In Person Liturgy and Socialwith Live Broadcast on Zoom
Liturgy for the 54th DignityNY Anniversary & Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time,
October 25, 2026

Everyone is welcome to join us in person at St. John's or on Zoom
06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Zoom meeting opens at 6:00 PM.

You can always find the Zoom link for our liturgy on our website at www.dignityny.org. In the liturgy booklet, the link appears near the end of the announcements and just before the Eucharistic Prayers.

When you join us on Zoom, you will first enter a waiting room. We encourage you to come a few minutes early so that you are ready as liturgy begins. For everyone's safety, please be sure that your name is clearly entered so our hosts can recognize you and welcome you into the gathering.

As you arrive, we invite you to share your name, the pronouns you use, and where you are joining from in the chat. In this simple way, we make visible the many places and people who together form the Body of Christ.

If you would like, you may print or save the liturgy booklet to use again in future weeks. Each Eucharistic Prayer is marked at the top of its page (Community, #2, 7, 8, 9, or 10), and the page that follows will let you know which prayer we are using for that week's liturgy.

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Dignity/New York gathers as a faith community of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, and Straight Catholics, along with our friends and companions on the journey. We celebrate the goodness of every person and welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. All are invited to share fully in our liturgies, and all are welcome to the table of Christ to receive the Body and Blood at Communion. At this time, our community is led by lay presiders whom we have called forth to guide us in prayer.

As a progressive and inclusive Catholic community, we are mindful in the language we use. For example, when we pray the Greatest Prayer—what many may know as the Lord's Prayer—we use the words "All-loving God" rather than "Our Father." Many times, the hymnals or printed materials may still contain outdated language, and we encourage you to use inclusive words that reflect your faith and dignity.

In the same spirit of inclusivity, our community has also chosen to continue using the language of the Mass as it was prayed before the 2011 revision of the Roman Missal.

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Presiders: **Rev. Ann Penick & Leanne Finamore**
First Reading: **Exodus 22:20-26**
Second Reading: **1 Thessalonians 1:5-10**
Gospel: **Matthew 22:34-40**
Eucharistic Prayer: **# included**

ORDER OF LITURGY

WELCOME:

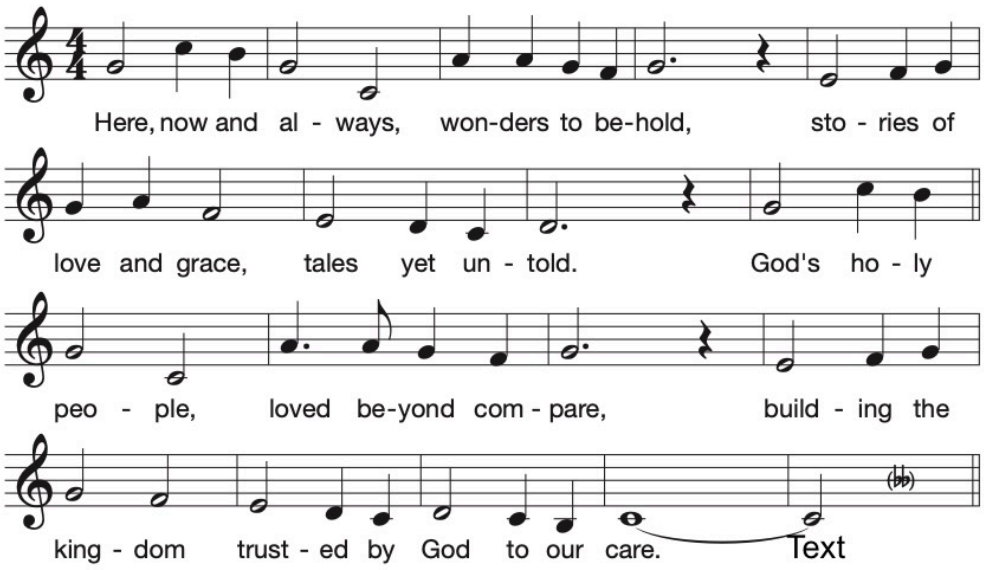
GATHERING SONG: **Here Now Always**

HERE, NOW AND ALWAYS

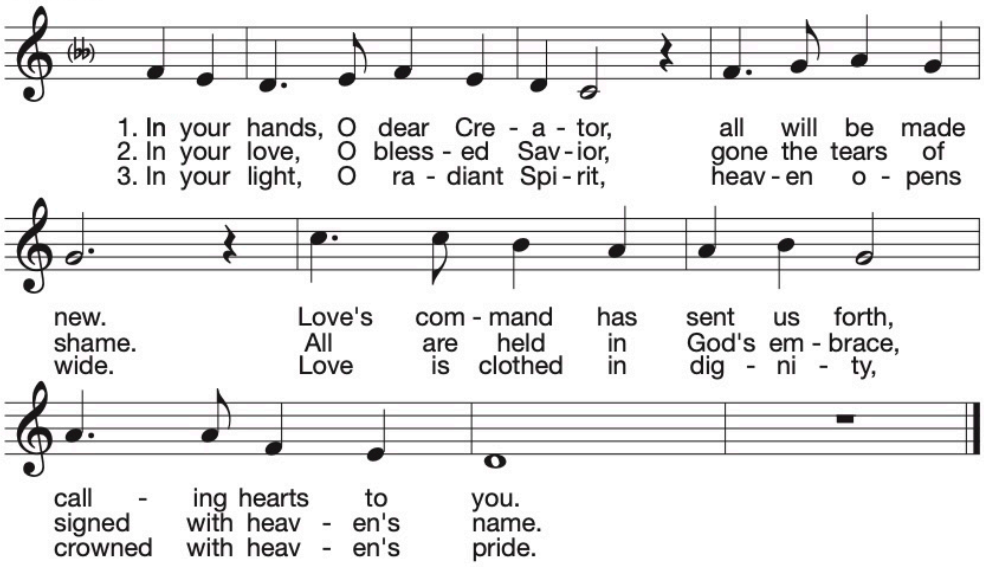
Commissioned by DignityUSA for 2025 Conference

Dan Schutte

REFRAIN



VERSES



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GREETING:

PENITENTIAL RITE:

OPENING PRAYER:

FIRST READING:

RESPONSORIAL: Psalm 16: You Will Show Me the Path of Life **GC 24**

You will show me the path of life, you, my hope and my shelter;
In your presence is endless joy, at your side is my home forever.

1. Faithful God, I look to you, you alone my life and fortune,
never shall I look to other gods, you shall be my one hope.

You will show me...

2. From of old you are my heritage, you my wisdom and my safety,
through the night you speak within my heart, silently you teach me.

You will show me...

3. So my heart shall sing for joy, in your arms I rest securely,
you will not abandon me to death, you shall not desert me.

You will show me…

Text: Psalm 16:1-2, 6-8, 9-10; Marty Haugen, © 1988, GIA Publications, Inc.

SECOND READING:

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia **GC198**

HOMILY/REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF COMMUNITY: *R/: Guide us, O God.*

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS:

PREPARATION SONG: Where Charity and Love Prevail **GC 625**

Where charity and love prevail,
there God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ's love,
by love are we thus bound.

With grateful joy and holy fear
God's charity we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and soul
now love him in return.

Forgive we now each other's faults
as we our faults confess;
And let us love each other well
in Christian holiness.

Let strife among us be unknown,
let all contention cease;
Be God's the glory that we seek,
be ours His holy peace.

Let us recall that in our midst
dwells God's begotten One;
As members of God's body joined,
we are in God made one.

No race or creed can love exclude,
if honored be God's name;
Our family embraces all
whose God is the same.

Text: *Ubi Caritas;* trans. By Omer Westendorf, b. 1916
Tune: CHRISTIAN LOVE, CM; Paul Benoit, OSB, 1893-1979
Copyright 1961, 1962, World Library Publications, INC.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER: (adapted from RCWP-Eastern Region)

Presider: Blessed are You, O God! All Your works echo Your praise. You ask us to work with you in caring for Your creation. Therefore, we raise our voices and sing to Your glory with all the angels and saints:

ALL: *Preface Acclamation:* Sanctus **GC 201**

Presider: Remember us gathered here, O God, Your people who offer You these gifts. In union with Your whole Church, we honor Mary, the mother of Jesus. We honor Joseph, her husband, and all the saints and all holy people who join in the dance of love and joy in Your eternal presence.

Epiclesis

Presider: Bless and receive our offering, O God. Pour out Your Spirit upon these gifts so that they may become for us + the Body and Blood of Jesus the Christ.

Words of Institution

All: On the night before he met with death, Jesus came to table with the women and men he loved. He took bread and praised you, God of all creation. He blessed and broke the bread and gave it to his disciples saying: Take this, all of you, and east it: This is my body which will be given up for you.

All: When supper was ended, he poured a final cup of wine, and blessed You, God of all Creation. He passed the cup among his disciples and said: “Take this, all of you, and drink from it. This is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.

Presider: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Memorial Acclamation: **GC 203**

Presider: We celebrate the memory of Jesus’ death and resurrection, and bring You the gift You have given us, the possibility of reconciliation, justice, and peace. Take away all that divides us, and help us to be accepting of all.

Presider: Rejoicing in the Holy Spirit, your whole church offers thanks and praise, together with Leo, our pope, Ronald* and Marilyn* our bishops, all our bishops and clergy, both men and women. And with all those who are working for a more just world.

All: Be the Source of Everlasting Compassion those who have gone before us, especially those for whom we now pray (silence). Remember all those who have died in the Peace of Christ, and all those whose faith is known to You alone. Gather all the People of God into Your eternal peace, with Mary, the mother of Jesus, and with all the saints. Then, at last, will all creation be one, and all divisions healed. And we shall join in singing Your praise through Jesus Christ, Eternal Word.

Ronald is the archbishop of New York and Marilyn is the bishop of RCWP - Eastern Region.

Eucharistic Doxology And Admin. **GC 168**

THE GREATEST PRAYER: **GC 183**

(please begin “Our Ever-loving God, who art in Heaven…”)

THE PEACE:

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD: ***Lamb of God*** **GC 207**

COMMUNION: *Everyone is welcome to receive the Body and Blood of Christ.*

COMMUNION HYMN: Pilgrim - John Dempsey Choir Meditation

BLESSING NEW STEERING COMMITTEE

O God of all that lives and breathes, you have given us here the body and blood of your Anointed One as a source of life-giving power.

May we use it to uplift the people around us and to build
together a world of compassion and reconciliation.
As we celebrate 54 years of ministry in New York,
bless our incoming Steering Committee.

Grant them wisdom to discern, courage to lead,
and compassion to serve our LGBT community.

May their leadership affirm our dignity, lift up our voices, and help build a Church where all are welcomed and loved.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF THE GORMLEY-SPOKES AWARD:

BLESSING:

SONG OF SENDING FORTH: City of God **GC 678**

1. Awake from your slumber! Arise from your sleep!
   A new day is dawning for all those who weep.
   The people in darkness have seen a great light.
   The God of our longing has conquered the night.

Let us build the city of God. May our tears be turned into dancing!
For our God, our light and our love, has turned the night into day!

2. We are sons of the morning; we are daughters of day.
   the One who has loved us has brightened our way.
   Our God of all kindness has called us to be
   a light for his people to set their hearts free.

Let us build the city of God…

3. God is light; in him there is no darkness.
   Let us walk in his light, his children, one and all.
   O comfort my people; make gentle your words.
   Proclaim to my city the day of her birth.

Let us build the city of God...

4. O city of gladness, now lift up your voice.
   Proclaim the good tidings that all may rejoice!

Let us build the city of God…

Text: Dan Schutte, b.1947, Š 1981, Daniel L. Schutte and New Dawn Music. Published by OCP Publications.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (found at the end of this document)

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Announcements and Acknowledgements

We encourage those who are Zoom to stay on after the closing song to chat. Those at St. John's, please bring hymn book and any extra papers to the sacristy please exit through the common room.

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The results of the Steering Committee election: Chris Alberti, Michael Lacarrubba, Danny Larkin, Lewis Speaks-Tanner, and Daniel Velasquez have all been elected The Steering Committee will need to make a determination who will serve the one year term. Last year, we only elected four people when there are five openings.

We thank Ed Fitzgerald, Ed Koenig, and Ben Speaks-Tanner for their service as the elections committee.
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Dignity/New York Celebrates 54 Years

Dignity/New York will celebrate its 54th Anniversary Liturgy on Sunday, October 25, 2026. We are pleased to welcome Rev. Ann Penick as our guest presider and homilist. Ann is a Roman Catholic Woman Priest and has served as one of the presiders for Dignity Washington and Northern Virginia Dignity since 2017. She was ordained a priest with Roman Catholic Womenpriests in 2011 and has also served on the DignityUSA Board. In addition to her ministry with Dignity, Ann has pastored a faith community of young families in the Washington, DC, area since 2013.

Leanne will join Ann as co-**presider** for this special anniversary liturgy.

This year's Gormley-Spokes Award will be presented to Meli Barber, President of DignityUSA. Meli has been a leader in DignityUSA for many years, first serving as Vice President and then as President. A Catholic Worker, social worker, and theologian, she has a strong background in Catholic ministry and social justice. She previously served as a director of religious education and youth ministry and has worked as a social worker. Meli holds a master's degree in theology from the University of Notre Dame and a Master of Social Work from Indiana University.

As President of DignityUSA, Meli has represented LGBTQIA+ Catholics in conversations within the Catholic Church and in the broader LGBTQIA+ community. She has been an active voice for the dignity, equality, and full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ people in the Church. In 2025, she led a DignityUSA delegation participating in the first Vatican-recognized Jubilee Pilgrimage for LGBTQ+ people in Rome, an event she described as historic for LGBTQ+ Catholics.

Meli has also spoken publicly on behalf of LGBTQIA+ Catholics during important moments in the life of the Church. Following the death of Pope Francis in 2025, she recognized his efforts to make LGBTQ+ people more visible within the Church while also acknowledging the continuing work needed for genuine inclusion. More recently, as DignityUSA President, she has helped guide the organization through the transition of its longtime Executive Director, Marianne Duddy-Burke.

The Gormley-Spokes Award recognizes Meli's years of leadership and her contribution to the continuing work of DignityUSA and the wider LGBTQIA+ Catholic community. We look forward to presenting the award to her as part of our 54th Anniversary celebration.

Following the anniversary liturgy, we will gather for a celebratory meal featuring **a variety of empanadas and salads, along with beverages**. We hope you will join us as we celebrate 54 years of Dignity/New York, give thanks for our community, and honor the people who continue to strengthen LGBTQIA+ Catholic ministry and spirituality.

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Prayers of the Community | Petitions | Prayers of the Faithful
On **November 15, 2026**, we will renew our list of names used during the **Prayers of the Community**. If you would like a name to remain on the list, it will need to be submitted again. If there is someone you would like to add to the list, please email Lewis at **prayers@dignityny.org**.

Going forward, names will remain on the list for **two months** and will then expire. Please remember to resubmit names as needed. The next renewal of the list will be **January 17, 2027**.

For the **Prayers of the Community**, we also encourage everyone to be mindful of the number of individual petitions offered during the liturgy. When possible, please limit your individually spoken petitions to **one per**

person per week. This allows more members of our community to have an opportunity to offer a petition and helps us keep this part of our liturgy prayerful and inclusive.

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Help Preserve Our History

As DignityNY prepares to celebrate our **55th anniversary in 2027**, we are exploring a project to document our history. A book was compiled for our 25th anniversary, and now we would like to record **years 26 through 55**.

Our archival materials include many years of paper files that need to be reviewed before our archives are transferred to **The Center**. With changing technology, this new history might take the form of a book, digital collection, or another format.

Interested in helping preserve and share DignityNY's history? **See a Steering Committee member.**

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Donate via Zelle

You can now donate to **Dignity/New York** through **Zelle**.
Recipient Name: Dignity New York Inc. **Zelle Email:** treasurer@dignityny.org

Please include **your name and the purpose of your donation** in the memo.
First time? Consider sending a **$1.00 test payment** first to make sure everything is set up correctly.

Thank you for supporting Dignity New York!

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Call to Action 50th Anniversary Conference

DignityUSA members are invited to join our friends at Call To Action for their 50th Anniversary Conference, *Forged in the Fire: We're Still Here*, taking place **November 6–8, 2026,** in Linthicum Heights, Maryland. The conference will feature keynote speakers Sr. Simone Campbell and Dr. Craig Ford, along with inspiring workshops, prayer, inclusive liturgies, and opportunities to connect with Catholics committed to justice, reform, and inclusion. DignityUSA members receive **15% off registration** by using the discount code **CTAPartners** when registering. Register Now

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2027 Conference Logo Unveiled and Preregistration Ends November 15

Let us be light for the world / Seamos luz para el mundo.

Logo created by Daniel Velasquez of Dignity New York.



Preregistration will close November 15th. With a deposit of $100.00, you can secure your spot and get a discount off the registration cost.
Our conference will be held July 2-4, 2027 at Embassy Suites in Dublin, Ohio, just outside of Columbus. We are excited to be returning to this location, and to a state where we have three chapters of dedicated Dignity members ready to welcome us!

Preregistration is valid through April 30, 2027. We give full refunds through April 15, 2027. After that, a $50 service fee applies. We look forward to seeing you in Dublin! Preregister Now

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Check Out Francis Kercher's New *Who We Are* Zine

Check out Artist-in-Residence Francis Kercher's new zine about DignityUSA's mission. We are so grateful to share Francis' talents and our mission with the world.

A print version will be available soon at upcoming conferences and events. Read

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Annual Membership Meeting-November 21

Join us on **November 21** at **2pm ET/11am PT** for our annual Membership Meeting. The DignityUSA Membership Meeting provides an opportunity for members and friends of DignityUSA to hear a report on the programmatic and fiscal accomplishments and challenges of FY 2026 (Oct. 1, 2025 - Sept. 30, 2026). Members also have the opportunity to ask questions of Board members and to share ideas. **Registration is required.** **Click here to register onlline**

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Catholics in the South **Interest Group**

Sign up for our mailing list to stay connected with Catholics who are from or currently living in the south. You'll receive updates about our potential, developing affinity group and upcoming events for folks in or from the region. We'll also be sending out a brief survey in a few weeks to hear your thoughts on the topics you'd like to explore and the kinds of gatherings you'd like to see. Sign up here

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Interested in joining us for upcoming Transgender Caucus meetings and events? Subscribe to the Transgender Caucus mailing list today! ***Subscribe Now***

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More from DignityUSA

There's more to read in this week's **DignityUSA Dateline!** Not receiving *Dateline* by email? **Sign up on the DignityUSA website** to receive future issues.

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Visit the **DignityNY YouTube page** to watch our **Sunday Gospel readings and homilies**. Catch up on a Sunday you missed or revisit a homily that spoke to you.

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Join the Choir!

The Choir welcomes new members! If you enjoy singing and would like to participate in our liturgies, speak with our Choir Director, **Norine**.

Auditions and choir practice are held in the choir loft at St. John's **one hour before liturgy**.

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Join the Liturgy Committee

The **Liturgy Committee** meets on the **second Monday of each month (in November, the meeting will be on the 3rd Monday) at 7:30 PM on Zoom** (Meeting ID: **819 2042 4656**; Passcode: **613538**) for about 1 to 1½ hours. **New members are welcome!**

The committee plans weekly and special liturgies, prepares the **Presider Book and worship materials**, and helps coordinate liturgies behind the scenes. **No previous liturgy experience is necessary**—training and resources are provided. Interested? **See Lewis.**

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Steering Committee

The **Steering Committee** normally meets on the **second Tuesday of each month via Zoom** (Meeting ID: **857 2315 4226**; Passcode: **697371**). **Anyone is welcome to participate or observe.**

Current Steering Committee Members:
Terms ending October 31, 2026: **Chris Alberti, Danny Larkin, and Lewis Speaks-Tanner**
Terms ending October 31, 2027: **Robert Brande, Nick Cimato, James Osbourn, and Jeff Stone**

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Come to the Table: Catholic Worship for All - 3rd Sunday of the month • 10:30 am to 12 Noon. For more information, email Patricia Russell at ComeToTheTable@DignityNY.org

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DefendersUSA Leather & Kink caucus, meets the third Tuesday of each month via Zoom at 8:30 pm ET. Talk to Lewis Speaks-Tanner for more details.

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The Trevor Project
Crisis intervention and mental health services for those ages 13-24 http://www.thetrevorproject.org/
Crisis hotline: 866-488-7386 (for those ages 13-24)

Trans Lifeline (US) 877 565-8860 www.translifeline.org

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The Dignity/New York community enjoys and values your company in the celebration of our liturgy each week. Donations to Dignity/New York can be made by using the "Donate Now" located on our website or use the link below: https://dignityusa.app.neoncrm.com/forms/donate
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We encourage to become a member of DignityUSA (and Dignity/New York). By joining, you increase DignityUSA's voice. https://dignityusa.app.neoncrm.com/forms/membership
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For more information about DignityNY or to view our **calendar,** visit our website **home page** at https://dignityny.org/
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To join our electronic announcements (e-Bulletin) list, send an e mail dny@dignityny.org, or use the link on our home page.
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To submit items for consideration for distribution via our electronic announcements postings, send them to dignitynewyork@gmail.com
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Friend us on **Facebook:** Dignity New York ; **Threads:** dignity_ny; **Instagram:** dignity_ny

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DIGNITY/NEW YORK IS A SAFE SPACE. Feel free to greet those around you and to social, remembering to respect every person's comfort level. If anyone breaches your comfort level, please let a member of the Steering Committee know..

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PHOTOS AND VIDEOS AT LITURGY. In keeping with our Safe Space policy, Dignity/New York is a place where privacy is respected. Our policy of many years is that the taking of photos or videos during liturgy or the social is not allowed without permission being given in advance by the Steering Committee. In these cases, the community will be notified in advance, and will be told where and when cameras will and will not be allowed to shoot. Personal or small group photos should be taken or posted to social media only with the permission of each person involved.

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The link to join the meeting is
https://zoom.us/j/231599312?pwd=bHJMT1NZOEtERE1oOTQwdS84NU45Zz09

You will be put into a waiting room. Please join before liturgy begins so that you can participate.

For those joining by phone or through an app, you will need meeting ID and password:
Meeting ID: 231 599 312 **Password: 333 333**
One tap mobile
+16468769923,,231599312# US (New York)
+13126266799,,231599312# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location
+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 231 599 312 **Password: 333 333**
Find your local number: https://zoom.us/u/abm1zHjEP