

CELEBRATIONS

via creativa: no place like home

january 25, 2009

where you see the big picture

9:45 & 11:15

celebration leaders: genevieve hanger fortuna,

paul muller

the world beat band

GATHERING

prelude & welcome to celebrating no place like home

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 where you see the big picture

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

for the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies... over and around us lies...
lord of all, to thee we raise
this, our joyful hymn of praise.

for the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night:
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light... sun and moon and stars of light...
lord of all, to thee we raise
this, our joyful hymn of praise.

for the joy of human love: brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild... for all gentle thoughts and mild,
lord of all, to thee we raise
this, our joyful hymn of praise.

for each perfect gift of thine to our world so freely given,
graces human and divine:
flowers of earth and buds of heaven... flowers of earth and buds of heaven...
lord of all, to thee we raise
this, our joyful hymn of praise.

(w: f.s. pierpoint, m: j. rutter)

a gift of song

"only hope"

jubilee! singers

ACCEPTING

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

swing low, sweet chariot, comin' for to carry me home
swing low, sweet chariot, comin' for to carry me home

i looked over jordan and what did i see,
comin' for to carry me home?
a band of angels comin' after me,
comin' for to carry me home.

swing low, sweet chariot, comin' for to carry me home
swing low, sweet chariot, comin' for to carry me home
(trad, american spiritual)

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

in the mists of the morning we open
to all of the gifts of the day.
we open our hearts to take it all in
and give it all back in our way.

let us sing of the beauty around us!
let us sing of the beauty within!
o, hear the earth tell that all shall be well –
anam cara, anam cara, soul friend.
(w/m: howard hanger)

a gift of dance

“Over the Rainbow/What a Wonderful World” by Israel Kamakawiwo'ole
anne wray

LEARNING

isaiah 9: 2-4

the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

matthew 4: 12-17

the kingdom of heaven has come near.

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 by the hand of man.

(w/m: j.garcia & r. hunter)

meditation on where you see the big picture

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 of home

for the earth forever turning,
for the skies, for every sea,
for our lives and all creation
sing we our joyful song of peace.

for the earth we raise our voices,
for the home that gives us birth.
in our joy, we sing returning
home to our blue-green hills of earth.
(w/m paul winter, 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)

traveling mercies:

love the journey, god is with you, come home safe and sound.

□ anne lamott, traveling mercies

from way up here

the earth is very small

it's just a little ball, you see

□ malvina reynolds

jesus christ teaches men that there is something in them which lifts them above this life with its hurries, its pleasures and fears. he who understands christ's teaching feels like a bird that did not know it has wings and now suddenly realizes that it can fly, can be free and no longer needs to fear.

□ tolstoy

the world is not my home

i'm just a passin' through

□ tom waits

the world cannot be discovered by a journey of miles, no matter how long. but only by a spiritual journey, a journey of one inch very arduous and humbling and joyful, by which we arrive at the ground at our feet, and learn to be at home.

□ wendell berry

i like knowing that no matter what, there is this cosmic untidiness----an unexplainable hiccup in the order we think we perceive, an unpredictability, a mutational inclination, a glitch in the works that anchors mystery and wonder to the center of being.

. . . chaos. i can relate to that. my life is chaos most of the time. i am in tune with the universe. it feels like home.

□ robert fulghum, it was on fire when i lay down on it

the coming to consciousness is not a discovery of some new thing; it is a long and painful return to that which has always been.

□ helen luke

faith is a path of heart that enables us to perceive the mysterious meaning of life, to confront and overcome obstacles, live with doubt and paradox, and to be at home in a world where the ground of being is always present.

□ frederic and mary ann brussat

for, god is at home,
it is we who have gone out for a walk.

□ meister eckhart