

# CELEBRATIONS

via transformativa: what if...

...it's all spiritual?

may 31, 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.

when i was a boy, each week  
on sunday, we would go to church  
and pay attention to the priest  
he would read the holy word  
and consecrate the holy bread  
and everyone would kneel and bow  
today the only difference is  
everything is holy now  
everything, everything, everything is holy now

when i was in Sunday school  
we would learn about the time  
moses split the sea in two  
jesus made the water wine  
and i remember feeling sad  
that miracles don't happen still  
but now i can't keep track  
'cause everything's a miracle  
everything, everything, everything's a miracle

*(bridge)* wine from water is not so small  
but an even better magic trick  
is that anything is here at all  
so the challenging thing becomes  
not to look for miracles  
but finding where there isn't one

this morning, outside I stood  
and saw a little red-winged bird  
shining like a burning bush  
singing like a scripture verse  
it made me want to bow my head  
i remember when church let out  
how things have changed since then  
everything is holy now  
everything, everything, everything is holy now.  
*(w/m: p. mayer)*

### **a gift of poetry**

“it”  
aliyah schick

## **ACCEPTING**

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

spirit of all holiness, fall afresh on me.  
spirit of all holiness, fall afresh on me.  
calm me, stir me, wake me, lure me.  
spirit of all holiness, fall afresh on me.  
*(w/m: d. iverson, m. baughen, 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)*

## **LEARNING**

joel 2: 28-29  
*even on the male and female slaves i will pour out my spirit.*

john 20: 19-23  
*receive the holy spirit.*

### **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... it's all spiritual?”**

**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 divine manifestation is ubiquitous,  
only our eyes are not open to it.  
awe is what moves us forward.  
 joseph campbell

truly, we live with mysteries too marvelous  
to be understood.  
 mary oliver

work in the invisible world at least as hard  
as you do in the visible.

□ rumi, *the illuminated rumi*, coleman barks, translator

wherever we may come alive, that is the area in which we are spiritual.

□ david steindl-rast

life is a sacred adventure. everyday we encounter signs that point to active  
presence of spirit in the world around us

□ frederic and mary ann brussat

what you're seeking is a transformation of your being far beyond that which any  
specific experience can give you. . . . expect nothing, take every experience,  
including the negative ones, as merely steps on the path, and proceed.

□ ram dass

beyond the finework of frailty,  
the mishmash house of the coming & going,  
creation's fringes,  
the eddies and curlicues

□ a.r. ammons

i believe in a brightness  
miraculously increased  
to shine on all things

□ anna kamienska

