

For Immediate Release
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Women Led Interfaith Prayer Service on Fountain Square
in support of peace and unity in our community

People from all faiths and backgrounds are invited to come together on Wednesday, December 16, 12:30pm, on Fountain Square, for a women's interfaith prayer service in support of peace and unity in our community. American Jewish Committee (AJC), the Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati, and Christ Church Cathedral will host women leaders of various faiths as they join voices in condemning the recent onslaught of hatred and intolerance.

"Open communication between women and their faith communities is valuable for breaking down barriers and advancing tolerance," stated Sandy Kaltman, AJC Cincinnati vice-president. "We come together as mothers, sisters, daughters, and friends to demonstrate our profound commitment to promoting interfaith understanding and supporting pluralism in the United States and around the world."

Women leaders from Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Mormon, Hindu, Buddhist, Jain and Sikh faiths will represent their communities as they individually lead prayers in support of peace, harmony and tolerance. Men, women and families are encouraged to attend.

Shakila Ahmad, president of the Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati said, "History has proven that the adverse impact on women and children, due to the growth of intolerance and violence, dangerously impacts society as a whole. The critical role of women must include empowerment to lead our youth and our communities to find nonviolent ways of resolving our differences."

In light of the recent horrific crimes against humanity and the rising tide of intolerance, it is crucial to show our solidarity as communities of faith and send our thoughts and prayers to our brethren throughout Cincinnati, our country, and the world. It is our hope that we can work together towards ecumenical fellowship and understanding.

"As mothers, sisters, and friends, we call upon our fellow citizens to speak with only the mercy and compassion that is at the heart of our diverse faith communities, remarked Dean Gail Greenwell of Christ Church Cathedral. "We come together to remind ourselves and the nation that we are one. We are interconnected circles of humanity. Our ethical commitment is to all-American values such as pluralism, mutuality, religious freedom, and respect."

For more information, contact the AJC office at 513.621.4020, the Islamic Center at 513.755.3280 or Christ Church Cathedral at 513.621.1817.

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