

Two historic Back Bay churches, Old South Church and Trinity Church, could not even open their doors because of their proximity to the blast sites; both were within a blocked-off area where police were still gathering evidence.

So they accepted other congregations' hospitality. The Church of the Covenant held a joint service with Old South, and Temple Israel, the city's largest synagogue, opened its doors to Trinity for a service that drew close to 900.

"It feels like the right way to have a church service, extending community and love to neighbors regardless of exact beliefs," said Dr. Phoebe Freer, a member of Trinity.

From pulpits across Greater Boston, clergy offered sermons on caring, kindness, and the power of community. At the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in the South End, Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley asked those gathered to answer the violence with love, not retribution aimed at followers of the suspects' faith.

"The crimes of two young men must not be justification for prejudice against Muslims and against immigrants," he said. "The Gospel is the antidote for the 'eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth,' mentality," he said.

The main mosques in Boston and Cambridge were closed on Friday because of the manhunt for the second suspect. Both directed their members to an interfaith prayer service in Dorchester. The service had been planned for weeks, but it took on new meaning after the bombing.

"As Bostonians, we share the grief of the city," said Imam William Suhaib Webb of the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center in Roxbury. "We're equally appalled."

Many Jewish Shabbat services were canceled Friday, as well, but on Saturday synagogues reopened.

Rabbi Andrew Vogel of Temple Sinai in Brookline said he focused his sermon on the week's Torah portion, which included the command from Leviticus to "love your neighbor as yourself."

At St. Ann's, the midmorning Mass on Sunday was filled with bewilderment and tears, many from children.

Related

PHOTOS

Sunday's memorials, vigils for bombing victims

- Victims of the bombings
- Video: Five days in April
- Coverage of Marathon bombings

school or work," she said. "This is what the living do."

The message resonated with Pam Talanian, a parishioner from Milton.

"This is our home and sanctuary," she said. "I felt such freedom driving down Mount Auburn Street today."

"Life goes on; we have to take care of each other," she said.

Kathy McCabe and Joshua Miller of the Globe staff and correspondents Derek Anderson and Matt Rocheleau contributed to this report.

Correction: Because of a reporting error, an earlier version of this story incorrectly rendered a quote from Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley. O'Malley said, in part, "The crimes of the two young men must not be the justification for prejudice against Muslims and against immigrants."

[PRINT](#) [REPRINTS](#) [E-MAIL](#) [SHARE](#)

[ARTICLE](#)

[PHOTOS](#)

[COMMENTS \(1 \)](#)

Learn more

[SUBSCRIBE](#) [BOSTON GLOBE INSIDERS](#) [REFER A FRIEND](#) [EPAPER EDITION](#)

MY ACCOUNT

[LOGOUT](#)

[MY SAVED LIST](#)

[MANAGE HOME DELIVERY](#)

CONTACT

[HELP](#)

[FAQS](#)

[GLOBE NEWSROOM](#)

[ADVERTISE](#)

SOCIAL

[FACEBOOK](#)

[TWITTER](#)

[GOOGLE+](#)

MORE

[ARCHIVES](#)

[PRIVACY POLICY](#)

[TERMS OF SERVICE](#)

[TERMS OF PURCHASE](#)

[WORK HERE](#)