



Full Program Outline:

“Extending Our Embrace”

- 2 Opening Slides as people are coming in with *Music*

1: 00 **Welcome and General Introduction:** Fr. Prakash

Land Acknowledgment (Lisa Malcolm)

Opening Prayer –

- Sound of the Bell
- Quote: Thich Nhat Hanh
- Join us in an Opening Prayer adapted from Joyce Rupp’s “The Sound of the Bell,” Prayers of Boundless Compassion, p. 82-83.

Sound of the Bell: Listen to the resonance of the bell’s sound.

Kathy: Place your hand over your heart.

Feel the steady rhythm of your heart.

Your love is energy.

Like the sound of the bell, it carries unseen vibration out into the world.

Let the love within you grow fuller,

And intentionally send this love out into the larger world.

Sound of the Bell Again:

Lisa: Let the resonance of the bell be a prayer of hope.

Let this hope ring out, resonating in the hearts of all who long to hear it.

Place your trust in the transforming of love's widening embrace to touch a heart, to change a life, to reach the furthest regions where suffering exists

1:10 **Introduction to the Theme:** Kathy Murtha

This year's WIHW theme of "Extending Our Embrace" is especially powerful. I believe that the fundamental origin and on-going momentum of all our religious traditions lies precisely in the call to extend our embrace. Examples: Sikh Langar, Buddhist's Bodhisattva, Jesus' Healing Touch, Islam's origin in moving beyond a tribal identity and loyalty to a large sense of community and the Indigenous' peoples gift of extending their embrace to include the earth itself and all its creatures.

1:13 **Dance Group** - An Artistic Express of the theme to the Music of "People Over the World." Sung by the Brotherhood of Man and written by Tony Hills. Performed by St. Marguerite d'Youville Dance Class, Dufferin Peel

1: 17 **Living with Outstretched Hands**

- Catholic Example: Dorothy Day (Kathy Murtha)

—Moment of Reflection: Take a moment of reflection and recall a person in your life or your community who has lived with "Arms Outstretched."

- **Sikh Example:** An Art Presentation by **Anjali Kaur** on the saintly Bhai Kanhaiya who brought comfort and water to wounded and dying soldiers on both sides of the battlefield. *Speaker and Video* (3 minutes)

- **Avani Kaur Sidhu** – A 5-year old Sikh girl explains what the Golden Rule means to her. (*video*)

1: 25 **1. Speaker: Nick Gunz and Alison Jenkins**

Reaching out to a 9-year-old girl whose diary has remained hidden in an Etobicoke home attic for nearly 40 years.

- Creative Expression: **Alison Jenkins'** Musical Composition "I Was Here." 2:33 min

- Creative Expression: **Madonna High School** Photography Class, Toronto Catholic School Board

1: 36 **2. Speaker: Cheryl Perera** Founder of One Child

- Creative Expression: **Zoha Sojudi** Spoken Word Poetry. Grade 12 Student at As-Sadiq Islamic School.

1:50 **3. Speaker: Tariq Syed** Founder of Good Neighbour Project. Listed by Toronto Life as a Pandemic Hero.

- Creative Expression: Calligraphy: **Sinan Samil Ilhan** (IDI) Video Clip

- Creative Expression: **Sacred Heart** Students Art 2min

- Vanessa Curran – Third panel Picture in PP

- Jewella Bernadette Macabenta MP4 video

2:00 **4. Speaker: Dr. Bhante Saranapala** Founder of Canada: A Mindful and Kind Nation. Known as “The Urban Monk.”

- Creative Expression: **Hyla Beauvais** (Judaism, oral recital) Video Clip 1m

- Creative Expression: **Diane Montreuil**, Metis Artist 3 *minutes*

2: 15 **Closing:**

- **Quote from Albert Einstein** “Widening Our Circles of Compassion.” (Daniel Niamat)

At the age of 70, after a lifetime of deep reflection, the great scientist, Albert Einstein wrote:

“Although we human beings are part of a whole, the “Universe,” we experience ourselves as something separated from the rest – a kind of optical delusion of our consciousness. This delusion is a prison for us, restricting us to our personal desires and affection for a few persons nearest us. Our task must be to free our-selves from this prison by **widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty.**”

–**African Concept of Ubuntu and Story** – (Susan HooKong-Taylor)

An American anthropologist studying the habits and customs of an African tribe found himself surrounded by children every day. So he decided to play a little game with

them. He managed to get candies from the nearest town, and put it all in a decorated basket at the foot of a tree. Then he called the children and suggested they play a game. When the anthropologist said “Now!”, the children had to run to the tree and the first one to get there could have ALL the candies to himself/herself. So the children all eagerly lined up waiting for the signal. When the anthropologist said “Now!” all the children reached out and grabbed each other’s hand and together they ran towards the tree. They all arrived at the same time, divided up the candies, sat down and happily munched away. The anthropologist was perplexed and wondered what was wrong with them. He asked them why they had all run together, when any one of them could have had the candies all to themselves. The children responded: “Ubuntu!” How could anyone of us be happy if all the others were sad?”

- **Slide of Pope Embracing** with a quote from *Fratelli Tutti*: “We find that our hearts expand as we step out of ourselves and embrace others.”

2:22 **Closing Ritual:** Passing of the Candle through the zoom boxes as committee members Pray “Take My Light and My Heart.” (soft instrumental music in the background.) *Prayer Adapted from Joyce Rupp’s “To The Far Corners, Prayers of Boundless Compassion, pp48-49 and LCWR/UISG Online Prayer Service, July 23, 2020.)*

(Michael Caccamo introduces and then the video)

Prayer: I turn to you, Great Love, who keeps going to the most forgotten corners of the world, and can’t rest while there is suffering and tears. I pray:

1. Take my light and my heart to the people everywhere whose lives have been destroyed by COVID-19. We pray that they may find comfort and strength in the extended embrace of others.
2. Take my light and my heart to Caregivers of every kind, throughout our world, who labor with dignity and love behind closed doors and struggle to make ends met. Theirs is the work that makes all other work possible.
3. Take my light and my heart to the ones whose jobs are lost, who have no savings and fear the future.
4. Take my light and my heart to each person who, at this very moment is being trafficked for sex, labor, and any form of domination or enslavement that obliterates self-worth and erases freedom.

5. Take my light and my heart to the children all over the world whose family life, health, access to food, shelter, education and security has been disrupted by COVID-19.

6 Take my light and my heart to the elderly who are alone and confined to their rooms. We pray for their safety and well-being.

7. Take my light and my heart to all those who are mourning the death of a loved one. May they find comfort and strength in the outreach of others.

8. Take my light and my heart to all the victims of domestic violence, on lockdown with their abusers, the homeless and the refugees.

9. Take my light and my heart to all those who continue to wait. To wait for a diagnosis, for healing, for employment, for news about someone they love. May they wait in hope.

End: Sound of the Bell

Closing Question & Follow-Up: How could you extend your embrace in this moment in time? Inform attendees that they will be receiving information regarding possible follow up actions.

(Michael Caccamo)

Closing Remarks and Thank You – Fr. Prakash

2:28 **Go Light Your World** & Acknowledgment slides

Susan performs first verse as full screen and then she goes to Small screen with acknowledgment/credit slides (as she continues playing to the end of the slides).

- Thank You slide with image from the poster.