

# CELEBRATIONS

VIA CREATIVA: COLORS OF THE WIND  
the color of wisdom (candlemas/imbolc)

january 30, 2011

9:45 & 11:15

celebration leaders: laura collins & jay joslin  
the world beat band

## GATHERING

*you are encouraged to read the meditation readings,  
and to hug, shake hands and know you are welcome here.*

welcome to celebrating the path of creativity

calling of the drums & the four directions

## OPENING

**a song to celebrate colors of wisdom**

you are invited to **feed the hungry** by placing an offering in the hunger baskets on the altar.

for the earth forever turning  
for the skies, for every sea  
to our god we sing returning  
home the blue green hills of earth.

for the mountains, hills and pastures  
in their silent majesty  
for our lives, for all creation  
sing we our joyful praise to thee.

for the sun, for rain and thunder  
for the land that makes us free  
for the stars, for all the heavens  
sing we our joyful praise to thee.

for the world we raise our voices  
for the home that gives us birth  
in our joy we sing returning  
home to the blue green hills of earth.

*(w/m: kim oler & paul winter, adapted)*

**a gift of action & music**

invitation to action: about mountaintop removal

"lullabye #1"  
dewi sant

## ACCEPTING

*during this time, you are invited to pray or receive communion with a jubilee! prayer partner at  
the western wall alcove.*

**singing the buddhist bowl**

## **a song of assurance**

in the mist of the morning we open  
to all of the gifts of the day.  
we open our hearts to take it all in  
and give it all back in our way.

let us sing of the beauty around us!  
let us sing of the beauty within!  
o, hear the earth tell that all shall be well.  
anam cara, anam cara, soul friend.  
*(w/m: h.hanger)*

## **LEARNING**

deuteronomy 18:15-20

*The lord your god will raise up a prophet...*

surah luqmân 31:27

*If all the trees on the earth were pens, and all the sea were ink... the words of  
god would not be exhausted in the writing.*

mark 1: 21-28

*What is this? A new teaching with authority.*

**reader:** this is ancient wisdom and holy word.

**people:** thanks be to all that is wise and holy.

**reader:** all creation is wisdom and holy word.

**people:** all creation sings of wisdom and god. hallelujah!

## **singing & sharing a holy peace**

you are invited to offer god's peace to another and receive it, yourself.

reach out you hand if your cup be empty.  
if your cup is full, may it be again.  
let it be known there is a fountain  
that was not made by the hand of man.

*(w/m: r. hunter, j. garcia)*

## **meditation**

- **the color of wisdom** -

jay joslin

## **BLESSING**

### **offering our money**

### **dedicating our gifts to god**

sing the greatest song!  
stand on a star and blaze a trail of love  
through the dark of the dawn.  
let the rivers run!  
let all the dreamers wake the nations.  
come, the new jerusalem!

*(w/m: carly simon)*

## **benediction for the creative journey**

may the blessings of god be upon you,  
may god's peace abide in you  
may god's spirit illuminate your heart  
now and forever more.  
*(trad. sufi blessing)*

## **postlude**

*the western wall in the celebration area is there for your prayer requests. you may also visit the wall to read the requests and offer a prayer. please initial the paper to acknowledge that prayers have been said for that request.*

## **meditation readings**

*(collected by anne wray)*

wisdom begins with wonder.

❖ socrates

wisdom is so kind and wise

that wherever you may look you can learn something about god.

❖ st. catherine of siena, love poems from god, daniel ladinsky, editor

wisdom, then, is a deeper way of knowing. wisdom is the art of living in rhythm with your soul, your life, and the divine. wisdom is the way that you learn to decipher the unknown; and the unknown is our closest companion. so wisdom is the art of being courageous and generous with the unknown, of being able to decipher and recognize its treasures.

❖ john o'donohue, anam cara

if facts are the seeds that later produce knowledge and wisdom, then the emotions and the impressions of the senses are the fertile soil in which the seeds must grow.

❖ rachel carson

what the . . . world needs now is art, sweet art. we can register what is happening with satellites and scientific instruments, but can we register it in our imaginations, the most sensitive of all our devices?"

❖ bill mckibben

wisdom is a matter not only of the mind but of the intuition and heart, like a woman's wisdom. it is born out of suffering as a woman bears a child. it shows a way through the darkness the way a woman stands at the window holding a lamp. "her ways are ways of pleasantness," says solomon, then adding, just in case there should be any lingering question as to her gender, "and all her paths are peace" (proverbs 3:17).

❖ frederick buechner, wishful thinking

but i'll tell you a secret. when i want to take god at his word exactly, i take a peep out the window at his creation. because that, darling, he makes fresh for us every day, without a lot of dubious middle managers.

❖ barbara kingslover, the poisonwood bible

wisdom does not inspect, but behold.

❖ henry david thoreau

anyone who's ever walked drop-jawed through a redwood forest or snorkeled in wonder through a coral reef or snuggled a purring kitten or shaken in awe at a thunderstorm or stood silently in a field of freshly fallen snow has more than likely sensed a profound wisdom around which words are ineffectual. some traditions claim that the flower of wisdom comes from the earth; and only because we are of the earth do we catch a fleeting breath of her fragrance. the brilliance of wisdom - wherever we see it - is a gleaming reminder that there is far more going on than books can ever tell. or that we can ever know.

❖ howard hanger

the soul that is full of wisdom  
is saturated with the spray of a bubbling fountain---god himself.

❖ hildegard of bingen

wisdom has a quiet mind. she likes to think about the edges where things spill into each other and become their opposities. she knows know to look at things inside and out. sometimes her eyes go out to the things she is looking at, and sometimes the thing she is looking at enters through her eyes. questions of time, depth, and balance interest her. she is not looking for answers.

❖ j. ruth gendler, the book of qualities

o wisdom goddess!  
your essence alone is present within every life, every event.  
your living power flows freely as this universe,  
you are expressed fully, even by the smallest movement.  
wherever i go, and wherever i look,  
i perceive only you, my blissful mother,  
radiating as pure cosmic play.  
earth, water, fire, air, space, and consciousness are simply your projected forms.  
there is nothing else.

❖ ramprasad