



THALITHA KOUM (2000) by Margrit Prigge

*No matter who you are, or where you are
on life's journey, all of you is welcome here.*

UCC Petaluma - a Community of Love in Service
Sunday, April 28, 2024

This Week's Loving Action: Trust

*To make what is meaningful & valuable to me vulnerable
to another - a willingness to loosen one's fearful control
in a way that is both safe and life-expanding.*

GATHERING LIGHT

Anne Nancy Vosler

My Favorite Things

by John Coletrane ~ arr. by Jason Howze

SUNG CALL TO PRESENCE

Rev. Jason Hubbard

Gathered Here

Sing The Living Tradition #389

Gathered here is the mystery of the hour
Gathered here in one strong body
Gathered here in the struggle and the power
Sprit draw near

~on screen~

SING

Join in the Dance

*Traditional music adapted by Sydney Carter
New lyric for the generations by J. Hubbard*

~ see insert & on screen~

PRAYERFUL SILENCE

Rev. Jason Hubbard

Into My Hands This Day

~ see insert~

SACRED READING

Rev. Michael Vosler

Miriam the Dancing Prophet

~ see insert ~

TEACHING

A CIRCLE OF GENEROCITY

Join in the Dance

Traditional music adapted by Sydney Carter

New lyric for the generations by J. Hubbard

~ see insert & on screen~

BLESSING SONG

Send Us Out

Sing The Living Tradition #389

Send us out in the mystery of the hour
Send us out in one strong body
Send us out in the struggle and the power
Sprit draw near

~on screen~

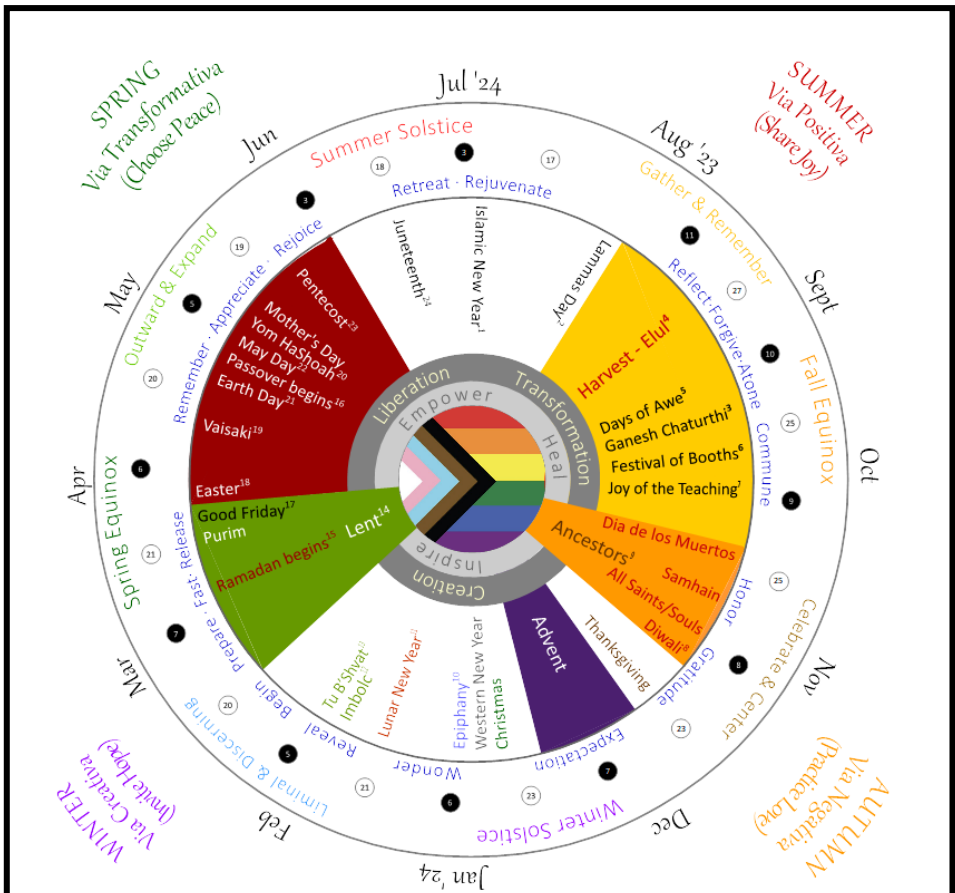
Your Gathering Leaders Today:

Reader: Michael Vosler
Accompanist: Jason Howze
Percussion: Tim Gallagher
Coffee: Mark Shelton

Candles: Anne Nancy Vosler
Bass: Dylan Juhan
AVTech: Chris Cota

If you prefer to make a contribution electronically, please use this QR code to take you to our website and click "donate."





The **Wheel of the Year** is a tool for practicing one's spiritual-religious life in relationship with the cycles of the seasons and the billions of others who practice faiths and traditions other than your own. It is a starting place for the practice of pluralist Christianity, believing that the stories, festivals, and practices of our tradition become richer when in an active, meaningful relationship with our neighbors. If you would like a full size printable copy of the Wheel of the Year, please use this QR code to download the full Wheel and its accompanying "how to" information.



The UCCP Newsletter is only a QR code away. Use the QR code at left to connect with all the happenings!

Join in the Dance

*Adapted from the Traditional melody, Simple Gifts,
as Lord of the Dance by Sydney Carter
New lyric for the generations by J. Hubbard*

I danced in the morning as the world was begun,
I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
I came from the heavens and I danced in the world
And in our dancing was Love unfurled

**Dance, then, wherever you may be,
Join in the dance and you'll soon be free
For you'll find me there, whoever you may be,
I will dance in you as you dance in me**

I danced for the scholars and the preachers too
They would not dance nor even sing a tune
Then I danced for the fishermen who rise at dawn
And they followed me and the dance went on.

Refrain

I danced on the Sabbath and I danced in the field
I danced with those whose fear would never yield
They called me names and they sent me away
And I asked them to dance with me anyway

Refrain

I danced when they said that it wasn't right
I dance so one and all can join my Light
For Love is the dance that will will never end
Join in the dance, feel your Love ascend.

Refrain

Sacred Reading **Miriam the Dancing Prophet**

In the heart of ancient Egypt, there lived a young Hebrew named Miriam, the daughter of Amram and Jochebed who were enslaved under Pharaoh. As Miriam grew, she witnessed the suffering of her kin. Yet amidst this despair, she also witnessed her parents' courage, defying Pharaoh's decree to kill all newborn Hebrew baby boys. And so they hid their baby, Moses, in a basket in the midst reeds of the Nile. Young Miriam watched over her baby brother to ensure his safety as he drifted down the river. When Pharaoh's daughter discovered Moses and took him in as her own, Miriam approached her and offered to find a Hebrew woman to nurse the child. Thus, Moses was returned to his mother's care. As Moses grew, Miriam became his mentor, supporting and challenging him with regard to the liberation of the Hebrew people. Miriam would become a prophetess and when Moses returned to Egypt to confront Pharaoh and demand liberation for the Hebrew's, she joined him in leading Israel to freedom. When the time came for the Israelites to leave Egypt for freedom, Miriam danced, leading the procession with tambourine in hand. As they approached the shores of the Red Sea, with Pharaoh's murderous army in hot pursuit, Miriam lifted her voice clear and strong above the chaos. "Fear not, my kin," she called to them, "for Love is with us and will make a way where there seems to be no way." As the uncrossable waters of the Red Sea parted unimaginably before their eyes, the Israelites made their way, following Miriam's lead with Moses. As they reached the other side, Miriam's heart overflowed with gratitude and joy. She raised her hands to the heavens and began to sing, dancing as her voice rose in a triumphant melody that echoed across the waters. And as she sang, the people joined in, their hearts and voices, dancing and singing together in a song of peace and rejoicing.

Into My Hands This Day

A dancing hands prayer practice

*A Gift from Rev Tom Owen-Tolle to Rev. Jason Hubbard
and expanded in the tradition of a Buddhist gift prayer*

First position (hands held open, shape of a house)

Into my hands this day is given all that I need to
dance with Love in Life

All of the joy and all of the sorrow;

All of the success and all of the failure

All of the ease and all of the suffering;

All of this, the elements of the one Life that has been
given to me to live into this day

Second position (hands in prayer/namaste)

And with these gifts, I am called to take the seat of the
student.

For all that has been given to me into this day exists
so that I might grow my body, mind, and Spirit

This learning may be easy or difficult;

simple or complex;

It may require my attention for a moment

or for a lifetime;

The outcome is not my focus

Opening to the teaching, in some small way,
into this day, is enough.

Third position (hands open, pinkies touching, fingers spread is a gesture of giving & receiving)

As I open, I am welcomed into the Heart of Love,
A Holy rhythm, a dance of giving and receiving
Like the movement of my breath, in & out,
Or the beating of my heart;
The rising and setting of the sun,
The rise & fall of the tides.

I am invited to remember that my one precious life is
not only for me,
It can be poured out into the world as a gift in service
toward others and a greater good.
This is my life breathing and dancing – set forth
toward my friends and even toward those who appear
in Life as my enemy.

Fourth position (cross hands in front of each other
and hook thumbs - shape of bird's wings, resting on
the heart)

And if I should ever feel fearful or alone,
Let me remember that the Source of my Life,
is with me. I am embraced by Love, like a dove
alighting upon my heart. Assured that I am beloved –
created originally good and open to possibility.
And so I can choose now the Loving Action that will
set forth my body, mind, and Spirit, Into This Day.