

CELEBRATIONS

via negativa: sorrow songs

“i wanna be ready”

november 8, 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.

(chorus) i wanna be ready, i wanna be ready
i wanna be ready
to walk in jerusalem just like john.

oh, john, oh, john, what do you say?
walk in jerusalem just like john.
that i'll be there at the coming day.
walk in jerusalem just like john.

(chorus)

dark nights come and troubles grow,
walk in jerusalem just like john.
hurt the body and sting the soul,
walk in jerusalem just like john.

(chorus)

doubts and worries weigh me down,
walk in jerusalem just like john.
'times i feel like i'm gonna drown,
walk in jerusalem just like john.

(chorus)

when all is strife, i don't forget -
walk in jerusalem just like john.
my soul is hooked to the infinite -
walk in jerusalem just like john.

(chorus)

if you get there before i do...
walk in jerusalem just like john.
tell all my friends i'm comin' too.
walk in jerusalem just like john.

(chorus)

(trad. sorrow song, adapted)

a gift of poetry & song

“life and more life”

majo

“never gonna walk this journey alone”

jubilee! singers

ACCEPTING

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

prayer in song

mya lamoore

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)

LEARNING

deuteronomy 10: 12-22

walk in all god's ways.

luke 18: 9-14

all who humble themselves will be exalted.

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

“i wanna be ready”

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)

the higher goal of spiritual living is not to amass a wealth of information, but to face sacred moments.

□ abraham heschel

it is by being humble before god that we learn more of god.

□ caryll houselander

i leave labor and load,
take up a different story.
i keep an inventory
of wonders and of uncommerical goods.

□ wendell berry, a timbered choir

i want to say: all my life
i was a bride married to amazement.
i was the bridegroom, taking the world into my arms.
when it's over, i don't want to wonder
if i have made of my life something particular, and real.
i don't want to find myself sighing and frightened,
or full of argument.
i don't want to end up simply having visited this world.

□ mary oliver

we do not change by trying to be what we are not, but by being fully what we are.

. . . the way for me to learn to fly one day is to walk firmly with my feet on the ground today.

□ carlos g.valles

hollow out in me a space
in which i will find myself, find peace and a whole heart.

□ ted loder, guerrillas of grace

i shall begin scouring the sky for signs
as if my whole future were constellated upon it.
i will walk home alone with the deep alone,
a disciple of shadows, in praise of the mysteries.

□ edward hirsch

give us rain when we expect sun.
give us music when we expect trouble.
give us tears when we expect breakfast.
give us dreams when we expect a storm.
give us a stray dog when we expect congratulations.
god play with us, turn us sideways and around. amen.
□ leunig, a common prayer