

CELEBRATIONS

via negativa: sorrow songs

“dry bones”

october 25, 2009

9:45 & 11:15

celebration leaders: howard hanger

the world beat band

GATHERING

prelude & welcome to celebrating the road of darkness...

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 negative road

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

though below me i feel no motion
standing on these mountains and plains
far away from the rolling ocean
still my dry land heart can say
i've been sailing all my life now
never harbor nor port have i known
the wide universe is the ocean i travel
and the earth is my blue boat home

sun, my sail and moon, my rudder
as i ply the starry sea
leaning over the edge in wonder
casting questions into the deep
drifting here with my ship's companions
all we kindred pilgrim souls
making our way by the lights of the heavens
in our beautiful blue boat home

i give thanks to the waves upholding me
hail the great winds urging me on
greet the infinite sea before me
sing the sky my sailor's song
i was born upon the fathoms
never harbor or port have i known
the wide universe is the ocean i travel
and the earth is my blue boat home
the wide universe is the ocean i travel
and the earth is my blue boat home.

(w/m: peter mayer – led by peter mayer)

a gift of song

“earth song”

jubilee! singers

ACCEPTING

(during this prayer time, you are invited to pray with a jubilee! prayer partner at the western wall alcove.)

free planet radio
river gueguerian, eliot wadopian, chris rosser
"radio toue"

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

all shall be well, all shall be well,
all manner of things shall be well.

all, all shall be well.

(w: julian of norwich, m: h.hanger)

a gift of song

peter mayer

LEARNING

ruth 1: 1-19

where you go, i will go.

luke 17: 11-19

your faith has made you well.

singing & sharing a holy peace

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

shalom chaverim, shalom chaverim

shalom, shalom

l'hit-rah-oat, l'hit-rah-oat

shalom, shalom.

(trad. jewish blessing)

meditation on sorrow songs

"dry bones"

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 blessing for the dark road

may the road rise to meet you,
may the wind be always at your back,
may the sun shine warm upon your face,
may the rain fall softly on your fields.
and, till we meet again, may god hold you
in a kind and loving hand.
(trad. irish blessing, adapted)

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)

adventures don't begin until you get into the forest. that first step is an act of faith.

□ mickey hart

i am a man of faith. my reliance is solely on god. one step is enough for me. the next step he will show me when the time for it comes.

□ gandhi

we may wonder if god has abandoned us, or doesn't care. we may not understand where we're going, or what our direction is. then one day we see: the reason we didn't get what we wanted was because god had something much better planned for us.

□ melody beattie, language of love

love cannot distrust.
it can only await the good trustfully.
no person
could ever trust god too much.

□ meister eckhart

trust shows the way.

□ hildegard of bingen

i thirst by day. i watch by night.
i receive! i have been received!
i hear the flowers drinking in their light

□ theodore roethke

trust talks to people who need to hear her; she listens to those who need to be heard; she sits quietly with those who are skeptical of words. her presence is subtle, simple, and undeniable.

□ j. ruth gendler, the book of qualities

flowers grow out of the garbage, such a miracle to see.
what seems dead and what seems dying makes for butterflies to be.

□ eveline beumkes

we call upon the spirit of evolution, the miraculous force that inspires rocks and dust to weave themselves into biology. you have stood by us for millions and billions of years----do not forsake us now. empower us and awaken in us pure and dazzling creativity.

□ john seed

thou art in the sandbanks as well as in the midst of the current,
i bow to thee.
thou are in the pebbles as well as in the calm expanse of the sea,
i bow to thee. o all-pervading lord, thou art in the barren soil and in crowded
places
i bow to thee.
□ 'sukla yajur, veda xvi

having cared for the plants,
my mind is one with the air.
hungry and trusting,
my mind is one with the earth.
eating the fruit,
my body is one with the earth.
□ wendell berry

and don't be afraid
when, eyes closed, you look inside you
and find night is both
the silence tolling after stars
and the final word
that founds all beginning,
□ li-young lee