of happiness,

Oh! Creator of the Universe,

May we receive thy supreme sin-destroying light,

May You guide our intellect in the right direction.

### Meaning of Gayatri Mantra

Rishis selected the words of various Mantras and arranged them so that they not only convey meaning but also create specific power through their utterance. Gayatri Mantra inspires wisdom. Its meaning is that "May the Almighty God illuminate our intellect to lead us along the righteous path". All the problems of a person are solved if he/she is endowed with the gift of righteous wisdom

HINDU SCRIPTURES

O Holy One, we know you are involved in our relationships, in our families, our friendships, towns and cities.

You are present to us in our loyalties and our mutual responsibilities and our social tensions.

We pray that you guide us, religious and political leaders, as we carry out our ministries; enable us to create and communicate a beautiful and generous vision for this City of St. Francis.

We thank you for the great resources of creativity, intelligence, enterprise and spirit which you have entrusted to us, and we pray that they be harnessed to that vision, so that we may play a part in making your governance a reality in our daily lives.

For justice, especially for the poor and wounded, for peace and love, especially for the lonely and estranged, for beauty in our buildings, our words our images and our hearts, we pray. Amen.

St. Johns United Church of Christ  
Rev. Roger Ridgway

I lift my eyes to the mountains;  
Who will be the source of my help?  
My help comes from Adonai,  
Maker of heaven and earth.  
Who will not let your foot give way;  
Your Protector will not drowse.  
See!

The Protector of Israel neither slumbers nor sleeps!  
God is your Guardian.  
God is your protection at your right hand.  
The sun will not strike you by day,  
Nor the moon by night,  
God will guard you from all harm,  
God will guard your soul,  
Your going and coming, now and forever.

אֲשָׂא עֵינַי אֶל-הַהָרִים, מֵאֵין יָבֵא עֲזָרִי?  
עֲזָרִי מֵעַם יְהוָה עֲשֵׂה שְׂמִים וְאָרֶץ.  
אֶל-יִתֵּן לַמּוֹט רַגְלֶךָ, אֶל-יָנוּם שְׁמֶרְךָ.  
הֲיֵה לֹא-יָנוּם וְלֹא יִישָׁן שׁוֹמֵר יִשְׂרָאֵל.  
יְהוָה שְׁמֶרְךָ, יְהוָה צִלְּךָ עַל-יַד יְמִינֶךָ.  
יוֹמָם הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ לֹא-יַכְּךָ וַיָּרַח בַּלַּיְלָה.  
יְהוָה יִשְׁמְרֶךָ מִכָּל-רָע,  
יִשְׁמֹר אֶת-נַפְשֶׁךָ.  
יְהוָה יִשְׁמֹר-צִאתְךָ וּבואְךָ מֵעַתָּה וְעַד-עוֹלָם.

Rabbi Peretz Wolf-Prusan  
Congregation Emanu-El

## Prayers from Children

Thank you God for all the things that you did to make the world beautiful. We are trying to make the world more beautiful but some people don't take care of your world. I hope people will be nicer to each other and protect the good things you give to us.

Thank you God for blessing us with people who care for the homeless.

Thank you God for those people who work in our city and have low paying jobs. It is not easy for them and without them our city would not work so well.

Thank you God for all people who care for the sick and dying, especially those in hospitals and ambulances. They tried to save our classmate Olivia, who died last year of Leukemia.

Thank you for the love of our family, friends and teachers who are there for us in good times and in bad.

We are grateful for the coast guard and all those who work to keep our bay and ocean clean for sea life, and safe for us to enjoy.

Thank you God for the city of St. Francis, where we live in peace without a war. We know that there are children in other places who are so afraid of the violence around them.

We thank you God for this day  
For the sun in the sky  
For our Moms and or Dads  
And our piece of apple pie.

Elementary School Children  
Convent of the Sacred Heart

Heavenly Father,

We give you all the honor, the glory and the praise, for the lives of your people.

We trust with our hearts and worship in spirit and truth.

We pray for our leaders to get understanding in all their getting.

We pray for support and encouragement for all. This our prayer in Jesus name, The Glide Extended Family.

Amen and Amen

Patricia Harrison  
Glide Memorial United Methodist Church

*O God, we pray for our children and family members and for our neighbor's children.*

*Help us, God, to remember that all Your people are our neighbors and all their children are our own.*

*Taken from "Guide My Feet"  
Prayers and Meditation on Loving  
and Working for Children  
By Marian Wright Edelman*

## Islamic Advice

*“To you We have given the Scripture (Quran)*

*Just as We have given the Scriptures to people  
(Jains, Buddhists, Jews, Christians, etc.) before you*

*And We have protected your Scripture (Quran)  
in its entirety  
(Not a word will be changed until eternity)*

*So Judge among people from  
what knowledge has come to you*

*And do not be carried over by your vain desires  
(that you are the only righteous people)*

*To each among you we have given  
the Law (Torah, Bible, etc.)  
And an Open Way (conscience)*

*If God had willed  
He would have made all of you*

*Into one single community*

*But this is not a part of His Plan  
(His Plan is to test you in what  
He has given you)*

*So strive (as in a race) in all virtues*

*You are all headed in My direction*

*I shall tell you the Truth  
In matters in which you dispute.*

*Quran 5:51*

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

هـ- وَأَنْزَلْنَا إِلَيْكَ الْكِتَابَ  
بِالْحَقِّ مُصَدِّقًا لِّمَا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ مِنْ

الْكِتَابِ وَمَهْدًى عَلَيْنَا

فَأَحْكُمُوا بَيْنَهُمْ بِمَا أَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ

وَلَا تَتَّبِعُوا أَهْوَاءَ هُمْ

عَمَّا جَاءَكُمْ مِنَ الْحَقِّ

لِيُحْلِلَ جَعَلْنَا مِنْكُمْ شُرَعًا وَمِنْهَا جَاءَ

وَلَوْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ لَجَعَلَكُمْ أُمَّةً وَاحِدَةً

وَلَكِنْ لِيَبْلُوَكُمْ فِي مَا آتَاكُمْ

فَأَسْتَبِقُوا الْخَيْرَاتِ

إِلَى اللَّهِ مَرْجِعُكُمْ جَمِيعًا

يُنذِرْكُمْ بِمَا كُنْتُمْ فِيهِ تَخْتَلِفُونَ ۝

### Commentary

Muslims are told to respect and honor all the scriptures,  
namely, the Vedas,

Buddhist scriptures, Torah, Gospels, etc.

And respect people with conscience, i.e.

Native Americans and indigenous people.

To embrace diversity in race – work for racial equality.

Avoid disputes over religious issues, because

God in the end will tell you the Truth.

May those  
entrusted to our care  
know that they are safe  
in our presence.

May they sense in us:

- joy in living
- love of learning
- passion for justice

May they know  
that our no means no  
and our yes means yes...

And that our commitment  
to them is forever

- J. N. Marsh

First Unitarian Universalist Society

O Thou kind Lord!

These lovely children are the  
handiwork of the fingers of Thy  
might and the wondrous signs of  
Thy greatness.

O God! Protect these children,  
graciously assist them to be  
educated and enable them to  
render service to the world of  
humanity.

O God! These children are pearls,  
cause them to be nurtured within  
the shell of Thy loving-kindness.

Thou art the Bountiful, the  
All-Loving.

'Abdu'l-Bahá  
in Bahá'í Prayers



**A Prayer for Peace**

**By Rev. William Sloane Coffin**

**O God, who has created a world beautiful beyond any singing of it, gratefully we acknowledge that of thy fullness have we received, grace upon grace. Grant now that we may be responsible in the measure that we have received.**

**Keep us eager to pursue truth beyond the outermost limits of human thought, scornful of the cowardice that dares not face new truth, the laziness content with half-truth, and the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth.**

**Strengthen our resolve to see fulfilled, the world around and in our time, all hope for justice so long deferred, and keep us on the stony, long, and a lonely road that leads to peace. May we think for peace, struggle for peace, suffer for peace. Fill our hearts with courage that we not give in to bitterness and self-pity, but learn rather to count pain and disappointment, humiliation and setback, as but straws on the tide of life.**

**So may we run and not grow weary, walk and not faint, until that day when by thy grace faith and hope will be outdistanced by sight and possession, and love will be all in all in this wonderful, terrible, beautiful world.**

**Amen.**

**For The Young Persons**

God our Father, you see your children growing up in an unsteady and confusing world: Show them that your ways give more life than the ways of the world, and that following you is better than chasing after selfish goals. Help them to take failure, not as a measure of their worth, but as a chance for a new start. Give them strength to hold their faith in you, and to keep alive their joy in your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*This prayer is submitted by True Sunshine Episcopal Church and taken from "The Book of Common Prayer"*

們	繁	心	德	德	們	誰	雪	種	年	的	上	寫
的	而	，	們	量	，	罪	豐	積	成	良	氣	寫
主	風	，	而	不	自	處	，	處	我			年
罪	惡	，	而	是	和	的	心	：	們	們		人
難	期	，	們	持	重	，	的	至	夜	罪	極	的
惡	氣	，	向	新	，	的	目	命	罪	至	惡	天
習	；	在	德	開	，	的	德	混	气			
。 惡	主	們	惡	，	跟	德	德	獸	，			
的	惡	的	對	的	德	罪	德	們	不	親		
們	是	德	對	的	主	主	龍	獨	肉	眼		
。 繁	心	主	會	，	德	所	是	德	主	夜	惡	
的	年	的			德	所	是	德	主	夜	惡	
我	喜	德	賜	的	德	是	們	的	罪	至		

## A PRAYER FOR THE CITY

**L**ord we come to you feeling helpless and dependent in humble trusting faith. Please hear our prayers. We come seeking fresh supplies of strength, asking for wisdom and blessings from One who cares.

Sometimes, we become weakened in our transgressions, so we come to you Dear Lord above, Who is ready to listen to our needs and shower us with your precious love.

Father, you have given us your Holy Word that we may learn the truth and know you will give us understanding hearts so we may rightly believe and grow. Help us not to think about our ethnic origin or our religious background; cooperation and unity is what we need before everlasting togetherness can be found.

Let our leaders speak for the people, always letting their needs be known. Be with them in all their planning, never forgetting what good leadership means to a man and his home.

Let our souls be drawn upward with united efforts from all. We pray for those in need of your guidance. Please help them before they happen to fall.

It is for this reason your humble servants are asking that you hear our prayers for others, letting us keep in our hearts the needs and wants of our sisters and brothers. Amen

*Dedicated to my brother, Garland, my sister-in-law,  
Geraldine and all the citizens of San Francisco.*

Pearl Earp McCray

Jones United Memorial Methodist Church

## A Commentary for Children

Om shanti. As I sit here, I feel that I am a little star, shining in the center of my forehead. I feel very light. So light, that I could fly. I look up towards the sky. I can see a small light. And that light reaches me. The small light speaks to me. "Come, child come to me. Let us meet." I start to fly towards that light. I fly fast like a rocket, and I come nearer and nearer. As I come nearer, this light becomes very powerful and bursts into a big, sparkling star. A Star which is full of love and light and peace.

His light sparkles brighter than a hundred suns, so light, so warm, so bright, so loving, so peaceful. And I sit in front of this sparkling Star and fill myself with that love and light and peace. It gives me a very happy feeling. And then, totally filled, I fly back to the earth. I fly back to the earth, sending sparkling rays of love and light to all my friends and other children. I send love and peace to the city and to everybody.

Sit for a while, and let your light shine. I am a star. I feel so happy that I feel like smiling - smiling at the others stars around me. And they smile back. I think of one person who is sad, and I touch that one with love. They become happy, and they sparkle too. It's a peaceful feeling. Om shanti.

Brahma Kumaris  
World Spiritual Organization

## For The Care Of Children

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen

*This prayer is submitted by The Chinese Christian Union  
taken from "The Book of Common Prayer"  
of the Episcopal Church*

## 爲孩子禱告

全能的上帝，我們的天父，賜福與我們，使我們有養育兒女的喜樂：求主賜我們安詳的力量和忍耐的智慧，我們就能撫養兒女，使他們愛慕一切至聖美善的事，效法我們救主耶穌基督的榜樣。阿們。

## For Our People and Our Nation

Bless, O God, this congregation, those who lead and serve it, those who contribute to its strength. Bless all who enter this House, that the worship offered within its walls may be worthy of Your greatness and Your love, and that all who seek Your presence here may find it. For the joy of community, the gift of diversity, and the vision of harmony, we offer our grateful thanks.

Bless our land and all its inhabitants. Prosper us in all our undertakings. Be with those whom we have chosen to lead us, that they may strive to establish justice and opportunity for all, and labor to bring peace to the family of nations.

Bless the household of Israel wherever they dwell. Be with us here, where we worship You in freedom. And may those who live under oppressive rule find release and liberty speedily, in our own day.

May Your favor rest upon Israel, her land, her people. Protect her against hatred and war. Grant that the promise of her beginning may ripen into fulfillment, bringing comfort to those who seek refuge, light to those who dwell in darkness, new hope to all humanity. And let us say: Amen.

May He who saved Israel from Egyptian bondage, who brought them near to Him in an enduring covenant, and sustained them in their many wanderings, be with the whole House of Israel, now and for evermore.

As we cherish the freedom that is ours, so do we pray that those of our brothers and sisters who live in lands of oppression, may find liberation speedily, in our own day. And may all — women, men, and children — find freedom, prosperity, and contentment, their heritage as children of God. Amen.