

Circle of Life *Marty Haugen*

In the seed hides the seedling,
In the seedling hides the tree
In the holy tree hide all the seeds
Of forests yet to be;
Gift of food, gift of shelter,
Blessed presence on the earth;
She will lay her broken body down
To bring new seeds to birth.

Drops of rain feed the life-spring,
And the life-spring feeds the stream;
Tiny streams to mighty river
To the ocean's endless dream.
From the seas rise the showers
Raining down upon the Earth,
And the earth will spring up singing songs
Of water and rebirth.

One great circle of life, living circle of love,
Plants and trees, seas and rivers
And the blessed sky above.
Creatures great, creatures small,
One the web that weaves us all
In the circle of life.

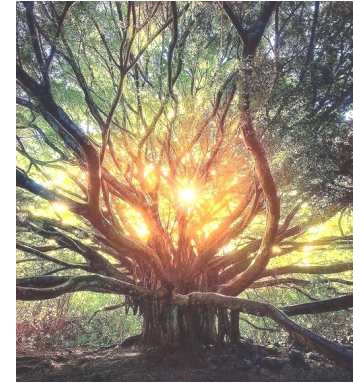
With the whale and the eagle,
With the turtle and the deer
With the forests and the prairie
And the waters fresh and clear,
In a great living circle
That embraces all the earth
We are moving in a holy dance
Of life and death and birth.

Prayer Leader:

Carol Kandiko, CSA
4 / 26 / 2022

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Everywhere is the Center of God's World



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

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An Interfaith Ministry of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine

To Ponder: Michelle Gorman, RSM
Love and More Love

Since I entered religious life in 1970 changes and transitions have occurred all along the way. Those who made a choice to find the Spirit's creativity within the unexpected helped lead us to the mystery of our current realities. The "fierce urgency of now" that Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke of more than 50 years ago is more fierce and more urgent in 2022. How shall we go forward when crisis seems to follow upon crisis within our global context even to the question of the sustainability of life itself?

We are integral to helping birth the future from the crucible of the present. Our suffering world needs what we have always offered - love and more love. Excerpts from Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer's poem, "More Love, More Love," summarizes our dilemma - how to break through the grief, pain, and sorrow of life's changes into the joy that each season of our life promises:

"If sorrow is how we learn to love,
then let us learn.

Let compassion grow rampant,
like sunflowers along the highway.

Let each act of kindness replant itself...

Let us choose love as if our lives depend on it."

Reading: Black Elk

Then I was standing on the highest mountain of them all., and round about beneath me was the whole hoop of the world.

And while I stood there I saw more than I can tell and I understood more than I saw; for I was seeing in a sacred manner the shapes of all things in the spirit and the shape of all shapes as they must live together like one being.

And I saw the sacred hoop of my people was one of the many hoops that made one circle wide as daylight and as starlight, and in the center grew one mighty flowering tree to shelter all the children of one mother and one father.

And I saw that it was holy. . .

But anywhere is the center of the world.

Sharing. . .

a word...

a phrase...

a reflection...