This evening we gather outside on the street to pay our respects to the people whose lives ended this past year on the streets nearby. We will call each person by name, in order to honor their memory. Please lend your voices to the songs in bold, so that our gathering tonight may speak as one.

(Please silence phones and electronic devices until the service is ended.)

Welcome and Opening Prayer: Rev. Lyle Beckman, San Francisco Night Minister

Song: Amazing Grace, verses 1—3

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound—
That saved a wretch like me!
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 fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
’Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Kaddish: Senator Mark Leno

Exalted and hallowed be God’s great name
In the world which God created, according to plan.
May God’s majesty be revealed in the days of our lifetime
and the life of all Israel—speedily, imminently, to which
we say, Amen.

Blessed be God’s great name to all eternity.
Blessed, praised, honored, exalted, extolled, glorified, adored, and lauded be the name of the Holy Blessed One, beyond all earthly words and songs of blessing, praise, and comfort. To which we say, Amen.

May there be abundant peace from heaven, and life,
for us and all Israel. To which we say, Amen.

May the One who creates harmony on high, bring peace to us and to all Israel. To which we say, Amen.

As each name is read, a bell will be rung by the Rev. Glenda Hope, Founding Executive Director of SafeHouse for Women Escaping Prostitution

Song: Hard Times Come Again No More, Singers of the Street

Reading: from The Apology of Socrates, by Plato, David Stickley, San Francisco Night Ministry

There is great reason to hope that death is a good; for one of two things—either death is a state of nothingness and utter unconsciousness, or as some say, there is a change and migration of the soul from this world to another. Now if you suppose that there is no consciousness, but a sleep like the sleep of one who is undisturbed even by dreams, death will be an unspeakable gain… and if death be of such a nature, I say that to die is gain; for eternity is then only a single night. But if death is the journey to another place, and there, as some say, all dead abide, what good, O my friends and judges, can be greater than this?... Wherefore, O judges, be of good cheer about death, and know of a certainty, that no evil can happen to someone good, either in life or after death.

Loving Kindness Chant, Junsei Jana Drakka, San Francisco Zen Center

As each name is read, a bell will be rung by the Rev. Glenda Hope, Founding Executive Director of SafeHouse for Women Escaping Prostitution

Reading: Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

A season is set for everything, a time for every experience under heaven:
2 A time for being born and a time for dying,
A time for planting and a time for uprooting the planted;
3 A time for slaying and a time for healing,
A time for tearing down and a time for building up;
4 A time for weeping and a time for laughing,
A time for wailing and a time for dancing;
5 A time for throwing stones, a time for gathering stones,
A time for embracing and a time for stunning embraces;
6 A time for seeking and a time for losing,
A time for keeping and a time for discarding;
7 A time for ripping and a time for sewing,
A time for silence and a time for speaking;
8 A time for loving and a time for hating,
A time for war and a time for peace.
9 What value, then, can people of affairs get from what they earn? 10 I have observed the business that God gave us to be concerned with: 11 God brings everything together precisely at its time; God also puts eternity in our minds, but without us guessing, from first to last, all that God brings to pass. 12 Thus I realized that the only worthwhile thing there is for people, is to enjoy themselves and do what is good in their lifetime; 13 also, that whenever anyone does eat and drink and get enjoyment out of their possessions, it is a gift of God.

Reading: Names of Our Homeless Sisters and Brothers Who Have Died in the Past Year

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Reading: “Buddhist Prayer for the Dead,”
from *Tibetan Book of the Dead*,
Sensei Elaine Donlin, Buddhist Church of San Francisco

Song: *Amazing Grace*, verses 4 and 5

The Lord has promised good to me;
God’s word my hope secures;
God will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise
Than when we’d first begun.

Blessing and Sending: Rev. Maggi Henderson,
Old First Presbyterian Church,
Board Chair, the San Francisco Interfaith Council

*Go in peace. Remember those who are less fortunate.*