

## LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

MCC Christ the Liberator

Sunday, June 19, 2016

*Response: We remember.*

### **WHITE CANDLE**

We light this candle to remember all of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer, genderqueer, and gender-nonconforming people who have committed suicide because of bullying, hatred, homophobia, and ignorance. To which we say... (R).

### **RED CANDLE**

We light this candle to remember the Native American Two-Spirit people who were slaughtered by the European colonists because of gender non-conformity. To which we say... (R).

### **ORANGE CANDLE**

We light this candle to remember the male and female witches, gay men and lesbians, burned during the Middle Ages because of ignorance of who they were and what they believed. To which we say... (R).

### **YELLOW CANDLE**

We light this candle to remember the lesbians and gay men put to death in Europe by the Third Reich. To which we say... (R).

### **GREEN CANDLE**

We light this candle to remember the 32 people who were killed by arson at the Upstairs Lounge in New Orleans in 1973 as they attended a worship service at Metropolitan Community Church. To which we say... (R).

### **BLUE CANDLE**

We light this candle to remember the 49 people who were murdered by gunfire at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando last weekend, and we recognize that this act of homohatred occurred on Latin Night. To which we say... (R).

**PURPLE CANDLE**

We light this candle to remember all of the transwomen and transmen, many of them people of color, who have been tortured, raped, and killed for simply trying to live their lives in truth and dignity. To which we say... (R).

**WHITE CANDLE**

We light this candle to remember heroes and sheroes who have given their lives for the cause of liberation—Harvey Milk and George Moscone, who were assassinated in San Francisco in 1978; MCC pastors Virgil Scott and Ed Sheriff, who were murdered in Stockton and Sacramento, California, in the 1980s; Audre Lorde and the other lesbians who have died of cancer in the midst of unequal medical treatment; all of those who died from AIDS prematurely because of governmental inactivity that amounted to genocide. To which we say... (R).

And now we invite you, as you feel comfortable, to light a candle for someone you would like to remember. To which we say... (R).