

TREE PLANTING CEREMONY

MOBILE AREA JEWISH-CHRISTIAN DIALOGUE

November 19, 1990

OPENING REMARKS

OPENING PRAYER:

"NATURE"

How wonderful, O Lord, are the works of Your hands! The Heavens declare Your glory, the arch of sky displays Your handiwork.

THE HEAVENS DECLARE THE GLORY OF GOD.

In Your Love You have given us the power to behold the beauty of Your world, robed in all its splendor. The sun and the stars, the valleys and hills, the rivers and lakes--all disclose Your presence.

THE EARTH REVEALS GOD'S ETERNAL PRESENCE.

The roaring breakers of the sea tell of Your awesome might; the beasts of the field and the birds of the air bespeak Your wondrous will.

LIFE COMES FORTH BY GOD'S CREATIVE WILL.

In Your goodness You have made us able to hear the music of the world. The raging of the winds, the whisperings of trees, and the precious voices of loved ones, reveal to us that You are in our midst.

A DIVINE VOICE SINGS THROUGH ALL CREATION.

AMEN.

TREE PLANTING

PEACE; A Reading from "Laughing Down Lonely Canyons" Jas. Kavanaugh.

CLOSING: (From the Midrash)

When G-d created the world, He made everything a little bit incomplete. Instead of making bread grow out of the earth, He made wheat grow so that we might bake it into bread. Instead of making the earth of bricks, He made it of clay so that we might bake the clay into bricks. Why? So that we could become His partners in the task of completing the work of creation. It is indeed, our task to attempt to establish a broader understanding of human relationships and to further the quest of all humankind for a world of compassion, justice and peace. As we plant the seeds and set down our roots, may we continue to grow in peace and strength.

AMEN.

(For information regarding Jewish-Christian Dialogue events, you may call (205) 342-9384.