

# CELEBRATIONS

**via transformative: what if...**  
**...we are given whatever it is we need?**  
**april 19, 2009 (earth day: april 22)**  
**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.

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 the glorious gift of love to our world so freely given,  
from below to high above,  
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.pierpoit, m:j.rutter)*

### **a gift of song**

deep river – joan d'entremont

## ACCEPTING

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

twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
and grace, my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour i first believed.

through many dangers, toils and snares  
i have already come  
tis grace that brought me safe thus far  
and grace will lead me home.  
*(w: j.newton; m: trad english tune)*

### **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**

sun, my sail and moon, my rudder  
as i ply the starry sea,  
leaning over the edge in wonder  
casting questions into the deep.  
drifting here with my ship's companions,  
all we kindred pilgrim souls,  
making our way by the light of the heavens  
in our beautiful blue boat home.  
*(m: r.p. wetzler, w: p. mayer)*

### **a gift of story**

"peace ride"  
kathryn hunter

## **LEARNING**

psalm 105: 1-7  
*seek god and god's strength; seek it continually.*

john 20: 19-23  
*he breathed on them...*

### **singing & sharing a holy peace**

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

thy word is 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 lamp unto my feet  
and a light unto my path. *(2x)*  
*(w/m: a. grant)*

### **meditation on**

**"what if...we are given whatever it is we need?"**

### **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 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)*

teach me to take stock of what i have given and received,  
may i know that it's enough,  
that my striving can cease  
in the abundance of god's grace.  
. . . may i know that like you i am rich beyond measure  
□ edward hays

what is enough? are there enough trees here? as always , it seems that the more i can distinguish between my true needs and my wants, the more i am shocked to realize how little is enough.  
□ kathleen norris

we cannot fail to mark this great variety of detail among the trees; we see it in their trunks, their branches, their foliage; in the rude knots, the gnarled roots; in the mosses and lichens which feed upon their bark; in their forms, their coloring, their shadows. and within all this luxuriance of varied beauty, there dwells a sweet quiet, a noble harmony, a calm repose, which we seek in vain elsewhere, in so full a measure.  
□ susan fenimore cooper

let me dive into the water, leave behind all that i've worked for  
except what i remember and believe  
and when i stand on the farthest shore,  
i will have all i need.  
□ david wilcox

in god there is no hunger that needs to be filled, only plenteousness that desires to give. . . god, who needs nothing, loves into existence wholly superfluous creatures in order that he may love and perfect them.  
□ c. s. lewis, the four loves

in this very breath that we take now lies the secret that all great teachers try to tell us.  
□ peter matthiessen

the flute of the infinite is played without ceasing  
and its sound is love.

□ kabir

when we choose not to focus on what is missing from our lives but are grateful  
for the abundance that's present . . . the wasteland of illusion falls away and we  
experience heaven on earth.

□ sarah ban breathnach