Rally Against Islamophobia and for Muslim, Immigrant, and Refugee Rights

Bronson Park, Kalamazoo, MI

Sunday, February 5, 2017

12 Noon • 2 PM

Blessing

Let us pray.

We thank you, Creator of the Universe, for this day and these people gathered together. We thank you for the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We thank you that we are free to gather today, that we are free to protest today, that we are free to encourage one another today.

We ask you for courage, for clarity, and for strength. We ask for the courage to resist those people and powers that would seek to deny others their rights of life and liberty. We ask you for clarity, as we consider ways to resist, and as we reach out to welcome those who need refuge and protection. We ask you for strength to love the persecuted and the persecutors, for strength to be peacemakers, for strength to be merciful.

All glory to you. Amen.

*To those gathered:*

Peace be to you.

Receive these blessings.

If you feel poor in spirit, you are blessed, for to such belongs the reign of heaven.

If you are sad at the state of things, you are blessed, for there is comfort for you.

If you feel powerless, you are blessed, for you will inherit the earth.

If you hunger and thirst for good, you are blessed, for you taste your fill of goodness.

If you show mercy, you are blessed, for you will be shown mercy.

If you are pure in heart, you are blessed, for you will see even God.

If you work for peace in this world, you are blessed, for this is the work of all God’s children.

If you get into trouble for working for the good, you are blessed, because you are joining a long list of such people.

Welcome one another. Resist evil. Love.