

# CELEBRATIONS

via transformative: what if...  
transformation happens to us at every moment?  
april 4, 2009 (palm sunday)  
8:30, 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.

there's no place in this world where i'll belong when i'm gone,  
and i won't know the right from the wrong when i'm gone,  
and you won't find me singin' on this song when i'm gone,  
so i guess i'll have to do it while i'm here.

and i won't feel the flowing of the time when i'm gone,  
all the pleasures of love will not be mine when i'm gone,  
my pen won't pour out a lyric line when i'm gone,  
so i guess i'll have to do it while i'm here.

and i won't breathe the brandy air when i'm gone,  
and i can't even worry bout my cares when i'm gone,  
won't be asked to do my share when i'm gone,  
so i guess i'll have to do it while i'm here.

and i won't be running in the rain when i'm gone,  
and i can't even suffer from the pain when i'm gone,  
there's nothing i can lose or gain when i'm gone,  
so i guess i'll have to do it while i'm here.

and i won't be laughing at the lies when i'm gone,  
and i can't question how or when or why when i'm gone,  
can't become what i've always longed to be when i'm gone,  
so i guess i'll have to do it while i'm here.

*(w/m: phil lochs, adapted)*

### a gift of song

"hosanna!"

jubilee! singers

## ACCEPTING

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

breathe on me, breath of life,  
fill me with strength anew  
that i may move through all my days  
with faith and trust in you.

breathe on me, breath of life,  
transform me even now  
that i may see infinity  
and into compassion grow.  
*(m: r. Jackson, w: e. hatch, adapted)*

### **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 dance**

“talking to god”  
barrie barton & company  
poetry: jay joslin  
music from american beauty

### **the baptism of clarence jackson bailey**

born on february 4, 2009  
to  
delia & jack bailey

## **LEARNING**

isaiah 50: 4-9

*morning by morning god wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.*

matthew 26: 3-13

*a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment...*

### **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 transformation happens to us every moment?”**

**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)*

the firmanent is an all-encompassing circle.  
no one can say where this wheel begins or ends.  
□ hildegard of bingen

the buds are swelling on the bush,  
the sun is beginning to coax the color  
from where it's been curled against the cold,  
the air is sweet to the nostrils;  
even the city seems to be rubbing its eyes  
from a long sleep.  
□ ted loder, guerrillas of grace

only with winter-patience can we bring;  
the deep desired, long-awaited spring.  
□ anne morrow lindbergh

again, again we come and go,  
changed, changing. hands join, unjoin in love and fear,  
grief and joy. the circles turn, each giving into each into all.  
only music keep us here.  
□ wendell berry, selected poems

i hope, finally, he felt brave.  
i hope, finally, he loved the man who rode so lightly upon him,  
as he lifted one dusty hoof and stepped as he had to, forward.  
□ mary oliver, "the poet thinks about the donkey"

we celebrate spring's returning and the rejuvenation of the natural world. let us be moved by this vast and gentle insistence that goodness shall return, that warmth and life shall succeed, and help us to understand our place within this miracle. let us see that as a bird now builds its nest, bravely, with bits and pieces, so we must build human faith. it is our simple duty; it is the highest art; it is our natural and vital role within the miracle of spring: the creation of faith.

□ leunig, a common prayer

my goodness, I am made from planets and wood, diamonds and orange peels,  
now and then, here and there . . .

□ paul harding, tinkers

something began in me and it had no beginning;  
something will end me and it has no end.

□ carl sandburg

if you realize that all things change,  
there is nothing you will try to hold onto.

□ tao te ching