

CELEBRATIONS

AHSCKNYE: OUTSIDE THE BOX

OUTSIDE THE FEAR BOX

hanukah begins at sundown

december 13, 2009

9:45 & 11:15

celebration leaders: george fleming, howard hanger

the world beat band

GATHERING

prelude & welcome to celebrating the holy days...

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 hanukah

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

ilu ho-tsi, ho-tsi-a-nu,
ho-tsi-a-nu mi-mitz-ra-yim,
ho-tsi-a-nu mi-mitz-ra-yim,
ho-tsi-a-nu mi-mitz-ra-yim,
da-ye-nu

(chorus) da-da-ye-nu, da-da-ye-nu
da-da-ye-nu
da-ye-nu, da-ye-nu da-ye-nu *(2x)*

ilu na-tan, na-tan la-nu,
na-tan la-nu, et-ha-sha-bat,
na-tan la-nu, et-ha-sha-bat,
da-ye-nu.
(chorus)

ilu na-tan, na-tan la-nu,
na-tan la-nu, et-ha-to-rah,
na-tan la-nu, et-ha-to-rah,
da-ye-nu.
(chorus)
(trad. hanukah song)

a gift of song

“still, still, still”
jubilee! singers

ACCEPTING

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

be not afraid,
i go before always.

come walk with me
and i will give you rest.
(society of Jesuits)

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

how silently, how silently
the wondrous gift is given.
so god imparts to every heart
the gifts of earth and heaven.
no ear may hear it's coming,
but on good mother earth
to all who seek both love and joy
will come a glad new birth.
(w: p. brooks, m: l. render, adapted)

a gift of song

"there is a rose of swych vertu" (15th century carol)
paula bishop & friends

LEARNING

psalm 146: 5-9
the holy one lifts up those who are bowed down.

luke 1: 26-37
do not be afraid.

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 outside the fear box

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

we wish you a cheerful hanukah!
we wish you a merry christmas!
glad solstice, joyful kwanza!
and a happy new year!
good tidings we bring to both far and near
good tidings for the holy days and a happy new year!

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 whole world is like a very narrow bridge,
and the main thing is to not be afraid.

□ rabbi nahman of bratslav

fear of god is the gateway of faith.

□ zohar

the angel of the lord came down,
and glory shone around.
“fear not,” said he, for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind;
“glad tidings of great joy i bring
to you and all mankind.

□ nahum tate, “while shepherds watched their flocks by night”

when your truth forsakes its shyness,
when your fears surrender to your strengths,
you will begin to experience
that all existence
is a teeming sea of infinite life.

□ hafiz

saints below, with heart and voice,
still in songs of praise rejoice,
learning here, by faith and love,
songs of praise to sing above.

□ james montgomery, “songs of praise the angels sang”

we cannot escape fear. we can only transform it into a companion that
accompanies us on all our exciting adventures.

□ susan jeffers

i look at how comfortable i can be with what is not known and allow myself to
rest with faith in the right outcome. this is the season of entering the unknown.
it is the season of hope and faith.

□ robin hereens lysne, sacred living

in every heart there is a coward and a procrastinator.
in every heart there is a god of flowers, just waiting
to come out of its cloud and lift its wings.

□ mary oliver, from “the kookaburras”

incarnation. it is not tame. it is not touching. it is not beautiful. it is
uninhabitable terror. it is unthinkable darkness riven with unbearable light.
agonized laboring led to it, and tearing of the very sinews of reality itself.

□ frederick buechner, whistling in the dark