



Concord

LEEDS INTERFAITH FELLOWSHIP
www.concord-leeds.org.uk
Reg. Charity No 516339

and LEEDS CITY COUNCIL
PEACELINK GROUP



The Annual Inter-Faith Peace Service

Wednesday 26th October 2016
The Banquet Hall,
Leeds Civic Hall

Welcome to the Annual Inter-Faith Peace Service in Concord's 40th year, which has been organised by Concord in conjunction with Peacelink.

We are grateful to Leeds City Council for the use of the Civic Hall and to the Lord Mayor of Leeds, Councillor Gerry Harper, and the Lady Mayoress, Lynne Scholes, for their help and participation.

Thank you for your attendance.

We hope you will show your appreciation by putting a donation in the bucket at the door on your way out for the Lord's Mayor's Charity Appeal, which is for *Epilepsy Action* and *Heart Research UK*



Order of Service

Music will be played and images projected by Leeds Brahma Kumaris before the service begins.

- Welcome by the Rev Dr David Randolph-Horn, Acting Co-Chair of Concord and Chair of this event
- Dr Randolph-Horn introduces the Lord Mayor, Councillor Gerry Harper
- Brief address by the Lord Mayor, who leads the—

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

(Source: Mishkan T'Filah, A Progressive Siddur, p.257, World Union for Progressive Judaism Edition)

*(audience please say the words in **bold print**)*

For the expanding grandeur of Creation,
worlds known and unknown, galaxies beyond galaxies,
filling us with awe and challenging our imaginations:
We give thanks this day.

For this fragile planet earth,
its times and tides, its sunsets and seasons:
We give thanks this day.

For the joy of human life,
its wonders and surprises, its hopes and achievements:
We give thanks this day.

For our human community, our common past and future hope, our oneness
transcending all separation,
our capacity to work for peace and justice in the midst of hostility and
oppression:
We give thanks this day.

For high hopes and noble causes, for faith without fanaticism,
for understanding of views not shared:
We give thanks this day.

For all who have laboured and suffered for a fairer world,
who have lived so that others might live in dignity and freedom:
We give thanks this day.

We give you thanks, Source of all that is possible, for promises not yet come
to fruition:
for the dream of peace,
for the vision of a world where no one goes hungry.
for gifts yet to be developed,
for the capacity to learn and grow and change.
We give thanks this day.

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For human liberty and sacred rites;
for opportunities to change and grow, to affirm and choose:

We give thanks this day.

We pray that we may live not by our fears but by our hopes, not by our words but by our deeds.

- Fiona Murray briefly explains The World Peace Flame ®
- The lighting of candles by representatives of the Faith Communities in Leeds:

Bahá'í	Faraz Rabiei
Brahma Kumari	Susan Balmforth
Buddhist	Yuping Yeo
Christian	John Tilbury
Hindu	Shyam Sunder Tah
Jewish	Sara Saunders
Muslim	Asuman Aydin
Pagan	Kate Hudson
Sikh	Manroop Kaur Bambhrah

- The Lady Mayoress lights a candle on behalf of all of the people of Leeds
- Moment of quietness, with lights turned down
- All stand to say the Five Affirmations, led by the Chair:

*(please say the words in **bold print**)*

We affirm our respect for the whole of the natural world and acknowledge our responsibility for exercising stewardship with care and consideration for all its elements.

We affirm our common faith in the dignity and unique worth of the human person, irrespective of colour, class or creed.

We affirm our common faith in the need to establish justice for every individual, and through common effort to secure peace and reconciliation between nations.

We affirm our common faith in the need to assert the supremacy of love in all human relationships.

We affirm our membership of the one human family and our concern to express it in service and sacrifice for the common good.

- Readings by representatives of Faith Communities:

Bahá'í	Sian Cook
Brahma Kumari	Valerie Bowker
Buddhist	Kerry Prest
Christian	Una Parker
Hindu	Usha Bhardwaj

Please turn over

Jewish
Muslim
Pagan
Sikh

Joy Mitchell-Kardasz
Adam Aslam
Georgia Grandison
Gurmukh Sinh Deagon

- Musical Interlude by Kian Samari (Bahá'í). Songs: "The Age of Light" (words by Steve Day); "Louder Until Peace Comes" (words by Rosanna Lea); "Say: God Sufficeth" (prayer by The Báb). See booklet of readings for the words of the songs.

- All stand to read 'Called to Peace', led by the Chair

*(Please join in saying the words in **bold print.**)*

You have called us to peace, for You are Peace itself.

May we have the vision to see that each of us, in some measure,
can help to realise these aims;

Where there is ignorance and superstition,
Let there be enlightenment and knowledge.

Where there is prejudice and hatred,
Let there be acceptance and love.

Where there is fear and suspicion,
Let there be confidence and trust.

Where there is tyranny and oppression,
Let there be freedom and justice.

Where there is poverty and disease,
Let there be prosperity and health.

Where there is strife and discord,
Let there be harmony and peace.

(Adapted from Jewish texts and readings in Gates of Prayer. New York: Central Conference of American Rabbis, 1975.)

- Chair's final comments
- Chair reads a blessing from Indian and Irish sources (words in the booklet of readings)
- The Chair invites everyone to talk to a stranger.
Greetings to one another:
Shalom, salaam, shanti, peace be with you.

Would all speakers, readers, candle-lighters and singers please stay in the room until a photograph has been taken.

*Please contribute to the Lord Mayor's Charity Appeal on your way out.
Special thanks to Manish, Susan and Valerie of the Brahma Kumaris for sound control, background music and images and the setting up of the candles.*