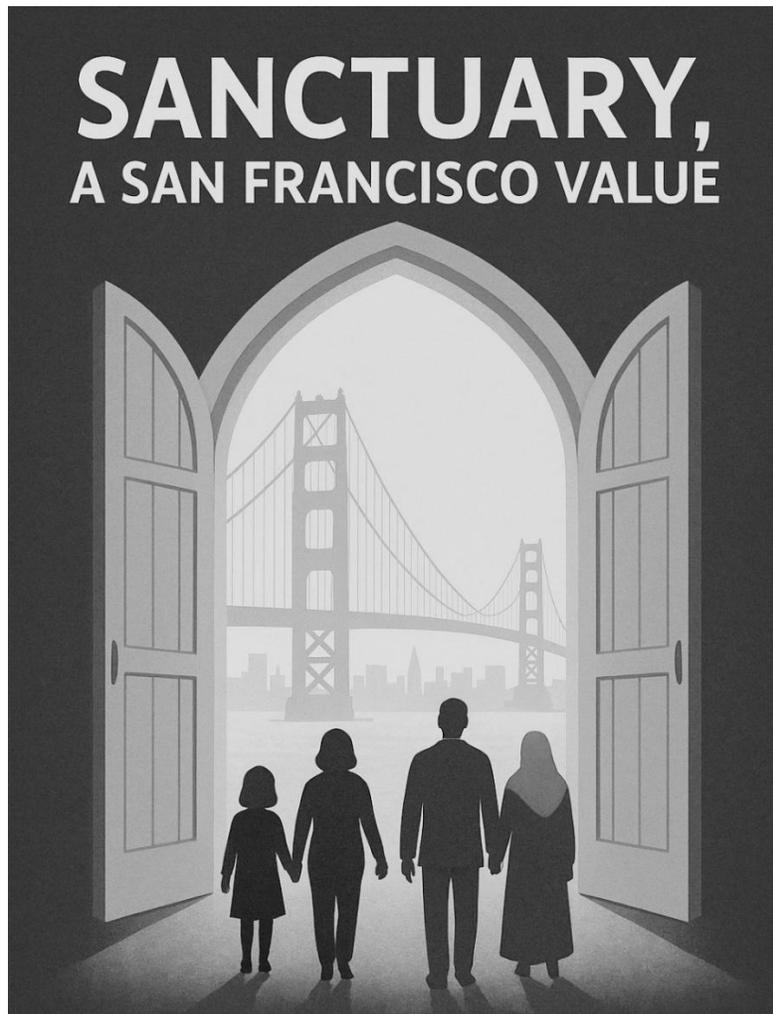


25th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast

The San Francisco Interfaith Council

Program



Tuesday, November 25, 2025

7:00 am – 9:00 am

Hotel Kabuki, San Francisco

Program

Gathering Harp Medley

SFIC Board Member *Sister Kyoko Kimura*
The Brahma Kumaris Meditation Center, San Francisco

“This Land is Your Land”

Words and Music by Woody Guthrie

Introduced and Led by *Simon Barrad*, Cantorial Soloist, Congregation Sherith Israel and

Ronny Michael Greenberg, “Taste of Talent” Founder

Co-creators – JIVE

(JIVE - Jewish Innovative Voices & Experiences is a music series in the San Francisco Bay Area, dedicated to celebrating Jewish musical traditions through diverse and creative programming)

This land is your land, this land is my land
From California to the New York island,
From the redwood forest to the Gulf Stream waters;
This land was made for you and me.

There was a big high wall there that tried to stop me.
The sign was painted, said ‘Private Property.’
But on the backside, it didn’t say nothing.
This land was made for you and me.

As I was walking that ribbon of highway
I saw above me that endless skyway;
I saw below me that golden valley;
This land was made for you and me.

One bright sunny morning in the shadow of the steeple,
By the relief office I saw my people;
As they stood there hungry, I stood there wondering
If this land was made for you and me?

I've roamed and rambled and I followed my footsteps
To the sparkling sands of her diamond deserts;
And all around me a voice was sounding;
This land was made for you and me.

When the sun came shining, and I was strolling,
And the wheat fields waving and the dust clouds rolling,
As the fog was lifting a voice was chanting:
This land was made for you and me.

Whose Land Is This?

SFIC Board Secretary *Rev. Staci Current*
Pastor, Temple United Methodist Church
SFIC Past Chair *Rev. Vanessa Southern*
Senior Minister, First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco

Reading of Recognition Statement That We Gather on Indigenous Lands

SFIC Board Member *Tessa Rouverol Callejo*

“We acknowledge that we are on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula. As the indigenous stewards of this land and in accordance with their traditions, the Ramaytush Ohlone have never ceded, lost nor forgotten their responsibilities as the caretakers of this place, as well as for all peoples who reside in their traditional territory. As Guests, we recognize that we benefit from living and working on their traditional homeland. We wish to pay our respects by acknowledging the Ancestors, Elders and Relatives of the Ramaytush Community and by affirming their sovereign rights as First Peoples.”

Reading of the SFIC Interfaith Statement

SFIC Board Member *Rev. Marvin K. White*
Minister of Celebration, Glide Memorial Church

“This is an interfaith community. Whatever our individual belief, it can be freely expressed here with no apologies. If we are invited to offer a prayer in this setting, it should be offered according to the tradition with which we identify. If we are invited to speak on a subject from the perspective of our tradition, we are free to do so without fear of offending those who come from another tradition. We come together as people of faith to learn from each other that we might better understand the multiplicity of faith traditions in our city and in our world.”

Welcome

SFIC Board Chair *Fr. Mesrop Ash*
Parish Priest, St. John Armenian Apostolic Church

Buddhist Ceremonial Inkin Bell

Rev. Tenzen *David Zimmerman*
Central Abbot, San Francisco Zen Center

Prayer of Thanks for the Meal

The Rt. Rev. Austin Rios
Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of California

~ Breakfast is served at your table ~

Introduction of Special Guests

SFIC Board Member *Derick Brown*
Chief Advancement and Strategic Partnerships Officer, YMCA of Greater San Francisco

Message from San Francisco Mayor Daniel L. Lurie

Remarks

The Honorable Eleni Kounalakis
Lieutenant Governor of the State of California
Introduced by SFIC Executive Director Michael Pappas

Support for the San Francisco Interfaith Council

SFIC Treasurer *Rev. Fred Harrell*
Founder, City Church San Francisco



<https://sfic.harnessgiving.org/donate/>

SANCTUARY: A Short History

Introduced by Filmmaker *Theo Rigby*
Founder/Director, iNation Media, LLC

Candle Lighting and Prayers for our Immigrant Sisters and Brothers

Rabbi Ryan Bauer, Senior Rabbi, Congregation Emanu-El
Zachary Markwith, Deputy Director, Islamic Networks Group (ING)
Rev. Melissa Opel, Head/Resident Minister, Buddhist Church of San Francisco
Mario Paz, SF Immigrant Rights Commissioner and
Executive Director, Good Samaritan Family Resource Center
Camilla Smith, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

“The Prayer of St. Francis”

(read by all)

Led by *Salvador Aceves*, Ed.D
President, University of San Francisco

“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; 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.”

Musical Selection: “What’Il I Do” and “Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor”

Words and Music by Irving Berlin

Performed by *Simon Barrad*, Cantorial Soloist, Congregation Sherith Israel
and *Ronny Michael Greenberg*, “Taste of Talent” Founder
Co-creators – JIVE

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Sanctuary, A San Francisco Value

Michael G. Pappas, M.Div., Executive Director
San Francisco Interfaith Council

Keynote Message

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker Emerita
U.S. House of Representatives
Introduced by SFIC Executive Director *Michael Pappas*

Lifetime Achievement Award

Rev. Dr. Amos C. Brown, Pastor Emeritus, Third Baptist Church
Introduced by SFIC Executive Director *Michael Pappas*

Closing Musical Selection: “Blessings Upon Blessings”

Sister Elizabeth Padilla, Program Manager, Anubhuti Meditation & Retreat Center
Accompanied by
SFIC Board Member *Sister Kyoko Kimura* on Harp
The Brahma Kumaris Meditation Center, San Francisco

Benediction

The Rev. Jeff R. Johnson, Bishop
Sierra Pacific Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Church in America