

## Song of Life Libera

There's a whisper in the dark  
As a new life comes to be  
Then a song begins to form  
As it finds the harmony  
With a chorus of sound  
Of the world all around  
Now it blends in the tune  
Joining the endless song of life

We shall never be alone  
As we link our hearts in one  
Joining voices from above  
All in the miracle of life  
Through the ages we will grow  
Only time will ever know  
As our voices magnify  
All in the miracle of life  
Love plays along  
In our lives yet to come  
As we join in the song of life

Now the music starts to build  
As the words begin to rhyme  
Then another lends a tune  
As their voices now combine  
With the chorus of sound  
Of the world all around  
Now they blend in their tune  
Sharing the endless song of life

Prayer Leader:

**Carol Kandiko, CSA**

**11 / 10 / 2020**

Printed on 100% recycled paper

## Embracing the Dignity of Difference



Our prayer is characterized by silence ~

**Be still and know that I am God!**

In that silence we listen for a new word.  
God is present in all our lives.  
God cares for us, and  
our life experiences are a source  
of deepening knowledge of God and self.

Inspired by God's Word in the silence  
we share from our hearts.

**Renew · Refresh · Refocus**

14812 Lake Ave, Lakewood, OH 44107 | 216.228.7451  
[centeringspace@srs charity.org](mailto:centeringspace@srs charity.org) | [www.centeringspace.org](http://www.centeringspace.org)

A Sponsored Ministry of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine

**To Ponder:** Ted Dunn,  
Reaching Across our Differences

It is not our differences that divide us but our *judgements*. It is our judgements that lead us to make insensitive and cruel remarks. We need to replace judgment with understanding, cruelty with compassion, avoidance with engagement, and our need to tell others what to believe and how to behave with empathetic listening, in order to understand and learn to appreciate what others believe and why they behave as they do. We need to learn how to reach across our differences, bridge what Parker Palmer calls our “tragic gap” or our fear of the “alien other,” and lean toward one another with understanding and compassion.

Without such self-examination, reflection and dialogue, you run the risk of wounding one another out of naiveté and misunderstanding or, worse, out of arrogance and misguided attempts to proselytize. Without honest reflection, exploration and conversation you will more easily judge one another rather than understand one another, and avoid each other rather than engage each other.

Because the One I love  
lives inside of you,  
I lean as close to you  
as I can.



**Reading:** Ted Loder, Wrestling the Light

Ease me, Unhurried One,  
into the depths of accurate listening  
that, beneath the babble,  
I may attend to  
the pleading in others' eyes,  
the longing in their smiles'  
the loneliness in their slump,  
the fears in their curses,  
the courage in their squint,  
the wisdom in their scars,  
the joy in their timid loves,  
the faithfulness in their beginning yet again;  
that on the whispered, groaning, stammering edge  
of so much hope and need and grace  
I may begin to wrestle to  
some limp of understanding,  
some tilt of trust,  
some murmur of gratitude,  
for this not-so-minor miracle,  
for this merely beloved all  
of yours  
we are.

**Sharing...**  
**a word...**  
**a phrase...**  
**a reflection...**