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*Homeless Persons Memorial Service*  
*December 16, 2022*

**Music playing from 4:00 ~ 4:30, as people gather & are seated**

**Worship music:** John & James

**Prelude:** John & James (Unitarian Universalist Church of St. Pete)

**Opening song** by bagpiper Gemma Brigs ("Abide With Me"?)

**Intro/welcome/invocation** (5 minutes) : Pastor Sam Picard (Missio Dei community)

**Proclamation** (5 minutes): Mayor Ken Welch (Mayor City of St. Petersburg Florida)

**Reflections** (3 minutes): Rev. Ben Atherton-Zeman (Unitarian Universalist Church of St. Pete)

**Speaker** (3 minutes): Monika Alesnik, PhD (Chief Executive Officer, Homeless Leadership Alliance)

**Reading of the Names Ritual** (20-30 minutes):

**Introduction:** Sam

explains logistics of Name Reading ritual and dismissal process

(following bagpiper in procession)

introduces eulogy speaker

**Eulogy** Fr. Omar Reyes (St. Alban's Episcopal church)

**READER 1:** Rev. Bob Murphy ( **Unitarian Universalist** Community Minister )

Holy God, creator of all that is, we pray for peace, justice and reconciliation throughout the world; for the honoring of human rights, for the relief of the oppressed; for those who are in need;

READER 2: Shelli Muncy (Saint Teresa of Calcutta Community)

We pray for the sick, sorrowful and bereaved; for all those who bring comfort, care, and healing.

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**READER 2:**

We pray for all who live in the shadow of death, and for all who offer dignity and comfort to those who are dying.

READER 1:

And tonight. we pray for and remember those known to us, those known to God alone, who died this past year because they were homeless. With grateful hearts we remember them now.

READER 2

Brian Abear, Timothy Adams, Kathryn Anderson, David Andruskiewicz, Martin Anthony, Esma Avdagic, Troy Beatham, Kenneth Bedwell, Robert Bernhard, Irvin Binder, Eric Bjornberg, Raymond Blaine, Lisa Born

Jon <Bell toll> light candle (Eric Peters)

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READER 1:

In the beginning of the year until it ends, we remember them.

READER 2

Daryle Burch, Jeffery Broemmelsick, Deborah Bryant, Kevin Capron, Lisa Chereck, Ralph Cooper, Tina Corrie, David Dean, Barbara Delaney, James Dill, Kathleen Drake, Terell Dunn, Mikal Muhammad Elijah

<Bell toll> light candle

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READER 1:

We remember them when we are weary and in need of strength.

READER 2:

Lisa Fasciana, Karen Fernandez, Jason Foster, Deborah Franco, Douglas Funfgeld, John Gaffney, Mark Goldstein, Duane Guyse, Tina Corrie, Harry Hamilton, Dorothea Harper, Dennis Harvey, William Huff

<Bell toll> light candle

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READER 1:

We remember them when we are lost or sick at heart.

READER 2

Dorothy Hulse, Charles Hurn, Raymond James, Leroy Johnson, Ashlee Jones, Daniel Jones, Laura Koerkel, John LaForest, Johnny Lakin, Greg Lawrence, Dale Lee, James Lee, Steven Long

<Bell toll> light candle

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READER 1:

We remember them in the joyous moments we long to share.

READER 2:

Misty Maddox, Edward Martin, Andrew Mayton, Timothy McCorkle, James McDonald, Michael McGuane, Edward Merkt, Patricia Mitchell, Robin Molnar, Timothy Moore, David Morgan, Jeffery Morgan, Terry Nut Jose Yacon Ordonez

<Bell toll> light candle

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READER 1:

We remember them when we have decisions that are difficult to make.

READER 2:

Todd Parker, Jaime Perry, Edwin Plaisted, Kathleen Priester, Richard Quance, Bryon Reynolds, Antoine Robinson, Steven Rueckert, James Rylander, William Schneble, Kevin Shore, William Shoemaker (Pops) Robert Sitzenstock, Richard Smith

<Bell toll> light candle

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READER 1:

We remember them when we have achievements that are based on theirs.

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READER 2

Kevin Sosebee, Patrick Swingle, Keven Vallancourt, Holly West, Larry Whitehead, Rodney Whittle, Ronald Williams, Gary Wisgarda, Timothy Witt, Kyle Woodard, David Wright, William Wright, Keebler, Nick, Boston,

<Bell toll> light candle

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READER 1:

We remember those whose full names or history we do not know. **Let us call out any additional names not spoken here.**

*{please pause, and wait for those in the audience to call out names}*

<Bell toll at conclusion of names called out> light candle

READER 2:

As long as we live, they too shall live. They are a part of us, and we remember them and celebrate their lives among us.

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READER 1:

We reawaken our consciousness to the tragedy of people dying in our streets, especially as a result of street violence, exposure to the elements and illness directly related to homelessness.

READER 2:

We affirm that everyone has the right to live in safe and decent affordable housing and not be subjected to senseless violence. With God as our helper, we will work toward that end. AMEN.

**Meditative Song** Jon & James

**Bagpiper procession to Mirror Lake** (Guests will follow bagpiper picking up electric candles / flowers on the way out)

**Closing Prayer** Pastor GW Rolle (Missio Dei community)

Directions for meal service and retrieving candles

**Dinner Blessing** Rev. Ben Atherton-Zeman