

Mystery

February 25, 2007

Prelude-- "Bim Bam" and "Tree of Life;" IFFP First Grade Class

Opening Song ~ Gathered Here

*Gathered here in the mystery of the hour
Gathered here in one strong body
Gathered here in the beauty and the power
Spirit draw near.*

Welcome and Sharing Joys

Interfaith Responsive Reading

Reader: We gather here as an Interfaith Community
To share and celebrate the gift of life together

*All: Some of us gather as the Children of Israel
Some of us gather in the name of Jesus of Nazareth
Some of us gather influenced by each*

Reader: However we come, and whoever we are
May we be moved, In our time together
To experience that sense of Divine presence in each of us
Evoked by our worship together

*All: And to know in the wisdom of our hearts
That deeper unity in which all are one.*

Reading-- selections from *Ash Wednesday*, by T.S. Eliot

Reflection ~ "Faith and Mystery" ~ Ellen Jennings

Reading-- Hebrews 11:1 (New Testament)

*"Faith is the essence of things hoped for. The substance of things
unseen."*

Confessions and Concerns of the Community

*You are invited to write something you would like to confess/release on a
piece of paper now and place it in the metal bowl after the Gathering--
Ellen will bless and burn the pieces of paper this afternoon.*

Song ~ Bless the Lord (Taize chant)

*Bless the Lord my soul
And bless God's holy name
Bless the Lord my soul
Who Leads me into life.*

Benediction and Charge

All: May we go out into the world carrying with each of us the love and blessing of this Interfaith Community

Reader: May we continue to hold on to what is good and to stand as beacons of light and understanding for all people.

All: May God's spirit and peace be with us each now and forever.

Reader: May the Lord bless you and keep you and bring you peace. Amen.

Doxology (Christian hymn of praise)-- led by the First Grade Class

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly host
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost
Amen*

Closing Song ~ Prayer of St. Francis

*Make me a channel of your peace
Where there is hatred let me bring your love
Where there is injury your pardon, Lord
And where there's doubt true faith in you*

*O Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love with all my soul*

*Make me a channel of your peace
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope
Where there is darkness, only light
And where there's sadness ever joy.*