

CELEBRATIONS

**via transformativa: what if...
transformation really does happen?**

march 22, 2009

9:45 & 11:15

**celebration leaders: howard hanger
the world beat band**

GATHERING

prelude & welcome to celebrating what if...

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 transformation

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

the sun will come out tomorrow,
bet your bottom dollar that tomorrow
there'll be sun.

just thinkin' about tomorrow
clears away the cobwebs and the sorrow
till there's none.

when i'm stuck in a day that's gray and lonely,
i just stick out my chin and grin and say,

oh!

the sun'll come out tomorrow,
so you gotta hang on till tomorrow
come what may.

tomorrow! tomorrow!
i love ya, tomorrow!
you're only a day away.

(w:m. charnin, m:c strouse)

a gift of song

"rhapsody"
jubilee! singers

ACCEPTING

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

blessing of the water
members of the jubilee! earth team

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

though below me, i feel no motion
standing on these mountains and plains.

far away, the rolling ocean,
still, my dry-land heart can say:
i've been sailing all my life now,
never a harbor or port have i known.
the wide universe is the ocean i travel
and the earth is my blue boat home.

(m: r.p. wetzler, w: p. mayer)

a gift of song

"life moves"

mary davis

LEARNING

hosea 5:15 – 6:2

on the third day, god will raise us up.

matthew 20: 17-28

whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant.

singing & sharing a holy peace

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

thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path. *(2x)*
when i feel afraid and think i've lost my way,
still, you're there right beside me.
nothing will i fear as long as you are here.
please be near me to the end.
thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path. *(2x)*

(w/m: a. grant)

meditation on what if transformation really happens

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 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 possibility

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 the hollow of a hand.

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)

something is taking place, even if it is invisible. nothing is ever static.
. . . the closest he comes to this emergence is from the water and though his heart carries such a great weight you'd think it would pull him down. for him it is the only time he feels unburdened. . . . he begins to see the beauty of the water, the thickness of life.

□ linda hogan, people of the whale

spring was coming
but hadn't arrived yet.

□ edward hirsch

"with god all things are possible"
that's the beginning and the end of theology. if all things are possible,
nothing is impossible.

□ wendell berry, given

world water day---(readings courtesy of cathy holt)

water in daily life comes through pipes, through taps, apparently as if it's something limitless. that's not the case. there is limitation. our whole life depends on water, and that very thing is limited! so we have the responsibility to take care about water.

□ dalai lama

praised be thou, my lord, for sister water, which is very useful and humble and precious and pure.

□ st. francis of assisi

water is the element of life; wherever possible it wrests life from death. it is the great healer of all that is sick. for water forever strives after balance, a living balance...it can purify, refresh, heal, strengthen, revive and clarify all things.

□ theodor schwenk

no matter how burning the thirst, we must always take the time to honor the gift of water, for it is sacred. it is a gift of life...the masses of people no longer honor the water at all--they just take the water, this blood of our mother, for granted...we must realize that the blood of the earth is also our blood, and the blood of all our ancestors.

□ grandfather (tom brown's mentor)

the water cycle connects us all, and from water we can learn the path of peace and the way of freedom. we can learn how to transcend water wars caused by greed, waste, and injustice, which create scarcity in our water-abundant planet. we can work with the water cycle to reclaim water abundance.

□ vandana shiva

water blessing: "i love you, water. i thank you, water. i respect you, water".

□ masaru emoto

water belongs to the earth and all species and is sacred to life...water is a fundamental human right and a public trust to be guarded by all levels of government.

□ from the cochabamba declaration (bolivia)

if the earth's watery soul cannot run toward the sea, then neither will ours inside our own earth bodies. –

□ martin prechtel

don't ask what love can make or do! look at the colors of the world, the riverwater moving in all rivers at once.

□ rumi

o great spirit of the west, spirit of the great waters, of rain, rivers, lakes and springs. o grandmother ocean, deep matrix, womb of all life. power to dissolve boundaries, to release holdings, power to taste and to feel, to cleanse and to heal, great blissful darkness of peace. we pray that we may be aligned with you, so that your powers may flow through us, and be expressed by us, for the good of this planet earth, and all living beings on it.

□ ralph metzner

my soul has grown deep like the rivers.

□ langston hughes

rain. after a lifetime of drought. that finally cleanses the air. the soot from our eyes. the dingy windows of our western home. the rooftops and branches. the wings of birds. the new light on a slant. pouring. making everything new.

□ paula gunn allen

the waters of the sky or those that flow, those that are dug out or those that arise by themselves, those pure and clear waters that seek the ocean as their goal--let the waters, who are goddesses, help me here and now.

□ hindu prayer

...the most comforting speech in the world, the talk that rain makes by itself all over the ridges, and the talk of the watercourses everywhere in the hollows! –

□ thomas merton