

# CELEBRATIONS

**via positiva: oh yeah!**

**“zorba the greek”**

**september 6, 2009**

**8:30, 9:45 & 11:15**

**celebration leaders: howard hanger**

**the world beat band**

## GATHERING

**prelude & welcome to celebrating the yes road...**

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 the positive road**

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

let it be a dance we do.

may i have this dance with you?

through good times and the bad times too,

let it be a dance!

let a dancing song be heard.

play the music, say the words

and fill the sky with sailing birds,

let it be a dance!

*(chorus)* let it be a dance! let it be a dance!

let it be a dance! let it be a dance!

everybody turn and spin,

let your body learn to bend,

and like a willow in the wind,

let it be a dance!

a child is born; the old must die.

a time for joy, a time to cry.

so take it as it passes by.

let it be a dance!

*(chorus)*

morning stars come out at night.

without the dark, there is no light.

if nothing's wrong, then nothing's right.

let it be a dance!

let the sun shine, let it rain,

share the laughter, bear the pain,

and round and round we go again,

let it be a dance!

*(chorus)*

*(w.m: ric masten)*

## **a gift of music**

“just say yes”  
terry kirkpatrick

# **ACCEPTING**

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

spirit of life, in this new dawn,  
give us the faith that follows on,  
letting thine all-pervading power  
fulfill the dream of this high hour.

spirit creative, give us light,  
lifting the raveled mists of night;  
touch, thou, our dust with spirit hand  
and make us souls that understand.

*(w: e.marlatt/m: h.p.smith)*

## **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**

i see trees of green, red roses too.  
i see them blooming for me and for you  
and i think to myself, what a wonderful world.  
i see skies of blue, clouds of white,  
bright, blessed day, dark sacred night  
and i think to myself, what a wonderful world.

*(w/m: b thiele, g.d.weiss)*

## **a gift of music**

“falling”  
betsy ball

# **LEARNING**

isaiah 66: 18-23

*i know their works and their thoughts.*

luke 13: 22-30

*some are last who will be first; some are first who will be last.*

## **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 zorba the greek - oh yeah!**

## **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 for the positive road**

all, all shall be well.  
all, all shall be well.  
all manner of things shall be well.  
all, all shall be well.  
*(w: julian of norwich, m: h. hanger)*

### **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)*

among the great things which are to be found among us,  
the being of nothingness is the greatest.

□ leonardo da vinci

the time is ripe to return to the primitive, the primal, the carnal. to repeat arthur darby nock, "primitive religion is not believed. it is danced." words, concepts, doctrines, ideas are all very necessary for clarity and for consistent action. there is a time for words. it has lasted from the reformation to the present. now we are sick of being unundated in an ocean of verbiage. the word must be rediscovered in the flesh. religion must return to dance. perhaps zorba is the saint for our time.

□ sam keen, to a dancing god

religious representations of god now get in the way of your direct mystical experience.

□ andrew boyd, daily afflictions

of course, religion's omnipresent defenders are swift to point out the *comfort* it provides for the sick, the weary, and the disappointed. yes, true enough. but the deity does not dawdle in the comfort zone! if one yearns to see the face of the divine, one must break out of the aquarium, escape the fish farm, to go swim up wild cataracts, dive in deep fjords. one must explore the labyrinth of the reef, the shadows of lily pads. how limiting, how insulting to think of god as a benevolent warden, an absentee hatchery manager who imprisons us in the "comfort" of artificial pools, where intermediaries sprinkle our restrictive waters with sanitized flakes of processed nutriment.

□ tom robbins, *skinny legs and all*

we are all in all  
as god  
is all in all.

□ meister eckhart

if you have to ask what jazz is,  
you'll never know.

□ louis armstrong

love god and do what you will.

□ saint augustine

they move in the ancient circle of the dance. the dance and the song  
call each other into being. soon they are one---rapt in a single rapture, so that  
even the night

has its clarity, and time is the wheel that brings it round.

□ wendell berry, from " the wheel"

just as a circle embraces all that is within it,  
so does the god-head embrace all.

no one has the power to divide this circle,  
to surpass it, or to limit it.

□ hildegard of bingen

god does not proclaim himself.

he is everybody's secret.

□ katha upanishad