

CELEBRATIONS

via positiva: one love
sucking up to the superfluous
september 7, 2008
8:30, 9:45 & 11:15
celebration leaders: howard hanger
the world beat band

GATHERING

prelude & welcome to celebrating one love

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 one love

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

my life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation.
i hear the real, tho' far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
through all the tumult and the strife, i hear that music ringing.
it sounds an echo in my soul. how can i keep from singing?

what tho' the tempest loudly roars, i hear the truth. it liveth!
what tho' the darkness round me close, songs in the night it giveth.
no storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock i'm clinging.
since love is lord of heaven and earth, how can i keep from singing?

i lift my eyes, the cloud grows thin. i see the blue above it
and day by day this pathway clears, since first i learned to love it.
the peace of god restores my soul, a fountain ever springing.
all things are mine since i am loved. how can i keep from singing?

(w: anne warner, m. r. lowry, 1864)

a gift of song

"song for life"

rick ott

ACCEPTING

be thou my vision, o lord of my heart.
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
thou, my best thought by day or by night.
waking or sleeping, thy presence, my light.

riches i heed not, nor excessive praise.
thou, my inheritance, now and always.
infinite silence calling my heart.
infinite wonder, my treasure, thou art.

(w: dallan forgaill, 8th cent m: trad irish)

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

“it constantly comes to me”
ken & amy laderoute

LEARNING

song of solomon 4: 16 – 5: 1

eat, friends, drink and be drunk with love!

mark 7: 1-8

these people honor me with their lips; but their hearts are far from me.

singing & sharing a holy peace

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

shalom chaverim, shalom chavarim
shalom! shalom!
lehitraot, lehitraot,
shalom, shalom!

(trad jewish greeting and farewell)

meditation on sucking up to the superfluous

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

imagine no possessions, i wonder if you can,
no need for greed or hunger, nor folks with empty hands.

imagine all the people sharing all the world...

you may say i'm a dreamer,

but i'm not the only one.

i hope someday you'll join us
and the world shall live as one.

(w/m – j. lennon)

a one love blessing

sayin' one love! what about the one heart? one heart!
let's get together and feel all right.
as it was in the beginning: one love,
so shall it be in the end, one heart,
give thanks and praise to the lord and I will feel all right,
singin' let's get together and feel all right.
(w/m – b. marley)

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)

how will you ever find peace
unless you yield to love
the way the gracious earth
does to our hand's impulse.

- rabia

what makes you like that - grouchy around the edges?
what classrooms have you lounged in;
what nonsense have you traded
your gold for?
how can you look so needy,
god is growing in fields you own.

- rumi, love poems from god, daniel ladinsky, translator and editor

we see with our eyes. we *know* with our hearts.
outside . . . inside.

- cactus fraggle, it's not easy being green

our work is the love of god.
our satisfaction lies in submission
to the divine embrace.

- jan van ruysbroeck

my profession is always to be alert, to find god in nature, to know god's lurking places,
to attend all the oratorios and the operas in nature.

- henry david thoreau

for as this appalling ocean surrounds the verdant land, so in the soul of man there lies
one insular tahiti, full of peace and joy, but encompassed by all the horrors of the
half-lived life.

- herman melville, moby dick

earth's crammed with heaven, and every common bush afire with god:
but only he who sees takes off his shoes.

- elizabeth barrett browning

fear not.

what is not real, never was and never will be.
what is real, always was and cannot be destroyed.

- bhagavad gita

there are people who use up their entire lives making money
so they can enjoy the lives they have entirely used up.

- frederick buechner, whistling in the dark

a morning glory at my window
satisfies me more than the metaphysics of books.

- walt whitman

fill your bowl to the brim
and it will spill.
keep sharpening your knife
and it will blunt.
chase after money and security
and your heart will never unclench.
care about people's approval
and you will be their prisoner.

- lao tzu, stephen mitchell, translator