

CELEBRATIONS

**via transformativa: sailing
storms**

june 8, 2008

9:45 & 11:15

**celebration leaders: howard hanger
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 storms

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

the thunder and lightning gave voice to the night.
the little lame child cried aloud in her fright.
hush, little baby, a story i'll tell
of a love that has vanquished the powers of hell.

alleluia! the great storm is over!
lift up your wings and fly! *(repeat)*

sweetness in the air and justice on the wind.
laughter in the house where the mourners have been
the deaf shall have music, the blind have new eyes.
the standards of death taken down by surprise.

alleluia! the great storm is over!
lift up your wings and fly! *(repeat)*

release for the captives, an end to the wars.
new streams in the desert, new hope for the poor.
the little lame children will dance as they sing
and play with the bears and the lions in spring.

alleluia! the great storm is over!
lift up your wings and fly! *(repeat)*
(w/m bob franke)

a gift of dance

"alienco salsa"

nicolas morrison & erin kinney

ACCEPTING

prayer/song for storms

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

**“the rose”
amanda levesque**

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 song
“lightshine”
jennifer nash**

LEARNING

psalm 100
make a joyful noise!

matthew 9: 35 – 10:4
they were harassed and helpless...

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)

meditation on storms

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 arch of sky
and mightiness of storms
encompasses me,
and i am left
trembling with joy.

- eskimo song

there is a great deal of unmapped country within us which would have to be taken into account in an explanation of our gusts and storms.

- george eliot

it is our deep-sounding, untamed currents that cause us to rise and swell, dip and crash. yet that base of spirit remains unaffected by the storms that churn up to the surface. it obeys a deeper order. . . .

we can know the ocean of god that swells within.

- mark nepo, *the book of awakening*

listen! let the high branches go on with their opera, it's the song of the fields i wait for, when the sky turns orange and the wind arrives, waving his thousand arms. or, autumn! i hurry out to the middle of the field and stand where the tough goldenrod, seeded and tassled, is vigorously tossing ----until something thankful rises from my own body. the goldenrod lashes back and forth, each stem on its knuckled foot. yes! yes! yes! and then the dry earth begins to anticipate, and then i fall to my knees, and then the flowers cry out, and then the wind breaks open it silver countries of rain.

- mary oliver, from "wind"

skillful pilots gain their reputation from storms and tempests.

- epictetus

the sky rains melodiously. my small hut is roofed, pleasant, draught-free, and my mind is well concentrated. so rain, sky, if you wish.

- buddhist faith

i would be for you rain,
yet, might bring into your life, again, the storm;
summer days exact their dues: troubled skies bring earth greener hues. lightning flashes through the heavy air, rending it with blinding light and thunderous swells which press against the inner drums of my still ears.

- sarah webster fabio

we overcome this wind.
we desire the rain to fall,
 that it be poured in showers quickly.
ah, thou rain, i adjure thee fall.
 if thou rainest, it is well.
a drizzling confusion.
if it rains and our food ripens, it is well.
if the young men sing, it is well.
a drizzling confusion.
if our grain ripens, it is well.
if our women rejoice,
if the children rejoice,
if the young men sing,
if the aged rejoice,
an overflowing in the granary,
a torrent in flow,
if the wind veers to the south, it is well.
if the rain veers to the south, it is well.
• john s. mbuti, *earth prayers*