

City Pulpits Hail Kennedy Leadership in Many Fields

"President Kennedy created a new image of the American to a world which had been used to thinking of the crude, brash, ugly American. After he entered the White House, he showed the world that the American also loves music, literature and fine arts."

With a portrait of Mr. Kennedy in front of the auditorium at Congregation Beth Israel, 6880 N. Green Bay rd., Glendale, Rabbi A. Gorfinkel Sunday paid this tribute in a memorial service.

The 120 adults, assembled at short notice for the hastily planned service, sat at the sides of the auditorium. About 200 children, some of them in kindergarten, filled the center section.

"Prayers in Your Hearts"

Youngsters who could read were told to follow the Conservative Jewish prayer book. The younger ones, who had been told what the service was about, were to "say prayers in your hearts," advised the rabbi.

"The young people of this nation have tended to identify themselves with this young man in the White House, the man who spoke of 'new frontiers' and of the present and the future of our country," said Rabbi Gorfinkel. "We pray to God that this sacrifice of Mr. Kennedy—he died in action for

his country—may cause us to dedicate ourselves to greater devotion to the tenets of American democracy and freedom."

The Rev. B. S. Gregg, president of the Interdenominational Ministers' Alliance, a Negro organization, told his congregation at St. Matthew's Christian Methodist Episcopal church, 2944 N. 9th st., that Mr. Kennedy was a friend of the "oppressed, the dispossessed, the underdog."

"How many men would be willing to become unpopular for the sake of others?" Mr.

Gregg asked.

Holds to Convictions

"Seeing that he was losing supporters but still holding fast to his convictions, he rode in the streets of Dallas, in his pockets a written speech spelling out in no uncertain terms his conviction about the freedom of all Americans."

Msgr. James E. Kelly, rector of St. John Cathedral, N. Jackson and E. Wells sts., declared

in a sermon Sunday that Mr. Kennedy led the nation in a troubled era, with many crises "of national and world-wide importance."

"The manner in which he met these difficulties, trials and persecutions proved the character, abilities, the great stature of this fearless, dedicated man," declared Msgr. Kelly.

Preaching at the Unitarian Fellowship of Waukesha, the Rev. Christopher G. Raible of the Unitarian Church West charged that Americans kill their presidents too often.

"Six of the last 19 presidents have died in office," said Mr. Raible. "Four have been shot, and attempts have been made on the lives of others.

"All Are Guilty"

"Just as we all grieve, so also are we all guilty, as we allow the causes of hatred and madness to thrive, as we demand so much from our officials and as we teach killing of our enemies."

The Rev. Dale Jamtgaard, associate pastor of Ascension Lutheran church, 1236 S. Layton blvd., called President Kennedy "a man whose faith in Christ helped him to see that the greatness of the United States was at stake in its ability to serve the world."

Pastor Jamtgaard lauded the slain president's "willingness to tangle with unpopular issues, such as race relations, and op-

pose many people who would deny Negroes their rights."

Members of Grand Avenue Congregational church, 2133 W. Wisconsin av., dropped original plans to attend worship in Thanksgiving costume and the Rev. David G. Howell, minister, prepared a new sermon eulogizing Mr. Kennedy

Other sermon samplings:

"However great our president may have been, the world looks for a new incarnation of Christian leadership in us. When Christians confirm the Call of God in their own lives, they make the work of Christ more

real and more tangible to a world that longs for hope."—

The Rev. V. William Falk, assistant pastor of Kingsley Methodist church, N. 33rd and W. Walnut sts.

"Covered With Guilt"

"Because our love has been weak, our shame today is deep. Because we did not make Christ's love felt, we today are covered with guilt. The dastardly deed done in Dallas, we share, not only in effect, but also in cause. I fearfully wonder if the man accused of the crime was ever approached or influenced by any Christian." — The Rev. Richard V. Goeres, pastor of St. John's Lutheran church, 7877 N. Port Washington rd., Glendale.

"Thank God for the life here on earth of John Fitzgerald Kennedy and the good example he gave us of religious piety and devotion to duty. We are grateful for his faithfulness to the highest ideals of family affection, and his singleness of purpose in pursuit of peace."

—Fr. George F. White, rector of Trinity Episcopal church, 1717 Church st., Wauwatosa.