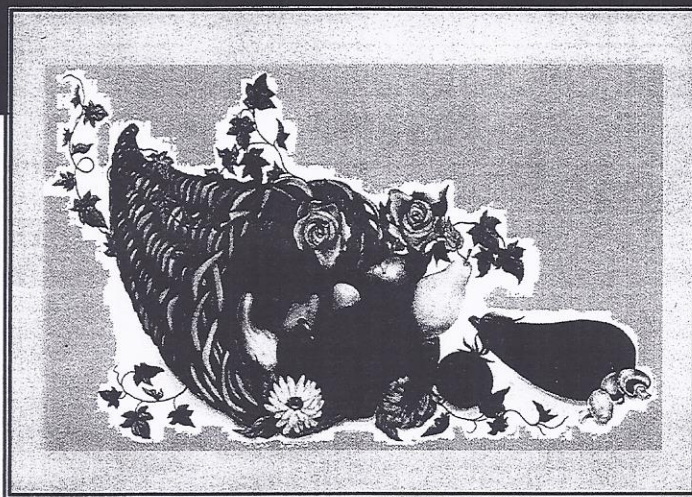


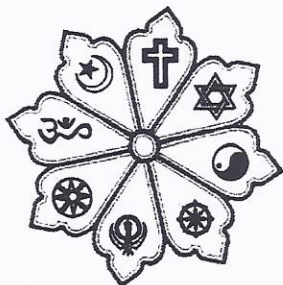
7th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Day Service



Thursday
November 24, 2011
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

The Konko Church of San Francisco
1909 Bush Street
San Francisco, CA 94115

Sponsored by
The San Francisco
Interfaith Council



Thanksgiving Day

Processional

Traditional Music of the Konko Church

Buddhist Ceremonial In Kin Bell

*Rev. Ronald K. Kobata
Executive Assistant to the Bishop
Buddhist Churches of America*

Muslim Call to Prayer

*Imam Abu Qadir Al-Amin
San Francisco Muslim Community Center*

*Hymn "We Gather Together"

*Congregational Participation
Paul Andrews, Vocalist
Rev. Paul Brenner, Organist*

We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;
Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,
We all do ex - tol thee, thou lead - er tri - um - phant,
he chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known;
or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing his king - dom di - vine;
and pray that thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.
the wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing;
so from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning;
Let thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion:
sing prais - es to his Name; he for - gets not his own.
thou, Lord, wast at our side: all glo - ry be thine!
thy Name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

Purification Prayer of the Konko Church

Rev. Joanne Tolosa, Head Minister

Rev. Masato Kawahatsu

Through the Way of Mediation
may our sincere apologies
be acceptable to You,
our Divine Parent.

We acknowledge our mistakes and misunderstandings,
arrogance and ignorance of Your divine favor.

We apologize for all our shortcomings
and irreverences from past generations.

Guide us to amend our way of living
to reflect Your divine will
with a pure, joyful, and loving heart,
always one with You.

Prayer for Peace

Through our Divine Mediator
To the Divine Parent of the Universe,
Let us pray.

As precious as our own lives are,
So are the lives of all.
You embrace us with Your blessings,
Wanting us to help one another
And live together in harmony.

Yet, when Your wishes are ignored
And selfish desires pursued,
Tears spread across the world.
Your heart pains as people suffer,
Hurt by injustice, poverty and war.

Please accept our apologies
As we strive to change our ways,
To reflect Your Love in all we do.
The peace of the world
Starts with peace in our hearts.

Please grant us the courage and wisdom
To see the goodness in all,
To speak words of comfort and hope.
Allow our actions to form a peaceful world
Where each is respected and fulfilled.

Through Your virtue and guidance
We pray with hearts as one
For all to live
In peace and harmony,
For all to live as one.

Welcome on Behalf of the Host Congregation

*Rev. Joanne Tolosa
Head Minister
The Konko Church of San Francisco*

Welcome on behalf of the San Francisco Interfaith Council

*Rev. James DeLange
Chair
San Francisco Interfaith Council*

Reading of Abraham Lincoln's Proclamation

Stuart Hall High School Students

By the President of the United States of America 3 October 1863

The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful years and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the Source from which they come, others have been added which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God.


In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign states to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere, except in the theater of military conflict, while that theater has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union.

Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the field of peaceful industry to the national defense have not arrested the plow, the shuttle, or the ship; the ax has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than theretofore. Population has steadily increased notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege, and the battlefield, and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom.

No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow-citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it, as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes, to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility, and union.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed


Abraham Lincoln

* Hymn: "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"

Congregation Participation
Paul Andrews, Vocalist
Rev. Paul Brenner, Organist

1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, For am - ber waves of grain;
2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved In lib - er - a - ting strife,
3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream That sees be - yond the years

6
For pur - ple moun - tain ma - jes - ties A - bove the fruit - ed plain!
Who more than self their coun - try loved, And mer - cy more than life!
Thine al - a - bas - ter ci - ties gleam, Un - dimmed by hu - man tears!

11
A - mer - i - cal! A - mer - i - cal! God shed his grace on thee,
A - mer - i - cal! A - mer - i - cal! May God thy gold re - fine,
A - mer - i - cal! A - mer - i - cal! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,

16
And crown thy good with bro - ther - hood, From sea to shin - ing sea.
Till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, And ev - ery gain di - vine.
Con - firm thy soul in self con - trol, Thy lib - er - ty in law.

Reading, Matthew 6:25-33 (NRSV)

The Rev. Mark E. Stanger
Canon Precentor and Associate Pastor
Grace Episcopal Cathedral

‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink,* or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God* and his* righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Traditional Jewish Thanksgiving Blessing

Song: Let Us Break Bread Together on Our Knees

Spoken Word: The Harvest of the Heart by Howard Thurman

Noah Griffin

Afro Solo

A Thanksgiving Reflection

Fr. John Coleman, S.J.

Associate Pastor St. Ignatius Church

Offering for SF Interfaith Winter Shelter

Michael G. Pappas, M. Div.

Executive Director

San Francisco Interfaith Council

***Prayers of Thanksgiving and for the Needs of the World**

Attributed: Blue, the Flute man

Native American Flute

G.L. Hodge

Providence Baptist Church

Sisters and Brothers, gathered in this house of God, let us on this day of thanksgiving offer to God our prayers of gratitude, and ask for what we need. Let us give thanks to God for all those gifts so freely bestowed upon us: For the splendor of the whole creation and for the beauty of this world; for the wonder of life and for the mystery of love. Together let us pray:

All: Fill us with your Spirit, O God

Rev. Susan Strouse

First United Lutheran Church/ Interfaith Center at the Presidio

Let us give thanks for our daily food and drink, for the blessings of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side: For minds to think, hearts to love and hands to serve; for health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play. Together let us pray:

All: Fill us with your Spirit, O God

G.L. Hodge

Providence Baptist Church

Let us pray for the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity; for all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice; and for all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of God: Together let us pray:

All: Fill us with your Spirit, O God

*Rev. Susan Strouse
First United Lutheran Church/ Interfaith Center at the Presidio*

Let us pray for the leaders of our nation and of every nation of the world, and all who are involved in making military decisions. We pray for peace and avoidance of bloodshed. We pray for men and women of the armed forces of this nation, and innocent civilians across the world who are in harm's way. May the Spirit of God's wisdom, Sophia, lead us to know the fullness of her true and lasting peace. Together let us pray:

All: Fill us with your Spirit, O God

*G.L. Hodge
Providence Baptist Church*

Let us pray in thanksgiving to God for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts; for leading us to accomplishments which both satisfy and delight us; and also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on God alone. Together let us pray:

All: Fill us with your Spirit, O God

*Rev. Susan Strouse
First United Lutheran Church/ Interfaith Center at the Presidio*

Let us lift up those across our nation and world who are victims of violence, oppression, racism and poverty. On this day set aside for giving thanks, let us commit ourselves to a culture of true human dignity, non violence, respect, justice and peace. Together let us pray.

All: Fill us with your Spirit, O God

*G.L. Hodge
Providence Baptist Church*

Let us pray for the faith communities gathered here that we may truly be a united voice of love and compassion asking all to join us in caring for the most vulnerable in our land. We pray for one another and for ourselves. May we lead with courage and good moral judgment so as to heal our broken world. Together let us pray:

All: Fill us with your Spirit, O God

*Rev. Susan Strouse
First United Lutheran Church/ Interfaith Center at the Presidio*

With these and all the prayers that we bring forward this day, and those that rest in our hearts let us say the prayer attributed to the patron our city, San Francisco:

Prayer of St. Francis

Congregational Participation
Led by Rita R Semel
Executive Vice Chair
San Francisco Interfaith Council

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;
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;
and where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master,
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,
and it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life. Amen.

*Hymn: Now Thank We All Our God"

Congregational Participation
Paul Andrews, Vocalist
Rev. Paul Brenner, Organist

1 Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voic - es,
 2 O may this boun - teous God through all our life be near us!
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa - ther now be giv - en,
 who won - drous things has done, in whom this world re - joic - es;
 with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;
 the Son, and him who reigns with them in high - est hea - ven,
 who from our mo - thers' arms has blessed us on our way
 and keep us in his grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
 e - ter - nal, Tri - une God, whom earth and heaven a - dore;
 with count - less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be, ev - er - more.

Benediction

*Rev. Jim Kitchens
Interim Pastor
Calvary Presbyterian Church*

Exchange of Greetings by all

Postlude

Traditional Music of the Konko Church

*Please stand if you are able

The First Thanksgiving

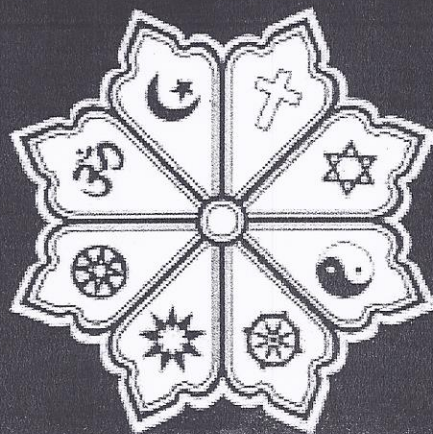
It was answered, that all great and honorable actions are accompanied with great difficulties and must be both enterprised and overcome with answerable courage. It was granted the dangers were great, but not desperate. The difficulties were many, but not invincible. For though there were many of them likely, yet they were not certain. It might be sundry of the things feared might never befall; others by provident care and the use of good means might in a great measure be prevented; and all of them, through the help of God, by fortitude and patience, might either be borne or overcome. True it was that such attempts were not to be made and undertaken without good ground and reason, not rashly or lightly as many have done for curiosity or hope of gain, etc. But their condition was not ordinary, their ends were good and honorable, their calling lawful and urgent; and therefore they might expect the blessing of God in their proceeding. Yea, though they should lose their lives in this action, yet might they have comfort in the same and their endeavors would be honorable.

William Bradford
Second Governor of Plymouth Plantation

San Francisco

INTERFAITH

COUNCIL



*Celebrating our diverse faiths
and spiritual traditions*

*Bringing people together
to build understanding*

Serving our community