

PROGRAM GUIDE

INTERFAITH SUNRISE PRAYER SERVICE SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, 2021 6AM - 7AM

ADHAN - MUSLIM CALL TO PRAYER

The adhan is a summons to enter the prayer space, to turn one's body, mind, and spirit toward God. In the early Muslim community in Arabia, Muslims would gather around Prophet Muhammad without any summons until one of his followers had a vision in a dream of the call to prayer. The Prophet appointed Bilal, a freed African slave, to be the first muezzin, to use his penetrating voice to sound the call to prayer from the mosque. From this time on, for 13 centuries, the adhan has called the faithful all over the world to perform their five daily prayers. The adhan is a regular reminder of the submission of all of life for the service of God, and a reminder that life is shaped by prayer.

Allahu akbar (4x)

Allah is the Greatest

Ashadu an la ilaha illa Allah (2x)

I bear witness that there is no god but Allah

Ashadu anna Muhammadan rasul Allah (2x)

I bear witness that Muhammad is the
Messenger of Allah

Hayya ala s-salah (2x)

Come to prayer

Hayya ala l-falah (2x)

Come to success

As-salatu khayru min an-nawm

Prayer is better than sleep

Allahu akbar (2x)

Allah is the Greatest

La ilaha illa Allah

There is no god but Allah

SHOFAR SOUNDING AND PRAYER

The shofar calls to mind the need to reconnect oneself to the principles and ideals of a moral and righteous life. To hear the shofar is to hear the voice of heaven. In the Hebrew Bible, Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, and the start of the period known as the High Holy Days, was called, "Yom Teruah, the Day of the Shofar Blast." The ram's horn is arguably the most essential component of the celebration. Shofar blasts remind us to boldly contend with our past bad habits and bravely seek self-improvement and betterment for others. May the ancient sounds of the shofar, caused by the strong flow of oxygen, serve as an aural and awesome reminder to resolve to do the right thing with every breath we take. (excerpt from Rabbi Jack Zanerhaft)

Olam Chesed Yibaneh (I Will Build This World From Love)
By Rabbi Menachem Creditor

Olam chesed yibaneh עוֹלָם חֶסֶד יִבְנֶה

I will build this world from love... yai dai dai...
And you must build this world from love... yai dai dai...
And if we build this world from love... yai dai dai...
Then G-d will build this world from love... yai dai dai...

INSTRUMENTAL MELODY - "A SONG OF PEACE FOR A WORLD IN PAIN"

Ms. Diana Greer, pianist at Corinth United Methodist Church, will offer her original composition during the opening of the prayer service.

SANGCHOD FIRE CEREMONY

Sangchod, meaning a ritual offering fire, is a Buddhist ceremony done as a peace offering for the spirits of earth, sky, and water, to request their assistance in our efforts to generate peace.

INTERFAITH SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES
ON RELIGIOUS RECONCILIATION & UNITY

BUDDHIST

“Who once was heedless... His evil-done deed is replaced with skillfulness: he brightens the world like the moon set free from a cloud.”

-DHAMMAPADA 172-173

CHRISTIAN

“Let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another.”

-GOSPEL, ROMANS 14:19

HINDU

“To what is One, sages give many a title.”

-RIG VEDA SAMHITA 1.164.46

JEWISH

“How good and pleasant it is when God’s people dwell together in unity.”

-TANAKH, PSALM 133:1

MUSLIM

“Should I not tell you what is better in degree than prayer, fasting and charity... Reconciling people, for grudges and disputes are the razor (that shaves faith).”

-HADITH OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD (SWA)

SIKH

“No one is a shareholder in this wealth of the Lord, and no one owns any of it. It has no boundaries or borders to be disputed.”

-GURU GRANTH SAHIB 853-9

PROGRAM FLOW

THE OPENING

ADHAN - **IMAM MICHAEL ABDULHAKIM**, MASJID BILAL

SHOFAR & PRAYER - **SARAH BECK-BERMAN**, CANTOR,
CONGREGATION BETH AHABAH *RECORDING

INSTRUMENTAL MELODY - **DIANA GREER**, PIANIST, CORINTH
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SANGCHOD - **GREG KELLEY**, LIGMINCHA RICHMOND, EKOJI
BUDDHIST SANGHA

THE OCCASION

REMARKS - **SHEORA HARRIS**, OMEGA RHO OMEGA CHAPTER
CHAPLAIN, ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC.

SPOKEN WORD & READING FROM "SACRED SYNERGY" WRITTEN BY
DORA MUHAMMAD, CONGREGATION ENGAGEMENT DIRECTOR,
VIRGINIA INTERFAITH CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY

PRAYERS

REV. DR. TERESA SMITH, PASTOR, CORINTH UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

TBD, SIKH GURDWARA OF RICHMOND

PANDIT B. RAJAGOPALAN, CHIEF PRIEST, SRI SAI NARAYANA

"HOLY, HOLY, HOLY" - SUNG BY **ASJA JONES**,
UPSILON OMEGA CHAPTER, ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY

TBD, ISLAMIC CENTER OF VIRGINIA

REV. JULIUS WHITE, PASTOR, COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

RABBI GARY CREDITOR, RABBI EMERITUS, TEMPLE BETH-EL

BENEDICTION

REMARKS - **SHERRY BASSFIELD TYLER**, OMEGA RHO OMEGA
CHAPTER VICE PRESIDENT, ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY

PRAYER - **MINISTER JESSICA CARTER**, HENRICO-GREATER RVA
CHAPTER LEADER, VIRGINIA INTERFAITH CENTER FOR PUBLIC
POLICY