

# Magdalen Community at Rothko Chapel

## Sunday, January 15, 2006, 10:00 a.m.

*The Magdalen Community is a connective community seeking conversation  
and dialogue with other spiritualities and religious traditions.*

### Opening Music

*Faire is the heaven* (William H. Harris (1883—1973); text from *An Hymne of Heavenly Beautie*,  
1596, by Edmund Spenser

### Call to Silence and Opening Meditation

### Opening Greeting

*Solo:*            *Peace Be With You.*

*Unison:*       *Acquire My Peace within you.*

### Opening Dialogue

*Solo:*            *Where are you from?*

*Unison:*       *We have come from the place where light is produced from itself.*

*Solo:*            *Where is that place?*

*Unison:*       *It's a mystery.*

*Solo:*            *But can you say you image the light?*

*Unison:*       *Yes, indeed. We carry the light within.*

*Solo:*            *And the peace?*

*Unison:*       *Yes, also the peace.*

*Solo:*            *How do you know of such light and such peace?*

*Unison:*       *The sign is the feeling.*

*The sign is the movement from within.*

*The sign is the passion for the well-being of all.*

*Solo:*            *What are your other signs?*

*Unison:*       *Our recognitions of injustice and hatred and oppression  
throughout the globe, of power struggles and violence  
that seem unending.*

*Solo: Can we turn those around?*

*Unison: We must seek to do so.*

*Solo: Are you willing to spread your light and your peace?*

*Unison: We are eager to spread them.  
They spread just as love spreads.*

*Solo: The kingdom spreads out on the earth, just as love spreads.*

*Unison: But some people are not aware of it.*

*Solo: Yet you are aware.*

*Unison: Yes, indeed.  
We are aware of the light and the movement and the peace.  
And we cannot stand back.  
We will step forward.  
We will overcome the violence, the domination, the hatred,  
and spread love.*

## **Readings and Call to conversation**

### ***A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures: Deuteronomy 30:11-14***

*Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.*

### ***A Reading from the Qur'ân (Sûrah 87):***

*The Most High*

*In the name of Allâh, the Beneficent, the Merciful.*

- 1. Glorify the name of your Lord, the Most High,*
- 2. Who creates, then makes complete,*
- 3. And Who makes (things) according to a measure, then guides (them to their goal),*
- 4. And Who brings forth herbage,*
- 5. Then makes it dried up, dust-colored.*

6. We will make you recite so you shall not forget,
7. Except what Allah pleases, surely He knows the manifest, and what is hidden.
8. And We will make your way smooth to a state of ease.
9. Therefore do remind, surely reminding does profit.
10. He who fears will mind,
11. And the most unfortunate one will avoid it,
12. Who shall enter the great fire;
13. Then therein he shall neither live nor die.
14. He indeed shall be successful who purifies himself,
15. And magnifies the name of his Lord and prays.
16. Nay! you prefer the life of this world,
17. While the hereafter is better and more lasting.
18. Most surely this is in the earlier scriptures,
19. The scriptures of Ibrahim [Abraham] and Musa [Moses].

### *A Reading from The Gospel of Mary Magdalen*

"The soul replied, saying, 'What binds me has been slain, and what surrounds me has been destroyed, and my desire has been brought to an end, and ignorance has died. In a [wor]ld, I was set loose from a world [an]d in a type, from a type which is above, and (from) the chain of forgetfulness which exists in time. From this hour on, for the time of the due season of the aeon, I will receive rest i[n] silence.' "

After Mary had said these things, she was silent, since it was up to this point that the Savior had spoken to her.

### **Closing Music**

*Faire is the heaven*

### **Closing Dialogue**

**Solo:**            *Are you aware of the light and the peace within you?*

**Unison:**       *We have the feeling and the movement,  
The passion for the well-being of all.*

**Solo:**            *Light spreads, just as love spreads.  
Are you willing to speak your feeling of light?*

**Unison:**       *Yes, indeed, we must speak the feeling.  
We must act the peace.*

*Solo: Then let us practice the feeling.  
Let us practice the action of peace.*

*Unison: Let us dance the feeling.  
Let us dance the peace.  
Let us dance from the light.*

*Solo: Let us move together  
In the light and the peace.*

*Unison: Let us go forth in the power of the Spirit.*