

Saint John's Episcopal Church



A Time to Talk about Suicide

October 30, 2019

6:00 p.m.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

October 30, 2019 - 6:00 p.m.

Words of Welcome The Rev. Kathleen D. Walker

Opening Hymn 469 (*All stand*) *There's a wideness in God's mercy*

I. Lost

Meditation Melanie Pelc

Solo *Dido's lament* Henry Purcell

Emilie O'Connor, soprano

Silence

II. Valley

Meditation Mary Bowers

Anthem *Lacrymosa* Luigi Cherubini

Silence

III. Found

Meditation Dr. Jay Reeve

Voluntary *Andante ma adagio*, K. 191/186 W. A. Mozart

Payne Busé, bassoon

Silence

Litany of Lament

Leader: God, hear our prayer,

People: **And let our cry come to you.**

Leader: Merciful God, we come to you in sorrow.

Help us to grieve; let our tears flow; and look upon our broken hearts. God, hear our prayer,

People: **And let our cry come to you.**

Silence

Leader: We have lost loved ones. We have lost hope. We have lost our way. Consider our losses. God, hear our prayer,

People: **And let our cry come to you.**

Silence

Leader: Our faith has been shaken. We are haunted by memories and weighed down with guilt. We are sick with sadness, weak with despair. Help us know your presence. God, hear our prayer,
People: **And let our cry come to you.**

Silence

Leader: In our suffering, we turn away from those who suffer also. Our bonds have been strained, one with another. Show us your compassion and help us forgive others and feel their sorrows. God, hear our prayer,
People: **And let our cry come to you.**

Silence

Leader: Help us envision a future filled with promise, even if we cannot know what lies in store for us. Help us have confidence in your love as we take each new step. God, hear our prayer,
People: **And let our cry come to you.**

Silence

Leader: Lord of all mercies: abide with us when the darkness deepens and we suffer loss, pain, and grief. Help us to know and understand you are with us even when we cannot feel your presence. Let your saving help shine through the shadows as you hold your cross before our eyes, reminding us that you share our sufferings and have overcome death so that we might rise again with you. Let morning break upon our sorrowing hearts; abide with us in life and in death, Lord, so that we may live in your peace and rejoice in your love. **Amen.**

Closing Address

The Rev. Abigail W. Moon

Closing Hymn 482 (Standing)

Lord of all hopefulness

During this hymn, attendees may bring forward the rocks they received at the beginning of the service and place them on the table, letting go of some of the harshness and pain of suicide.

The Blessing

May God, our Creator, fill you with peace. **Amen.**

May Christ, our Savior, redeem all your sorrows. **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit, our Comforter, heal and restore you. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

All are invited to join in a light reception in Alfriend Hall after the service for conversation and community.

St. John's Episcopal Church

The Reverend David C. Killeen, *Rector*

The Reverend Abigail W. Moon, *Associate Rector*

The Reverend Kathleen D. Walker, *Associate Rector*

The Reverend C. Wallace Marsh, *Priest Associate*

The Reverend Deacon Joseph H. Bakker, *Deacon*

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