

CELEBRATIONS

via transformativa: sailing

- the big picture -

may 18, 2008

9:45 & 11:15

celebration leaders: howard hnager

the world beat band

GATHERING

prelude & welcome to celebrating sailing

you are encouraged to read the meditation readings,
and to hug, shake hands and greet some images of god.

call of the drums

we call the holy one from the four directions with the burning of sweet grass and sage

OPENING

a song to celebrate the big picture

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

for the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies... over and around us lies,
lord of all, to thee we raise this, our joyful hymn of praise!

for the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night:
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light... sun and moon and stars of light,
lord of all, to thee we raise this, our joyful hymn of praise!

for the joy of human love: brother, sister, parent, child.
friends on earth and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild... for all gentle thoughts and mild,
lord of all, to thee we raise this, our joyful hymn of praise!

for thy love, great gift of thine, to our earth so freely given.
graces human and divine:
flowers of earth and buds of heaven, flowers of earth and buds of heaven,
lord of all, to thee we raise this, our joyful hymn of praise!

(w: f.s. pierpoint; m: j. rutter)

a gift of song

"third wind"

world beat band

ACCEPTING

prayer/meditation for the big picture

(there will be someone at the western wall alcove to pray with you as you choose)

open my eyes that i may see
visions of truth you have for me.
place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.
silently now, i wait for thee,
ready, my god, thy will to see.
open my eyes, illumine me, spirit divine.

(w&m: c.h. scott)

singing/healing bowl

*(you are invited to play your own bowl and/or allow the sound of the buddhist bowls
to open you and maybe hear your name called.)*

a song of assurance

siya hamba kuk hanayen kwen kos
siya hamba kuk hanayen kwen kos
(2x)

siya hamba, siya hamba,
siya hamba kuk hanayen kwen kos
(2x)

we are walking in the light of god...
(trad. zulu song)

a gift of prose

“the letter”

tracy munn

LEARNING

genesis 1: 1-28a
in the beginning...

matthew 28: 16-20
i am with you always to the end of the age.

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 from the hand of man.

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

a meditation on the big picture

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

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)

a bon voyage blessing

sailing takes me away
to where i've always heard it could be.
just a dream and a wind to carry me.
soon i will be free.
believe me.
(w/m christopher cross)

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)

the best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or touched . . .
but are felt in the heart.

- helen keller

i think i am here for a purpose. i think it's likely that we all are, but i'm only sure about myself. i try to tune myself in to whatever it is that i'm supposed to be, and i try to think of myself as a part of all of us---all mankind and all life.

- jim henson, *it's not easy being green*

the hill has known too many days and men grown quiet behind him.
but there are mornings when his soul emerges from darkness
as out of a hollow of a tree high on the crest and takes flight
with savage joy and harsh outcry
down the long slope of the leaves.

- wendell berry, from "window poems," *selected poems*

god of life, there are days when the burdens we carry chafe our shoulders and wear us down; when the road seems dreary and endless, the skies gray and threatening; when our lives have no music in them and our hearts are lonely, and our souls have lost their courage. flood the path with light, we beseech you; turn our eyes to where the skies are full of promise.

- st. augustine

the wind is a membrane that pulses and shifts and fastens us inside a life sustaining vessel.

- jan deblieu, *wind*

. . . i had doubted God, when proof of him was all about me. he lived in the trees and the rocks. he passed through the trees as a soft wind; my mother had pointed that out to me many a time. and so this was his way of proving himself, of showing that he was sure there.

- silas house, *a parchment of leaves*

no one can stand in these solitudes unmoved, and not feel that there is more in man than the mere breath of his body.

- charles darwin, *the voyage of the beagle*

the wind running through the field of grain will still resemble a wind running over the sea. but the wind in the grain is a more wonderful sweep, for as it ruffles the tips of the wheat it takes a census of a patrimony. it takes stock of a future. the wind in the grain is the caress to the spouse, it is the hand of peace stroking her hair.

- antoine de saint-exupery, *flight to arras*

because you cannot see me with your own natural eye, i will give you a celestial eye.

- bhagavad gita

can you wipe and cleanse your vision of the mystery till it is all without blur?

- tao te ching

now consider what the prophets have done.

abraham wore fire for an anklet.

moses spoke to the sea.

david moulded iron.

solomon rode the wind.

work in the invisible world at least as hard

as you do in the visible.

- rumi, *the illuminated rumi*, coleman barks, translator

only god knows how revelation came and he saw what he saw.

but whether he was asleep or awake, it was all true and actually happened.

- ibn ishaq, *the life of the apostle of god*, (8th century)