



THE EPISCOPAL

CHURCH OF ST. PAUL

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October 2, 2017

"A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more." -Jeremiah 31:15 NIV

Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's,

Once again the voice of mourning and great weeping is heard in our land, as details of the tragic shooting in Las Vegas, NV come to light. Our hearts, like the heart of God, are broken as we try to make sense of the senseless. There are no words that can fully capture the tragic nature of these events! Over 50 people have lost their lives, hundreds have been injured and families once again live with uncertainty, grief and the pain of loss.

We have danced this dance too many times before; we have rehearsed the steps, the rhythms, the movements. And yet in the midst of this continued dance of gun violence we are called to seek a different way, to find a new tune by which to dance. We are called to follow the steps of the Jesus Christ, the Lord of the Dance.

In following the paths of peace and looking to Christ the pattern of our faith we know that God was present with those who lost their lives and with those who were injured. We know that individually we can do little but collectively we can change the world!

In the spirit of hope I would like to invite you to join in vigil and prayer with the other churches here in Brighton on **Thursday, October 5, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. @ St. Paul's Church**. Together we will pray that Rachel's weeping may be turned in to song and our prayers may be transformed in to action.

Pray for the victims of violence. Pray the families affected. Pray for our leaders. Pray for our nation. Act to make a difference.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Deon K. Johnson, Rector

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