

# CELEBRATIONS

VIA NEGATIVA: Unwelcome Guests  
- feeling unloved – blessing of the animals

october 2, 2011

8:30, 9:45 & 11:15

celebration leaders: howard hanger & 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 dark side

“little pearl” video – linda mclean

calling of the drums & the four directions

## OPENING

**a song to celebrate the no road**

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

all creatures of our god and king,  
lift up your voice and with us sing,  
o praise ye! alleluia!

o brother sun with golden beam,  
o sister moon with silver gleam!  
o praise ye! o praise ye! - alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!

o brother wind, air, clouds, and rain,  
by which all creatures ye sustain,  
o praise ye! alleluia!  
thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,  
ye lights of evening, find a voice!  
o praise ye! o praise ye! - alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!

o sister water, flowing clear,  
make music for thy Lord to hear,  
alleluia! alleluia!  
o brother fire who lights the night,  
providing warmth, enhancing sight,  
o praise ye! o praise ye! - alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!

dear mother earth, who day by day  
unfoldest blessings on our way,  
alleluia! alleluia!  
the flowers and fruits that in thee grow,  
let them god's glory also show!  
o praise ye! o praise ye! - alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!

all ye who are of tender heart,  
forgiving others, take your part,  
o praise ye! alleluia!  
ye who long pain and sorrow bear,  
praise god and on god cast your care!  
o praise ye! o praise ye! - alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!

*(w: francis of assisi, m: geistliche kirchengesane, 1623)*

**a gift of a song**

“let me keep you”

melissa hyman

**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**

keep your heart above your head and your eyes wide open  
so the world won't find a way to leave you cold.  
know you're not the only ship out on the ocean.  
save your strength for things that you can't change,  
forgive the ones you can,  
gotta let 'em go.

*(w/m: b. caver, l. brown)*

**a gift of song**

“i remember you”

peter & sandy krakowlak

**LEARNING**

psalm 147

*praise the earth!*

sura al'anby (the prophets) 21: 81-84

*we gave him his family... a mercy from us and a reminder.*

matthew 6: 25-34

*consider the lilies...*

**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 your 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 hands of man.

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

**meditation**

**- feeling unloved – blessing of the animals -**

**communing with bread and wine**

*8:30 celebration; first sunday of the month only*

*you may pray with a jubilee! prayer partner at the western wall.*

**BLESSING**

**offering our money**

## **dedicating our gifts to god**

we're coming to the edge, running on the water,  
coming through the fog, your sons and daughters...  
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 week ahead**

awake, my soul! awake, my soul! awake, my soul!  
you were made to meet your maker.  
*(w/m: mumford & sons)*

## **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)*

i never intended to have this life, believe me -  
it just happened. you know how dogs turn up  
at a farm, and they wag but can't explain.

❖ robert bly

so come to the pond,  
or the river of your imagination,  
or the harbor of your longing,  
and put your lips to the world.  
and live  
your life.

❖ mary oliver, red bird

it is said of francis (of assisi) that his love for god at times made him so wild  
that few understood him.

❖ daniel ladinsky, love poems from god

as a small child, i could not understand why i should pray for human beings  
only. when my mother first had kissed me good night, i used to add a silent  
prayer that i had composed for all creatures.

❖ albert schweitzer

all beings love each other or feed each other, and all are united in a gigantic  
process of birth and growth and reproduction and death, in nature, everything  
undergoes mutation, transformation and change, everything embraces,  
caresses and kisses . . . everything in nature seeks to transcend its own  
limitations, to go beyond the barriers of its individuality, to meet with a *thou* to  
which it can give itself, an "other" into which it can transform itself.

❖ ernesto cardenal

god resides in every human form and in every particle of the creation.

❖ gandhi

o god, source of life and power, who feedeth the birds of the heavens, increase our tenderness towards all the creatures of thy hand. help us to refrain from petty acts of cruelty, or thoughtless deeds of harm to any living animal. may we care for them at all times, especially during hard weather, and protect them from injury so that they learn to trust us as friends. let our sympathy grow with knowledge, so that the whole creation may rejoice in thy presence.

❖ christian prayer, prayers for healing, maggie oman, editor

power that swirls us together  
grant us bliss  
grant us the great release  
and to all beings  
vanishing, wounded  
in trouble on earth  
we pass on this love  
may their numbers increase.

❖ gary snyder, earth prayers, elizabeth roberts, editor