

CELEBRATIONS

VIA NEGATIVA: Unwelcome Guests

- humiliation -

september 25, 2011

9:45 & 11:15

celebration leaders: howard hanger

the world beat band

GATHERING

*you are encouraged to read the meditation readings,
and to hug, shake hands and know you are welcome here.*

welcome to celebrating the dark side

calling of the drums & the four directions

OPENING

a song to celebrate the no road

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

how fickle my heart and how woozy my eyes.
i struggle to find any truth in your lies.
and now my heart stumbles on things i don't know.
this weakness i feel i must finally show.

lend me your hand and we'll conquer them all;
but lend me your heart and i'll just let you fall.
lend me your eyes, i can change what you see.
but your soul you must keep totally free.

har har, har har, har har, har har

in these bodies we will live, in these bodies we will die.
where you invest your love, you invest your life.
in these bodies we will live, in these bodies we will die.
where you invest your love, you invest your life.

awake, my soul! awake, my soul!
awake, my soul!
you were made to meet your maker.
(w/m: mumford & sons)

a gift of a song

"inscription of hope"
jubilee! singers

ACCEPTING

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

singing the buddhist bowl

a song of assurance

keep your heart above your head and your eyes wide open
so the world won't find a way to leave you cold.
know you're not the only ship out on the ocean.
save your strength for things that you can't change,
forgive the ones you can,
gotta let 'em go.
(w/m: b. caver, l. brown)

a gift of team-building "community life"

LEARNING

proverbs 25: 6-7
it's better to be told, "come up here" than to be put lower.

sura az-zumar (the troops) 39: 23 – 26
as allah leaves to stray, can have none to guide.

luke 14: 1, 7-14
all who exalt themselves will be humbled.

reader: this is ancient wisdom and holy word.
people: thanks be to all that is wise and holy.

reader: all creation is wisdom and holy word.
people: all creation sings of wisdom and god. hallelujah!

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 hands of man.
(wm: r. hunter, j. garcia)

meditation

- humiliation -
howard hanger

BLESSING

offering our money

dedicating our gifts to god

we're coming to the edge, running on the water,
coming through the fog, your sons and daughters...
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)

benediction for the week ahead

awake, my soul! awake, my soul!
awake, my soul!
you were made to meet your maker.
(w/m: mumford & sons)

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)

this being human is a guest house.
every morning a new arrival.
a joy, a depression, a meanness,
some momentary awareness comes as an unexpected visitor.
welcome and attend them all!
even if they're a crowd of sorrows, who violently sweep your house
empty of its furniture, still, treat each guest honorably
he may be clearing you out
for some new delight.

❖ rumi

true humility doesn't consist of thinking ill of yourself but of not
thinking of yourself much differently from the way you'd be apt to think
of anybody else. it is the capacity for being no more and no less pleased
when you play your own hand well than when your opponents do.

❖ frederick buechner, wishful thinking

i long to accomplish great and noble tasks, but it is my chief duty to
accomplish humble tasks as though they were great and noble. the
world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but
also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker.

❖ helen keller

always be humble, but not by bowing your head which is external
humility. real humility is internal and has its origin in wisdom.

❖ rabbi nahman of bratslav, jewish wisdom, david c. gross, editor

humility is a puzzling concept. we know a lot about *humiliation*, but
humility is a new idea. it sounds suspiciously like groveling, bowing,
and scraping. but that's not what humility is at all. true humility is,
simply, acceptance of who we are.

❖ Anonymous

compassion directed to oneself is humility.

❖ simone weil, first and last notebooks

though god hath raised me high, yet this i count the glory of my crown:
that i have reigned with your loves.

❖ elizabeth i, the golden speech

it is god who can transform the lowest into the highest,
who humbles the proud, and causes that which
is in darkness to become light.

❖ Horace

it is a wholesome and necessary thing for us to turn again to the earth
and the in the contemplation of her beauties to know of wonder and
humility.

❖ Rachel Carson