

WHERE LOVE BEARS ALL THINGS

AN OPENING TO SPIRIT
Stu, Rob and Lillie

CALLING IN GOD'S MERCY
From Linke Fligl, a Queer Jewish Chicken Farm and Cultural Project in New York State
Composed for their Sukkot Gathering, 5779 / From Psalm 84:5 (Ashrei Yoshvei)

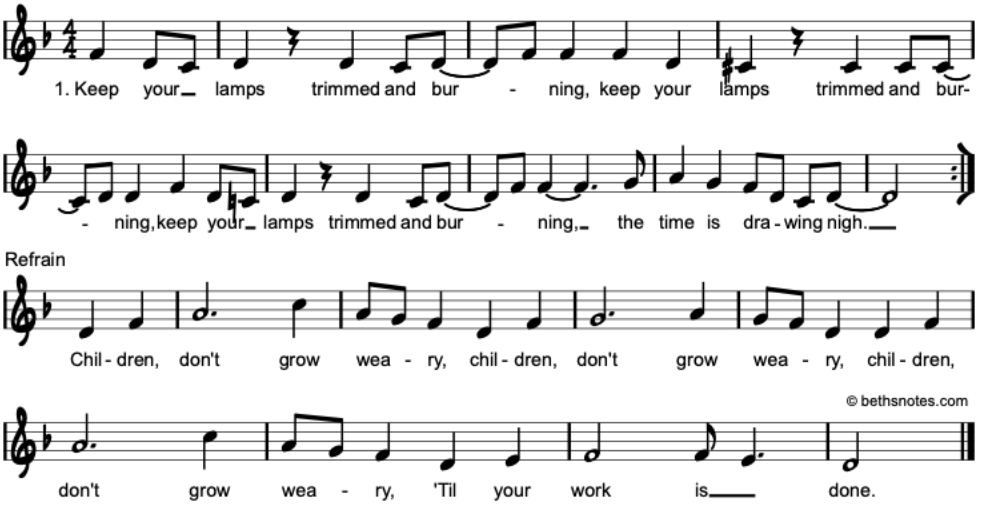
Ashrei yoshvei
Ashrei yoshvei veitekha
Ashrei yoshvei veitekha
od yehalelukha selah

I sing for you
I sing for what is holy and is true
I sing for all creation, for life and liberation
Everyday anew

*** WELCOME TO THE TABLE**

*** SINGING TOGETHER / "KEEP YOUR LAMPS TRIMMED AND BURNING"**
Stu Dias and Friends

African American Spiritual



3. Darker midnight lies before us
Darker midnight lies before us
Darker midnight lies before us
For the time is drawing nigh.
Refrain

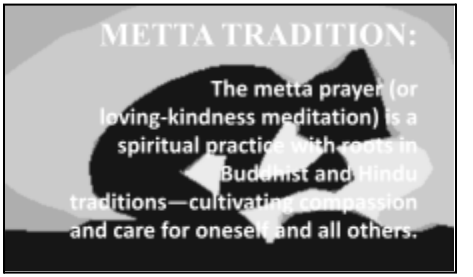
4. Lo, the morning soon is breaking
Lo, the morning soon is breaking
Lo, the morning soon is breaking
For the time is drawing nigh.
Refrain

METTA PRAYER PRACTICE

1) Yourself,
2) A Beloved/Benefactor,
3) An Adversary,
4) All Beings/Earth/Universe

May [I] be free from suffering...

As a river cleansed on its journey to the sea.



May [I] be free from fear…

Like a tall tree steadfast in a storm.

May [I] live in peaceful power…

Rooted in truth, and open to Spirit.

A DEEP BREATH & HOLY PAUSE

One: With one love, as one heart,
let the circle say: "Amen!"
ALL: AMEN!

ONE LOVE

Sung Response / A Cappella / Bob Marley

One love, one heart
Let's get together and feel alright
One love, one heart
Give thanks and praise to the Lord
And we will feel alright

FOR ALL THE WORLD, THE GOSPEL

READING FROM THE ANCIENT TRADITION

Matthew 25:1-13 / **To Keep Lamps Burning** / The Inclusive Bible: First Egalitarian Translation

Then again, the kin-dom of heaven would be likened to ten attendants who took their lamps and went to meet the bridal party. Five of them were wise; five were foolish. When the foolish ones took their lamps, they didn't take any oil with them, but the wise ones took enough oil to keep their lamps burning. The bridal party was delayed, so they all fell asleep.

At midnight there was a cry: "Here comes the bridal party! Let's go out to meet them!" Then all the attendants rose and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "Perhaps there won't be enough for us; run to the dealers and get some more for yourselves."

While the foolish ones went to buy more oil, the bridal party arrived; and those who were ready went to the marriage feast with them, and the door was shut. When the
3 foolish attendants returned, they pleased to be let in. The doorkeeper replied, "The truth is, I don't know you."

So stay awake, for you don't know the day or the hour.

One: For the Word of God in scripture
ALL: We give thanks!
One: For the Word of God among us
ALL: We give thanks!
One: For the Word of God within us
ALL: We give thanks and praise to God!

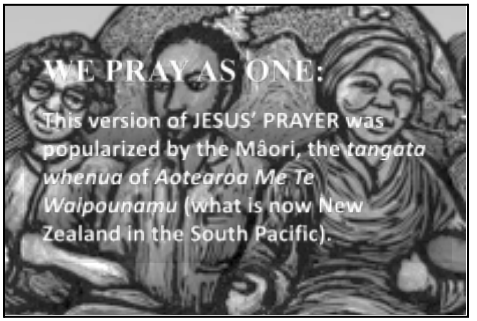
A CENTERING MOMENT

Rob Gerry Invites Reflection

REFLECTIONS

With Dave Grishaw-Jones

* JESUS' PRAYER



Earth-maker, Life-giver, Pain-bearer,
Source of all that is and all that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God in whom is heaven:

May the hallowing of your name
ECHO THROUGH THE UNIVERSE!
May your heavenly will be done
by all creatures great and small!
And may your commonwealth
of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth!

With the bread we need this day, feed us.
For the hurt we inflict on one another, forgive us.
By your grace and mercy,
strengthen us through seasons of temptation,
and spare us from trials too great to endure.
Free us from bigotry and evil, for service and truth;
for you reign in ***THE GLORY OF THE POWER THAT IS LOVE.***

Amen and Ashe!

Ashe ("a-shay") is a concept found in Yoruban culture (Nigeria/Africa):
an awareness of power, conferred by the Creator God, upon all beings and spirits.

ASHE!

Ashe is the power to make things happen, the power to do good, the power to effect change. And it is a divine gift! In 2026, our African American friends across the church are using this as a companion to *Amen*.

Amen acknowledges God's presence and blessing. **Ashe** invokes God's partnership and power!

SONG IN WONDER & AMAZEMENT

Stu, Jimmy, Rob and Lillie

THIS PEACE IS A WAY OF LIFE

* A CELEBRATION OF GOD'S PEACE

As you greet one another with God's peace (Shalom! Salaam!)—
receive the blessings of human community, in the circle of God's grace!

* A PEOPLE IN MOTION: "CIRCLING"

We are circling, circling together
We are singing, singing our heart song
This is family, this is unity,
This is celebration, this is sacred.

We are spiraling, spiraling together
Onward, inward, creature to creation
Holy Mystery, mother earth, child birth,
This is Christ our Savior, this is sacred.

We are ripening, ripening together
Babies, elders, bozos and angels
This is how we grow, this is how we get to know
This is family, this is sacred

SHARING NEWS & POSSIBILITIES

SONG IN WONDER & AMAZEMENT

Stu, Rob and Lillie

WONDERING TOGETHER

Are you bewildered? Are you moved? What does all this call forth in you?

* REFRAIN

As voice calls for voice, sprit to spirit, our circle rises in body or spirit.

Lo, the morning soon is breaking
Lo, the morning soon is breaking
Lo, the morning soon is breaking
For the time is drawing nigh.
Refrain

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning…

AROUND THE CROWDED TABLE

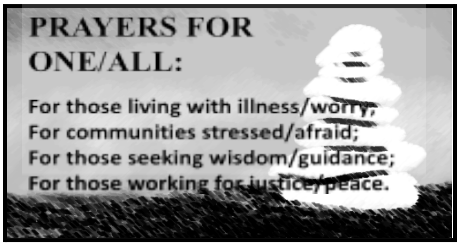
* BREAD BLESSED

"Take this bread, and all that is in it," Jesus says, "for this is God's body, my body, and it's broken here in love for you. As I meet despair with mercy, as I meet violence with peace, so let us share gladly in the Love that bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things!"

And so let us pray: "Amen and Ashe!"
All: "Amen and Ashe!"

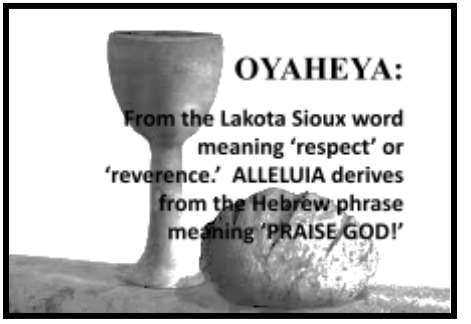
* OUR PRAYERS SHARED

One: In your mercy, dear God,
and by your grace:
All: Hear our prayer.



In every prayer, our community is born again.
In every sigh, every tear, a way opens again.
At every table, Brother Jesus rises again.

All as One: *Oyaheha / Oyaheha*
Oyaheha / Alleluia
Oyaheha / Oyaheha
Oyaheha / Allelu
Oyaheha / Allelu



* JESUS REMEMBERED: FOR LOVE'S SAKE

Because he lives and dies in love,
Because even death has no sway
to dampen or diminish that love,
Because by the Spirit's power
he rises again in you and me,
and in the sharing of this cup among us…

We offer one another
the mercy of our Brother Jesus,
the brimming cup of God's passion,
the peace that is our wholeness and joy.

So it is that this is a new day.
So it is that you and I are free to love and serve.
So it is that all creation sings for the glory of God.

* AN ANCIENT PRAYER OF PRAISE

Holy, holy, holy God of light and God of night
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna, walk beside us; Hosanna, walk beside us
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of Love
Hosanna, walk beside us; Hosanna, walk beside us

MUSICAL COMMUNION

After you've had your share, of one loaf, with one cup,
you return to your seat, to reflect on the grace of this gift received
and what stirs now in **your soul** *and the life of* **our beloved community***!*

EMBODIED, AWAKENED AND SENT

* PRAYER OF THANKS

One: Rise now, friends, in body or spirit, to praise the living God!

The people rise in body or spirit.

We are gathered by Jesus, and renewed in God's grace,
to love one another and the living God with all our hearts!

ALL: **You have blessed us with the Bread of Life,**
and we will be bread and hope for one another.

One: We are made new by God's mercy, and set free from all shame,
to forgive one another and build a joyful and beloved community.

ALL: **You have shared with us the Cup of Wholeness,**
and we will offer to the world the peace that renews us.

One: We are one Body, one people, one in the promise of the Gospel,
committed to a covenant that revels and rejoices in our diversity.

ALL: **You have gathered us by your Holy Spirit:**
gay, straight and queer; many and all genders;
peoples from all continents,
born of many backgrounds, colors and dreams;
children of wildly wonderful hopes
and daring and different abilities.

One: So let us love without hesitation.
So let us rejoice in our unity and peace.
So let the Risen Christ shine in our service and singing!

ALL: **Amen and Ashe!**
Let the Risen Christ shine in our service and singing!

* SONG: "WHEN THAT STORM COMES"

1. When that storm comes, don't run for cover (3x)
   Don't run from the comin' storm,
   No there ain't no use in running

2. When that rain falls, let it wash away (3x)
   Let it wash away, that falling rain,
   The tears and the troubles

3. When those lights, flash, and you hear that thunder roar (3x)
   Will you listen to that thunder roar,
   And let your spirits soar.

4. When that Love calls, open up your door (3x)
   You gotta stand on up and let it in,
   You gotta let Love through your door.

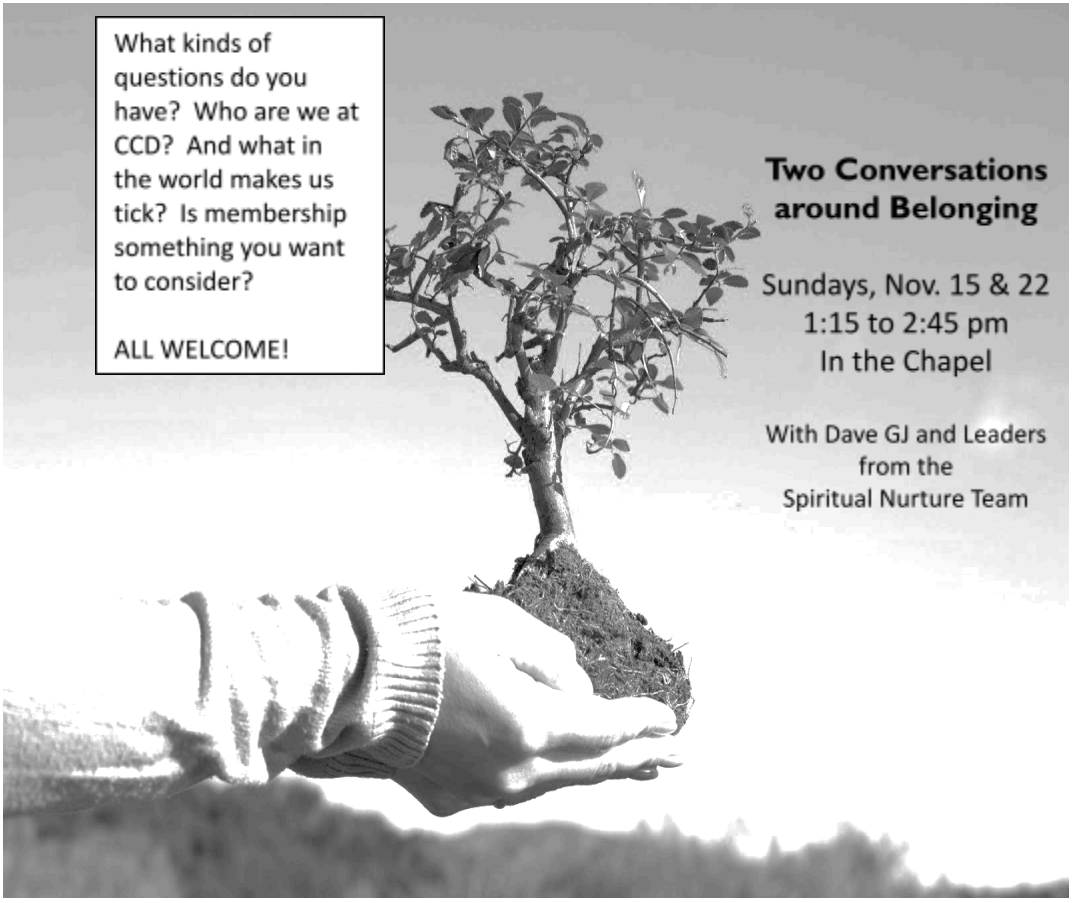
* BLESSING / AMEN & ASHE!

REPRISE & CONNECT

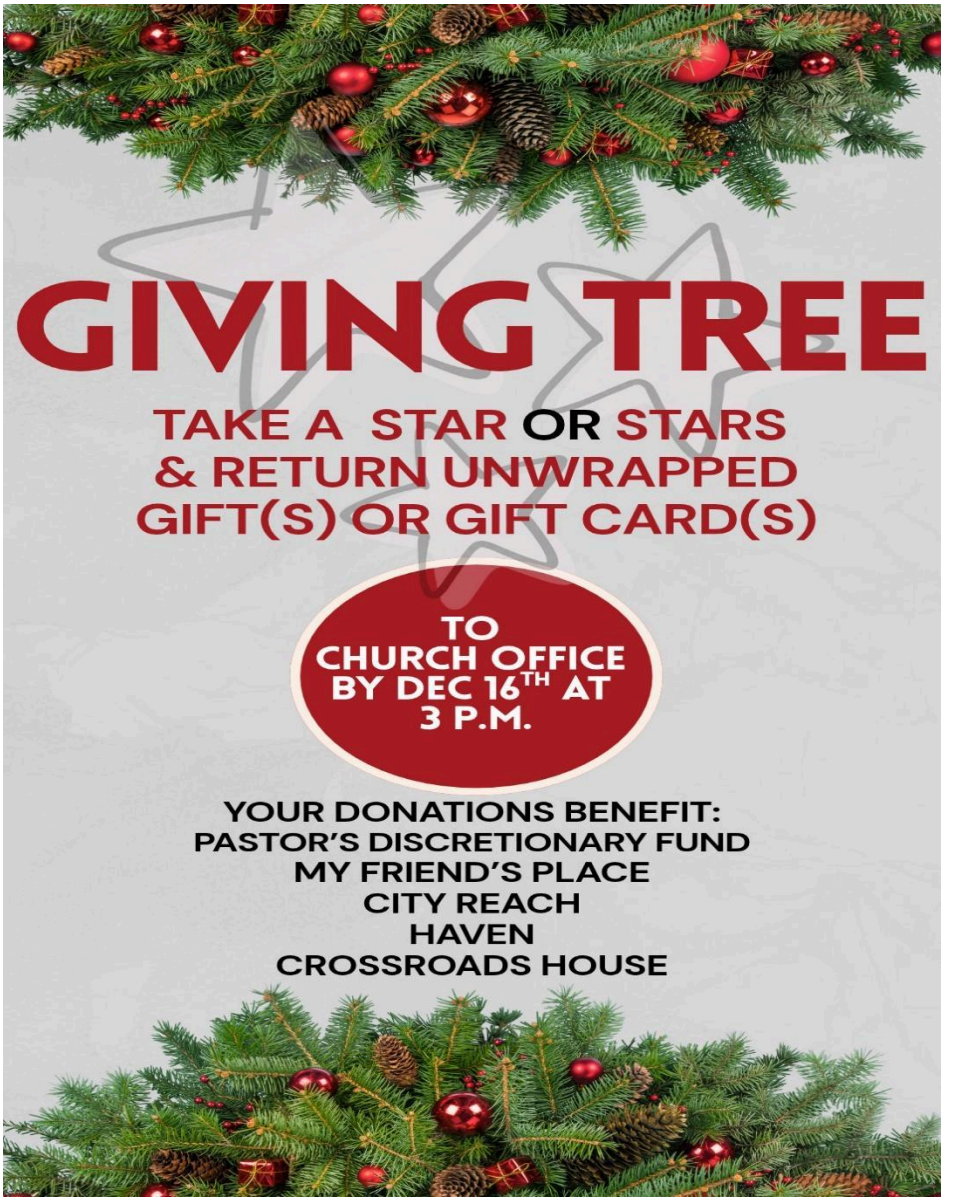
Stu, Jimmy, Rob and Lillie

Go in peace, with wild mercy, to love and be loved in a world of wonders! 8

New to the church? **CONNECTIONS**



9


GIVING TREE
TAKE A STAR OR STARS
& RETURN UNWRAPPED
GIFT(S) OR GIFT CARD(S)
TO
CHURCH OFFICE
BY DEC 16TH AT
3 P.M.
YOUR DONATIONS BENEFIT:
PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND
MY FRIEND'S PLACE
CITY REACH
HAVEN
CROSSROADS HOUSE

Durham Professional Firefighter's Toy Bank



It's that time of year again!

The Durham Professional Firefighters are hosting the annual Toy Bank for the Oyster River Community residents. This year we are implementing an online application to assure no child falls through the cracks this holiday season.

Click on this link for the online application, or Scan the QR code above.
https://forms.gle/fMWBPtrTLmMaJo3b6

Or you can contact the fire station at (603) 862-1426 and one of our Elves will get back to you!

Application due date will be Friday, December 18th.
Toy pickup will be Dec 14-23 at The Durham Fire Station (51 College Rd Durham NH 03824).

Toy Collection Boxes will be put out on November 26, and will be located at:
Hannaford, M&T Bank, Service Credit Union, Durham Public Library, Durham Town Hall as well as the Fire Station. Final toy collection will be the week of December 20th.

For further questions contact:
Rob Rosselli, FF/AEMT
Phone: 603 862 1426
Email: robert.rosselli@unh.edu

Happy Holidays!
Durham Professional Firefighters
12253



Our Christmas Fair is a joyous multigenerational occasion that brings in the larger community and raises much-needed money for the church – and it requires help from many, many people!!

VOLUNTEERS: Needed on or before Fair day. Sign up online HERE or contact Lorna Ellis (LornaEllisNH@gmail.com or 603-969-7962).

QR for Volunteers

DONATIONS NEEDED: For Jewelry, Crafts, Baked Goods, Soups & Stews, Puzzles, Christmas Decorations! Sign up online HERE or contact Lorna Ellis (LornaEllisNH@gmail.com or 603-969-7962).

QR for Donations

AUCTION ITEMS STILL WELCOME! Please contact Dianne Thompson (dialthomp@comcast.net or 603-785-2927).