

Magdalen Community at Rothko Chapel

Sunday, August 13, 2006, 10:00 a.m.

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

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

Three Readings from the Gospel of Philip

"But when Christ, the perfect human, came, he brought bread from heaven, that humans might be fed with human food."

"If the children of Adam are numerous but die, how much more numerous are the children of the perfect human, who do not die but are continually being born."

"Three women always walked with the master: Mary his mother, [his] sister, and Mary Magdalene, who is called his companion. For "Mary" is the name of his sister, his mother, and his companion."

Two Reading from The Gospel of Mary Magdalen

"This is why the Good has come into your midst. It acts together with the elements of your nature so as to reunite it with its roots."

Then Mary arose, embraced them all, and began to speak to her brothers: "Do not remain in sorrow and doubt, for his Grace will guide you and comfort you. Instead, let us praise his greatness for he has prepared us for this. He is calling us to become fully human."

A Reading from The Woman's Bible (Matthew, Chapter 1), Elizabeth Cady Stanton (from www.sacred-texts.com)

But if Jesus was a man who was born, lived and died as do other men, a worthy example for imitation, he is deserving of our love and reverence, and by showing us the possibilities of human nature he is a constant inspiration, our hope and salvation; for the path, however rough, in which one man has

walked, others may follow. As a God with infinite power he could have been no example to us; but with human limitations we may emulate his virtues and walk in his footsteps.

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.

*As an expression of appreciation to The Rothko Chapel for use of this sacred space,
your love offering in the box marked "Magdalen Community"
will be gratefully received.*

*For more information about the Magdalen Community, please contact Bridgitt Ayers,
<bdickey@rice.edu>. Please include "Magdalen Community" in the subject line.*