

# CELEBRATIONS

via creativa: no place like home

february 1, 2009

where you learn to care

8:30, 9:45 & 11:15

celebration leaders: george fleming, 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 learn to care**

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

when you're down and troubled  
and you need some loving care  
and nothing, nothing is going right  
close your eyes and think of me  
and soon I will be there  
to brighten up even your darkest night

you just call out my name  
and you know wherever I am  
i'll come running to see you again  
winter, spring, summer or fall  
all you have to do is call  
and i'll be there  
you've got a friend

if the sky above you  
grows dark and full of clouds  
and that old north wind begins to blow  
keep your head together  
and call my name out loud  
soon you'll hear me knocking at your door

(chorus)

ain't it good to know that you've got a friend  
when people can be so cold  
they'll hurt you, and desert you  
and take your soul if you let them  
oh, but don't you let them

(chorus)

*(w/m by carole king)*

**a gift of prose**

"ice cream"  
ron english

# **ACCEPTING**

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

ubi caritas, et amor,  
ubi caritas, deus ibi est.  
(where love and caring are, there is god)  
*(w/m: howard hanger)*

## **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)*

# **LEARNING**

micah 6: 1-8  
*god has told you, o mortal, what is good.*

matthew 5: 1-12  
*blessed are the merciful... the pure in heart... the peacemakers...*

### **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 learn to care**

#### **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)*

it is not how much we do, but how much love we put into the doing.

☐ mother teresa

just like space and the great elements such as earth,  
may i always support the life  
of all the boundless creatures.

☐ shantideva, quoted in the tibetan book of living and dying, sogyal rinpoche

homemaking satisfies the soul. . . . home provides the ground, the tether, the foundation, and that elusive quality necessary for psychological peace - security.

☐ thomas moore, the education of the heart

our care should not be to have lived long as to have lived enough.

☐ seneca

and as human persons view creation with compassion,  
in trust, they see the lord.

it is god which humankind is then able to recognize in every living thing.

☐ hildegard of bingen

at times, rare as they may be, we commend ourselves to god's care.

☐ teresa of avila

he who will live for others shall have great troubles, but they shall seem to him small.

he who will live for himself shall have small troubles, but they shall seem to him great.

☐ william r. inge

there is no guarantee of an easy or smooth ride for believers. "faith" according to protestant minister samuel h. miller, "faces everything that makes the world uncomfortable---pain, fear, loneliness, shame, death---and acts with a compassion by which these things are transformed, even exalted."

☐ frederic and mary ann brussat, *spiritual literacy*

it is the enemy who can truly teach us to practice the virtues of compassion and tolerance.

☐ dalai lama