Welcome music

Lucila Nerenberg & Julia Herzog

Introduction

Julius Maslovat, Victoria Shoah Project

Standing Out, Standing By, Standing Up: Steps towards Kristallnacht

Kristin Semmens, History Dept. University of Victoria

Candle lighting ceremony

Moritz Lichtman's Diary

Helga Thorson, University of Victoria

Eli, Eli

Josie Davidson, accompanied by Greg Davidson

These words are by the Hungarian Jewish resistance fighter/paratrooper Hannah Szenes in 1942, who was executed by Nazi firing squad in Hungary on 7 November 1944. It was put to music by David Zehavi in 1945.

My God, my God, may it never end – the sand and the sea, the rustle of the water, the brilliance of the sky, the prayer of man.

Hannah Szenes

Excerpts from Mortiz Lichtman's Diary

University of Victoria

Pledge of mutual respect and support

Rabbi Harry Brechner, Congregation Emanu-El and Victoria-area Community Leaders

Kaddish of the camps

Isa Milman, Victoria Shoah Project

Closing remarks

Isa Milman, Victoria Shoah Project

Kol Ha'olam Kulo Gesher Tzar Me'od: "The whole world is a very narrow bridge..."

Habonim Dror Youth Group and Lucila Nerenberg

Habonim Dror resulted from the 1982 merger between Habonim, a Socialist/Labour Zionist Youth group founded in the UK in 1929, and the Polish youth movement Dror, founded in 1915. Dror youth were involved in both the Warsaw Ghetto and Bialystok Ghetto uprisings in 1943. Camp Miriam on Gabriola Island is a Habonim Dror summer camp for children and youth.

Remembering the past, envisioning a future and choosing action over indifference

Only: take you care, take exceeding care for your self, lest you forget the things that your eyes saw, lest you turn-aside in your heart all the days in your life; make them known to your children, and to your children's children. Deuteronomy 4:9 We gather tonight in remembrance on the 80th anniversary of Kristallnacht, "The Night of Broken Glass," the night of November 9-10, 1938. That night of terror, well-choreographed by the German government, saw the burning of synagogues throughout Germany and Austria, the looting and destruction of Jewish homes and businesses, the deportation to concentration camps and the murder of Jewish citizens.

Our remembrance service is not solely about that single event and the horror that grew out of it. That past, the shared history of many of us here tonight, is a clear and strong influence on our understandings of the present and our wishes for the future.

While the knowledge of the past can push us forward with an impetus propelled in part by fear based on the history of our collective experiences, a vision of the future can pull us forward. If this vision is going to motivate us and pull us towards it, it has to be a positive vision, a vision of hope and not of fear, a vision of the possibility of creating a better world and not simply a reaction to the nervousness of our present.

It is not our task to permit a tragic past to push the next generations forward, but instead to begin to visualize a healthful future that can pull us, like a strong magnet, towards its realization.

Events such as Kristallancht remind us of our responsibility to choose action when we witness injustice in our community and our world. History provides us with abundant examples of the consequences of remaining indifferent.

Our coming together tonight as members of a single community containing many faiths or none, many cultures, many philosophies and many identities, is a strong statement that we are united in our vision to create, nurture and maintain a community that respects each other's differences. At the same time, we will not remain indifferent to any form of injustice. It is our hope that tonight we will have participated together in tikkun olam, mending the world, by reflecting on and repairing some of the brokenness from our past and collectively creating hope in our world.

Kaddish of the camps and ghettos

We rise and read responsively Auschwitz Yitgadal Lodz ve'yitkadash sh'mei raba Ponar b'alma di v'ra khir'utei Babi Yar v'yamlikh malkhutei Maidanek b'hayeikon u-v'yomeikhon Birkenau u-v'hayei d'khol beit yisrael Kovno ba-agala u-vi-z'man kariv Jonowska v'imru amen.

Y'hei sh'mei raba m'vorach l'alam u- l'almei almaya.

Yitbarakh v'yishtabah Theresienstadt v'yitpa'ar'v'yitromam Buchenwald v'yitnasei v'yit-hadar Treblinka v'yit'aleh v'yit-halal Vilna sh'mei d'kudisha Bergen-Belsen brikh hu, l'ela Mauthausen min kol birkhata v'shirata Dachau tushb'hata v'nehemata Minsk Warsaw da-amiran b'alma.

v'imru amen. Y'hei sh'lama raba min sh'maya v'hayim aleinu v'al kol yisrael, v'imru amen.

Oseh shalom bi-m'romav, hu ya'aseh shalom aleinu v'al kol yisrael, v'imru amen.

May the One who causes peace to reign in the high heavens let peace descend on us, and on all Israel.

Kol ha'olam kulo...

These words, written in the early 19th century by Reb Nachman of Breslov,, the great-grandson of the Baal Shem Tov, expresses a confrontation with reality, and a willingness, indeed necessity, to do what is needed.

Kol ha'olam kulo

The whole wide world

Gesher tzar me'od

is a very narrow bridge

Gesher tzar me'od Gesher tzar me'od Kol ha'olam kulo Gesher tzar me'od Gesher tzar me'od

Veha'ikar.

but the main thing to recall

Veha'ikar lo lifached, lo lifached, k'lal

is to have no fear at all

Veha'ikar, Veha'ikar, lo lifached, k'lal

The **Victoria Shoah Project** is a group of survivors, descendants, educators and caring individuals whose passion is to share innovative, informative and inspirational ways to honour, commemorate and educate about the Shoah. Join us!

We are grateful for the sponsorship of

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