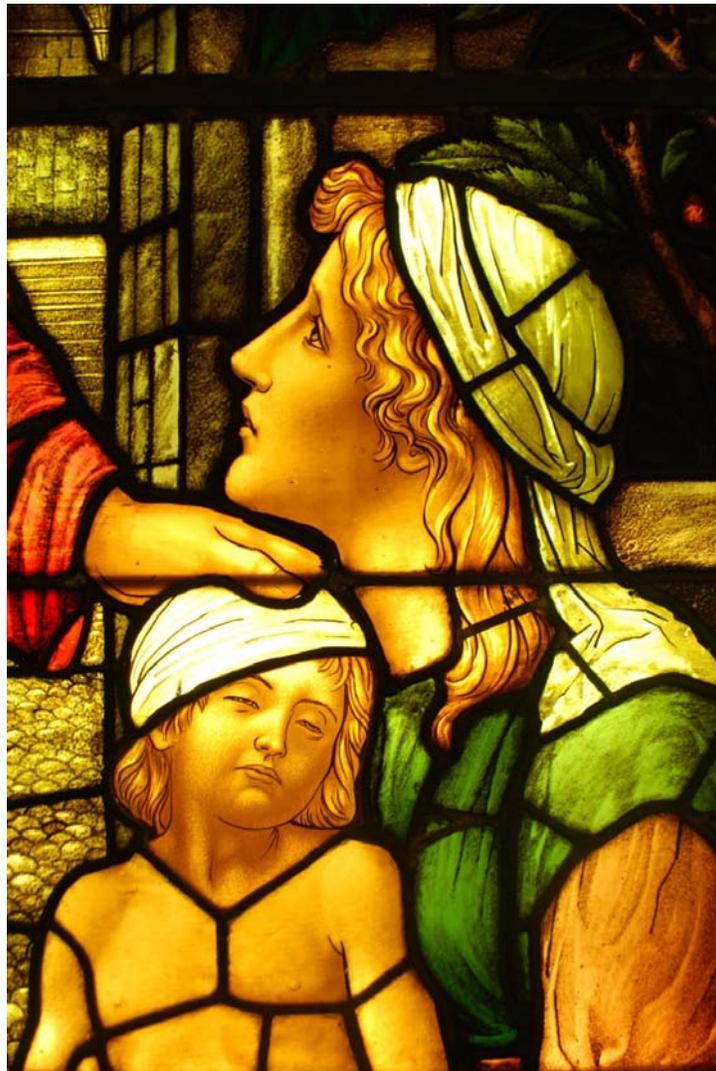




**Service of Prayer and Music for  
Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**



**Our Lady of Peace Church**  
**239 East 62<sup>nd</sup> Street, Manhattan, New York 10065**  
**Seven-thirty on Friday evening, September 18, 2015**

**September 18, 2015**

**Service of Prayer and Music for  
Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**

**Friends of Our Lady of Peace with the Patriot Brass Ensemble**

**Opening Hymn: “Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer” page 7**

**Invocation & Welcome:**

Welcome to Our Lady of Peace, shuttered by the Archdiocese of New York on July 31, and now doing its work as a “church on the street.” We are here today to join families, caregivers, charities and research groups to observe September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. In the United States alone, 15,780 children under the age of 21 are diagnosed with cancer every year; approximately 1/4 of them will not survive the disease. A diagnosis turns the lives of the entire family upside down. The objective of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month is to put a spotlight on the types of cancer that largely affect children, their families, their medical team, survivorship issues, and – importantly – to help raise funds for research and family support.

**Opening Prayers:**

**A Prayer for Children:**

Gracious and Loving God, watch over the youngest among us who face unrelenting and overwhelming illness and injury:

Send us Your grace upon them so they will know Your loving and healing presence. Give to these sick children strength, hope, and joy as they face difficult treatment and recovery. You called us to receive the children, may we provide support and care necessary for their journey to health. We look to You and your Son, Jesus Christ, as a sign of mercy and joy. We ask this through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes in the name of your Son, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. AMEN.\*

**A Prayer for Family Caregivers:**

Healer of Souls and Comforter of the Weary, help to lighten the burden of families who are caring for their sick loved ones:

Accompany them on their journey and ease their anxiety and fears. Surround them with the love and strength of others, so they may experience the healing presence of the communion of saints. We ask this through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes and in the name of your Son, Jesus and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. AMEN.\*

**A Prayer for Health Care Givers:**

Gracious God, hear our prayer for all who have given themselves to the care of those afflicted by illness:

Sensitize their hearts with the compassion and benevolent spirit of the Good Samaritan that they might see and respond generously to the needs of those in their care. Strengthen them with your encouraging presence and love that they might be constant in their service even in times of fatigue and distress. Lift their spirits, bolster their resolve, grant them resilience, keep them well, and guide them to wisely keep themselves well. We ask this through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes and in the name of your Son, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. AMEN.\*

\*(Catholic Health Association of the United States)

**A Prayer for Doctors and Nurses:**

O merciful Father, who have wonderfully fashioned man in Your own image, and have made his body to be a temple of the Holy Spirit, sanctify, we pray You, our doctors and nurses and all those whom you have called to study and practice the arts of healing the sick and the prevention of disease and pain. Strengthen them in body and soul, and bless their work, that they may give comfort to those for whose salvation your Son became Man, lived on this earth, healed the sick, and suffered and died on the Cross. AMEN.

**Hymn: “There Is A Balm in Gilead”** page 8

**Scripture Reading 1: Isaiah 58: 8-12**

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; Your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.” If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom shall be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations for many generations; You shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 116: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9**

**R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.**

I love the LORD because he has heard my voice in supplication,  
Because he has inclined his ear to me the day I called.

**R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.**

The cords of death encompassed me; the snares of the netherworld seized upon me; I fell into distress and sorrow, and I called upon the name of the LORD,  
“O LORD, save my life!”

**R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.**

Gracious is the LORD and just; yes, our God is merciful.  
The LORD keeps the little ones; I was brought low, and he saved me.

**R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.**

For he has freed my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.  
I shall walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

**R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.**

### **Scripture Reading 2: 2 Corinthians 1: 3-7**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

**Hymn: “Abide With Me”**                      page 9

### **Gospel Reading: Mark 5:22-24, 35-42**

Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet and begged him repeatedly, “My daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live.” So he went with him....While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader’s house to say, “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?” But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, “Do not fear, only believe.” He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. When he had entered, he said to them, “Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping.” And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child’s father and mother and those who were with him, and went in to where the child was. He took her by the hand and said to her, “*Talitha cum,*” which means, “Little girl, get up!” And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement.

## **Homily: A Reflection on Childhood Cancer – Dr. Tanya Trippett**

### **Meditation: “The Song of the Tree of Life” (Ralph Vaughn Williams)**

“Unto them that overcometh shall be given of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God. On either side of the river groweth the tree of life, the leaves of the tree are for thy healing. In the midst of that fair city flows the river of water of life clear as crystal. Who so will, let them take to the water of life freely. Who so drinketh of this water shall never thirst. Take thou the leaves of the tree of life. So shalt thou enter in through the gates of the city.”

### **The Prayers of the People:**

During this month in which we promote awareness of Childhood Cancer with full hearts and minds, let us bring our petitions to the Lord, saying, **“Lord have Mercy.”**

For the true peace granted only from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls... **“Lord have Mercy.”**

For the peace of the world, for the Church, and the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord... **“Lord have Mercy.”**

For the good earth which we have been given, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord... **“Lord have Mercy.”**

For the poor and the oppressed, for our children, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord... **“Lord have Mercy.”**

For caretakers, Doctors, Nurses, Social workers and Parents, that they can provide loving care and have the resolve to seek your guidance, let us pray to the Lord... **“Lord have Mercy.”**

For the gifts of patience and understanding for those dealing with life threatening illness, facing death, or suffering from mental illness. Let us pray to the Lord... **“Lord have Mercy.”**

For the gifts of comfort and healing, let us pray to the Lord... **“Lord have Mercy.”**

For those in positions of public trust may they promote dignity and freedom for every person, let us pray to the Lord... **“Lord have Mercy.”**

For our congregation, those present and for those who are not here, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show your glory in all that we do, let us pray to the Lord... **“Lord have Mercy.”**

For those petitions known only in our hearts we pray.... **“Lord Have Mercy.”**

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth; mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us, through Jesus our Lord. Amen.

**The Peace: Let us share a sign of God's Peace with each other.**  
The Peace of the Lord be always with you... **“And also with you.”**

**Hymn: “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”** (Ralph Vaughn Williams) page 10

### **Closing Prayers:**

#### **“The Serenity Prayer” - Rheinhold Neibuhr**

God grant me the serenity  
To accept the things I cannot change;  
Courage to change the things I can;  
And wisdom to know the difference.

#### **“Prayer of St. Augustine”**

Watch, O Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep tonight,  
and give Your Angels and Saints charge over those who sleep.  
Tend Your sick ones, O Lord Christ.  
Rest Your weary ones.  
Bless Your dying ones.  
Soothe Your suffering ones.  
Pity Your afflicted ones.  
Shield Your joyous ones.  
And all for Your love's sake. Amen.

### **Announcements:**

#### **An Invocation for Blessing & Dismissal:**

God of our pilgrimage, You have led us to the living water: refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Closing Hymn: “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”** page 11

# HYMNS

HOPE, ASSURANCE

## 618 Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me  
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me  
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,  
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es

feed me now and ev - er - more, ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
shield me with your might - y arm, might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.  
I will raise for - ev - er - more, ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams,  
1722-1796, alt.  
Music: John Hughes, 1873-1932

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HEALING AND FORGIVENESS

553

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Jer. 8:18-22; 46:11; Acts 10:34-43

African-American spiritual; alt.

*Refrain*

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad, to make the wound-ed whole,

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad, to heal the sin-sick soul.

*Last time, end*

1 Some - times I feel dis - cour-aged, and think my work's in vain,  
 2 Don't ev - er feel dis - cour-aged, for Je - sus is your friend,  
 3 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,

*to Refrain*

But then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.  
 who, if you ask for knowl-edge, will nev - er fail to lend.  
 you can tell the love of Je - sus, who died to save us all.

*This is one of the most moving of the African-American spirituals because it illustrates the way in which the enslaved tried to encourage those who were feeling especially weighed down by the burden of their captivity.*

Tune: BALM IN GILEAD Irr. with refrain  
African-American spiritual

# Abide With Me

## EVENTIDE

Henry F. Lyte, 1847

William H. Monk, 1861

1. A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide; The dark - ness deep - ens;  
 2. Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day; Earth's joys grow dim, its  
 3. I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour; What but thy grace can  
 4. I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless: Ills have no weight, and  
 5. Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes; Shine through the gloom, and

Lord, with me a - bide: When oth - er help - ers fail, and com - forts  
 glo - ries pass a - way; Change and de - cay in all a - round I  
 foil the tempt - er's pow'r? Who like thy - self my guide and stay can  
 tears no bit - ter - ness. Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy vic - tor -  
 point me to the skies: Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows

flee, Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.  
 see; O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.  
 be? Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.  
 y? I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me.  
 flee: In life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

# 182 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;  
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give  
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;

lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."  
 the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."  
 look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."

I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad; I  
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream; my  
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and

found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.  
 thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.  
 in that light of life I'll walk till trav - eling days are done.

Each stanza here pairs an invitation from Jesus with a response from the narrator. These three invitations recall how Jesus welcomed those who were heavy laden (Matthew 11:28), offered living water (John 4:10-14), and identified himself as the light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5).

TEXT: Horatius Bonar, 1846, alt.  
 MUSIC: *English County Songs*, 1893; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

# 138 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

1. The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness  
 2. Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed  
 3. Per - verse and fool - ish, oft I strayed, but yet in  
 4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear  
 5. Thou spreadst a ta - ble in my sight; thy unc - tion  
 6. And so through all the length of days, thy good - ness

fail - eth nev - er. I noth - ing lack if  
 soul he lead - eth; and where the ver - dant  
 love he sought me; and on his shoul - der  
 Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my  
 grace be - stow - eth; and oh, what trans - port  
 fail - eth nev - er; Good Shep - herd, may I

I am his, and he is mine for - ev - er.  
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.  
 com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.  
 of de - light from thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!  
 sing thy praise with - in thy house for - ev - er.

WORDS: Henry W. Baker, 1868 (Ps. 23)  
 MUSIC: Irish Melody; harm. from *The English Hymnal*, 1906

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Front Cover Detail of Stained Glass Window

“Christ Healing the Sick Children”  
Henry Holiday, 1982  
SickKids Hospital, Toronto, Ontario

*Thank you for your continued support...*

The Church of Our Lady of Peace, founded by Italian and Irish immigrants in 1919, was closed on July 31, 2015, and merged with the parish of Saint John the Evangelist as part of the largest restructuring of parishes in the history of the Archdiocese of New York. Parishioners of Our Lady of Peace have appealed to the Vatican against the decree of merger. The study of the parishioners' appeal has been extended to November 1, 2015. If you would like to be on our mailing list and support the efforts to save Our Lady of Peace, please send an email to [friendsofourladyofpeace@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofourladyofpeace@gmail.com). Email updates are provided through *Constant Contact*. Other updates can be found on Twitter @FriendsOLPNYC and on Facebook at Friends of OLP. All sites are cross linked to our blog and petition.