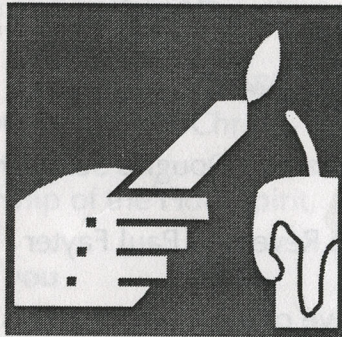


**ECUMENICAL**

# **VIGIL**

*for persons whose lives have been affected by*

**HIV / AIDS**



## **SERVICE OF LIGHT**

*with HEALING through the  
LAYING ON OF HANDS*

*November 28, 1999*

*Christ's Church Cathedral  
252 James Street North  
Hamilton*



**PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE**

The Right Reverend D. Ralph Spence

The Very Reverend Peter Wall

The Reverend Canon Bill Thomas

Jay Lefebvre

Jean Round

The Reverend Gerry Shantz

The Reverend Douglas Schweyer

The Reverend Paul Fayter

A Representative of the Hamilton Aids Network

**Musicians**

**The East Hamilton Chamber Ensemble**

Tanya Charles, Barbara Tessa, Lisa Siebert, Maya Gupta  
Director: Ilona Spleit

**The Rainbow Chorus**

Director: Robert Phillips

**Organist**

David Davis

**Ecumenical VIGIL**

**for persons whose lives have been**

**Affected by HIV / AIDS**

*All hymns can be found in the "Common Praise" hymn book.*

**PRELUDE MUSIC** music provided by

The Hamilton Chamber Ensemble

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN:**

**#430 Will You Come and Follow Me**

*Kelvingrove*

**GREETING**

**The Right Rev. D. Ralph Spence**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with you all.

**All: And also with you**

**SERVICE OF LIGHT**

**BIDDING AND WELCOME**

**-The Very Rev. Peter Wall**

Leader: AIDS is amongst us. It confronts us personally as a society and as a church. In one way or another, directly or indirectly, it reaches into every one of our communities and into each of our lives.

**All: O God of peace, who taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence**



**shall be our strength; by the might of your spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

Leader: God sent a pillar of fire to guide the Hebrew people during the night of their escape from slavery and their pilgrimage to the Promised Land.

**All: In the same way, God has sent Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, to be our light on the pilgrimage of life. We light these candles as a sign of Christ among us.**

Leader: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

**All: A light no darkness can extinguish.**  
*(Please light your taper and pass the light when the candle comes near)*

### A LITANY OF HOPE

*From the Resources for Healing in the Age of AIDS,  
AIDS Ministries Program of Connecticut, Inc. Used with permission*

**Leader: Jay Lefebvre**

Leader: God of grace, you nurture us with a love deeper than we know, and your will for us is healing and salvation;

**All: We praise and thank you, O God.**

Leader: God of love, you enter into our lives, our pain and our

brokenness, and you stretch out your healing hands to us wherever we are;

**All: We praise and thank you, O God.**

Leader: God of strength, you fill us with your presence and send us forth in love and healing among those we meet;

**All: We praise and thank you, O God.**

Leader: Touch and heal those bodies suffering from sickness, injury and disability, and make us whole again;

**All: Hear us, O God of life.**

Leader: Touch and heal our minds from darkness, confusion and doubt, and fill them with your light;

**All: Hear us, O God of life.**

Leader: Touch and heal our hearts burdened by anguish, despair and isolation, and set us free in love;

**All: Hear us, O God of life.**

Leader: Break the bonds of our imprisonment to fear, compulsion and addiction;

**All: Come with your healing power, O God.**

Leader: Give us liberty from old hurts and painful memories;

**All: Come with your healing power, O God.**

Leader: Fill us with peace in our grief from separation and loss;



**All:** Come with your healing power, O God.

Leader: Take our hands in dying, and bring us through death into your loving presence;

**All:** Come with your healing power, O God.

**Leader: The Reverend Paul Fayter**

Leader: Draw near to us, O God,

**All:** And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Leader: Be present in our sickness and pain,

**All:** And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Leader: Hear us when we cry to you,

**All:** And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Leader: Forgive us our transgressions,

**All:** And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Leader: We pray for the creation, the planets and stars, and the earth our home.

**All:** Help us to be committed and humble stewards.

Leader: We pray for the Church, and for all Bishops and Priests and all who serve in your Church; we pray for Elizabeth our Queen, and the leaders of all nations, for the Mayors and Councils of our communities;

**All:** May they govern with courage and be guided by compassionate strength.

Leader: We pray for the abiding presence and comfort of your Holy Spirit;

**All:** For it is by grace alone that we shall prosper.

Leader: We pray for courage to walk with those who are living with HIV;

**All:** Encourage our hearts and open our hands.

Leader: We pray for those who are afflicted with HIV and with any other grief or trouble;

**All:** Give us relief and quietness of spirit.

**Leader: The Reverend Gerry Shantz**

Leader: We pray for all HIV care-givers, hospital workers and researchers;

**All:** Be with them in their tasks, enliven their spirits and grant success in your time.

Leader: We pray for the families, friends, and loved ones of persons living with HIV;

**All:** Fill them with your healing and redemptive love.

Leader: Work through all who share in your ministry of healing, and renew us in compassion and strength;

**All:** Come with your healing power, O God.

Leader: Restore to wholeness all that has been broken by our sin;

**All:** Come with your healing power, O God.



Leader: We lift before you all who have died from HIV and AIDS, remembering especially:

*(Time is provided for names to be offered by members of the congregation, either silently or aloud; those who wish, are invited to bring their lit taper forward and place it with others in the container provided)*

Leader: Receive them more and more into your joyful presence. Rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, we entrust ourselves, and one another,

**All: And all our life to Christ our God.**

Leader: O God, in you all darkness is turned to light and all brokenness is made whole. Look with compassion on us and those for whom we pray, that we may be recreated in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**HYMN #575 Let Streams of Living Justice** *Thaxted*

#### **A PRAYER FOR LOVE AND PEACE**

*-The Rt. Rev. D. Ralph Spence*

Leader: Lord God, you have taught us that anything we do without love is worth nothing, for whoever lives without love is counted dead before you; Help us to recognize you now, help us through any bitterness and despair, help us accept each other, help us to remember that you care for us, and that in your will is our peace. Send your Holy Spirit, and pour into our

hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues; grant this for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

**The First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4** *(read by Jean Round)*

**HYMN: #635 Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song**

**The Gospel Reading: Matthew 11:25-30**

*(read by a Representative of the Hamilton Aids Network)*

**REFLECTION**

**The Dean**

**Meditation** *(performed by Tanya Charles)*

*Thäes*

#### **THE MINISTRY OF HEALING through THE LAYING ON OF HANDS**

**Leader: The Reverend Canon Bill Thomas**

*(The ministers of healing are drawn from several Christian denominations.)*

Leader: All those who seek the ministry of healing through the laying on of hands, either for themselves or for another, are invited to come forward and kneel or stand as you wish.

*During the Laying on of Hands the Rainbow Choir will sing:*



## Amazing Grace

Words, John Newton, arranged by Ron Small

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: As our Saviour Christ has taught us, let us pray:

**All: Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the Kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## THE PEACE *(Please stand)*

Leader: The peace of God be with you all

**All: In God's justice is our peace.**

Leader: Brothers and sisters, Christ calls us to live in unity,

**All: We seek to live in the Spirit of Christ.**

Leader: Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

*(Members of the community may greet one another.)*

## THE OFFERTORY

Over The Rainbow

*Arranged by Hugo Frey, music by  
Harold Arlen, lyrics by E. Y. Harburg*

## PRAYERS AT MEMORIAL STATION

**Leaders: The Rt. Rev. D. Ralph Spence & The Very Rev. Peter A. Wall**

*(Please stand)*

Leader: God of the living and the dead: pour out the abundance of your grace upon us and show us the comfort of those who have gone before. Strengthened in this communion of love and aided by their prayers, may we continue steadfast and faithful in our time on earth; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you and the holy spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Leader: Eternal Creator, source of life and light whose life extends to all people, all creatures, all things; grant us the reverence for life which becomes those who believe in you. Help us to recognize you in all we meet, and in that recognition reach out in love — in trust — and faith after the example of your son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Close Thine Eyes

*Arranged by Leslie Smith, music by  
Evan Rees-Davis, words attributed to  
King Charles 1*



**CLOSING BLESSING**

*-The Rt. Rev. D. Ralph Spence*

**CLOSING HYMN: #572 Let There Be Light**

*Concord*

The members of the Diocese of Niagara AIDS working Group, who have sponsored this Ecumenical Service, extend many thanks to The Very Reverend Peter Wall and the parishioners of Christ's Church Cathedral for their hospitality and assistance on this occasion.

We offer a particular thanks to Jean Round and the Vigil Committee who have organized the service. We are grateful to to the gay community for their efforts in publicity and fundraising for this event.

We thank you, and all the people who have joined us this afternoon particularly the members of the Rainbow Chorus and the East Hamilton Chamber Ensemble.

We hope that you will stay for refreshments in Myler Hall following the service.









