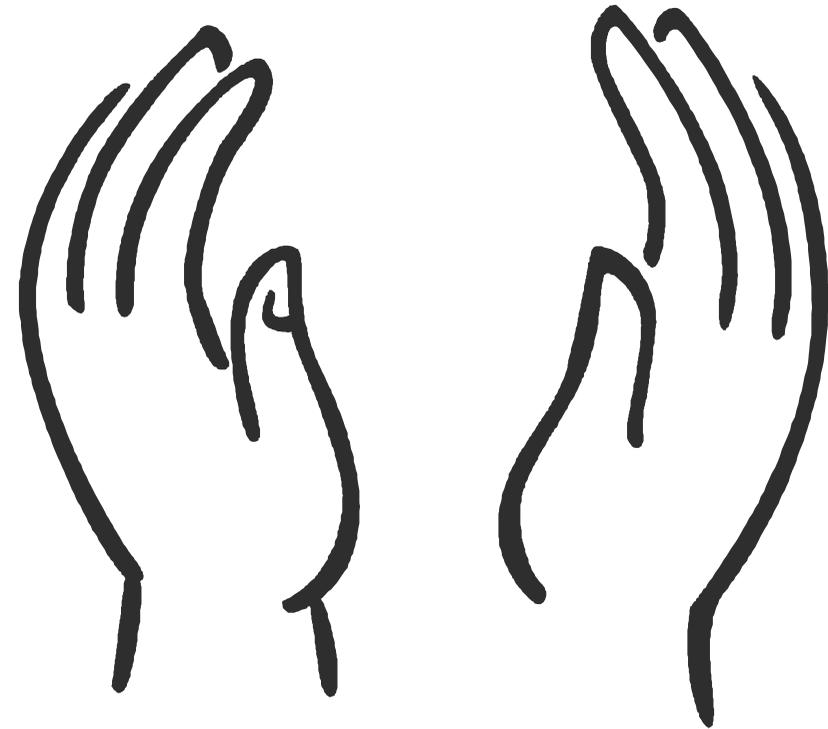


*Eighth Annual*

*Community Interfaith  
Thanksgiving Service*



*7:00 PM Monday, November 19, 2007  
at Ahavas Israel*

*Co-hosted by Congregation Ahavas Israel and All Souls Community Church*

## Prelude

*Ancient Seas*— Carolyn McDade

All Souls Community Church: The All Souls Ensemble

Molly Bryan (piano), Marty Gabert (marimba), David Maxam (guitar),  
Vicki MacConnell (flute), Christine Barfuss (oboe), Jody Gabert (viola),  
David MacConnell (bass clarinet), Elgin Vines (contrabass)

*“For this I know, and know I know: Love is to know and to be known...”*

## Choral Anthem

*Creation Will Be At Peace*—Anna Laura Page

First United Methodist Church Chancel Choir  
Mark Loring, Director

## Welcome

Rabbi David Krishef

Congregation Ahavas Israel

## Hymn {please stand}

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

1. For the beau - ty of the earth,  
2. For the won - der of each hour  
3. For the joy of ear and eye,  
4. For the warmth of hu - man love,

for the glo - ry of the skies, for the love which  
of the day and of the night, hill and vale and  
for the heart and mind's de - light, for the mys - tic  
broth-er, sis - ter, par - ent, child; friends on earth and

## Acknowledgements

### Thank You to...

- you who have gathered to celebrate our unity in diversity as a community
- First Protestant Reformed Church, for their assistance with parking
- the participants for sharing their expressions of gratitude
- the many volunteers who worked behind the scenes to make this event possible

### Event Co-Sponsors

- All Souls Community Church (Unitarian Universalist) ▪ Baha'i Community
- Cathedral of St. Andrew ▪ Catholic Information Center ▪ Center for Inquiry | Michigan ▪ Congregation Ahavas Israel ▪ First United Methodist Church ▪ Fountain Street Church ▪ Grand Rapids Friends Meeting
- GR Meditation Circle of Self Realization Fellowship ▪ Interfaith Dialogue Association ▪ Islamic Mosque and Religious Institute ▪ Lakeshore Interfaith Institute/Mother's Trust, Mother's Place ▪ Sacred Space ▪ St. Andrew Episcopal Church ▪ St. James Catholic Church ▪ St. Mary Catholic Church
- Temple Emanuel ▪ Trinity United Methodist Church ▪ West Michigan Hindu Temple ▪ Westminster Presbyterian Church ▪

### Planning Team

Rabbi David Krishef, Rev. Dr. Brent Smith, Rev. Dr. Fred Wooden, Fred Stella,  
Dr. Ali Metwalli, Walt Marston, Mark Loring, Gloria Holmes, Anne Gurecki,  
Dr. Robert Collins, Rev. Dr. Jennie Browne, Rev. Fr. Tom Bolster, Rev. Sacha Bier,  
Jennifer Beahan, Larry Barton

*Benediction*

Reverend Dr. Brent A. Smith  
All Souls Community Church

*Postlude*

*Oya De*, a chant celebrating good harvest  
WaZoBia Drum Ensemble  
Sunny Eselekhomen, Josh Dunigan, Jennifer Beahan,  
Emily Byxbe, Andrew Teggelaar, Geoff Lomden

*WaZoBia means "Come, Come, Come" in three native languages of Nigeria*

*You Make a Difference*

*To help alleviate hunger, baskets are available near the doors for **monetary offerings**.  
Your generosity will benefit those aided by the Temple Emanuel Food Bank and Second  
Harvest Gleaners.*

*Reception*

*Everyone is invited to a reception following the celebration in the back of the social hall.*

6  
from our birth tree and flow'r, har - mo - ny friends a - bove,  
o - ver and a - round us lies: sun and moon and stars of light:  
link - ing sense to sound and sight: for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:

9  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Text: Folliot S. Pierpoint. Tune: DIX; arr. from Conrad Kocher by William H. Monk.

*Native American Spiritual Healing*

Fred Chivas  
Nottawaseppi Band of Potawatami

*Smudging is a way to purify the area so that the good medicine can flow, an extra blessing from the earth that provides good results.*

*Reading from Baha'u'llah, Prophet Founder of Baha'i Faith*

Michael Hampton

*Traditional Vedic Prayer of Gratitude*

Bal Vihar Children's Choir  
West Michigan Hindu Temple Society

# A Thanksgiving Meditation for Free Thinkers

Robert W. Collins, PhD  
Center for Inquiry—Michigan

## Song Prayer in the Style of Taizé

*In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*  
Larry Barton & Roberta Lewis-Barton  
St. Mary Church

*For an increasing number of North Americans, the name Taizé evokes a certain style of singing that has become popular in more and more churches, retreat centers and campus parishes. Some people may even be aware that Taizé is in fact an ecumenical community of brothers located in the small village of that name in the Burgundy region of eastern France.*

*The music of Taizé prayer generally consists of short songs, repeated again and again to foster meditation.*

*E-sta - ré a-gra-de - ci - do, en el Se - ñor me go - za -*  
In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord I will re -

*ré. Mi - rad a Dios, no te - man, le - van - ten sus*  
joyce! Look to God, do not be a - fraid; lift up your

The score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It features a treble and bass clef. The melody is simple and repetitive, with some triplets and slurs. The lyrics are in Spanish and English.

## Hymn {please stand}

*Let All Things Now Living*

1. Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks -  
2. The law God en - forc - es, the stars in their

giv - ing to God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly  
cours - es, and sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly

raise; who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and  
shine, the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and

stayed us, who guid us and leads to the end of our  
foun - tains, the deeps of the o - cean pro - claim the di -

days. God's ban - ners fly o'er us, God's light goes be -  
vine. We, too, should be voic - ing our love and re -

fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night: 'till  
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion, a song let us raise, 'till

shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as  
all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing, to

for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.  
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!

The score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a treble clef. The melody is simple and repetitive, with some slurs and ties. The lyrics are in English.

Text: Exodus 13:21; Ps. 148; Ps. 150:6; Katherine Kennicott Davis. ©1938, 1966, E.C. Shirmer. All rights reserved. Used with permission, CCLI license #1530580. Tune: ASH GROVE, traditional Welsh melody.

## Kaddish

chanted by Cantor Stuart Rapaport

*Kaddish is a traditional Jewish doxology, which serves as a liturgical conclusion to a service.*

### Translation:

May God's name be exalted and sanctified throughout the world, created according to God's will. May God's sovereignty soon be accepted, during our life and in the life of all Israel. And let us say, Amen.

May God's great name be praised throughout all time. Glorified and celebrated, lauded and worshipped, exalted, and honored, extolled and acclaimed may the Holy One be, praised beyond all song and psalm, beyond all tributes that mortals can utter. And let us say, Amen.

May the prayers and pleas of all the people Israel be accepted by our Guardian in heaven. And let us say, Amen.

Let there be abundant peace from heaven, with life's goodness for us and for all Israel. And let us say, Amen.

May the one who makes peace in the universe bring peace to us and to all Israel. And let us say, Amen.

7

vo - ces — al Se - ñor, le - van - ten sus vo - ces, Él e - stá — cer - ca.  
voices, the Lord is near; lift up — your voices, the — Lord is near! —

7

Text: Taizé Community. Music: Jacques Berthier. ©1986, 1991, Les Presses de Taizé; GIA Publications, Inc., agent—7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. All rights reserved. Used with permission, OneLicense.net #A-712923.

## Reflection

*For This We Give Thanks!*

Michelle Loyd-Paige

*Dr. Michelle Loyd-Paige earned her PhD in Sociology from Purdue University in 1989. She began her ministerial training in 1986 by answering the call on her life to "preach". She currently serves at Christian Fellowship and Outreach Church in Muskegon, Michigan as an Elder, and is the Dean for Multicultural Affairs and a Professor of Sociology at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan.*

*Dr. Michelle is founder and president of PreachSista! Inc., through which she hosts preaching workshops for women, domestic violence awareness seminars for clergy and other spiritual leaders, banquets which recognize and honor the work of women in ministry, and conferences designed to "stir up the gifts" in the women and men of God. She is passionate about the elimination of institutional racism, especially on Christian college campuses. She is an anti-racism educator and a promoter of pedagogy that is sensitive to the diversity found within the kingdom of God. In addition to her interests in multicultural education and anti-racism, she writes about the experiences of black clergywomen.*

*Modim Anachnu Lach (We Give Thanks)*

Bonia Shur

Shir Shalom Choir  
Bill Marfink, Director

Translation:

We thank You, God. You are the God of our fathers and mothers. O Rock of Strength, we offer thanks to You for all Your blessings: We thank You for our lives, for Your never-failing kindness, and for Your wondrous deeds, morning, noon, and night. We will praise Your name for ever. We give thanks to You for our lives which are in Your hands, for our souls which are ever in Your keeping, for Your wondrous providence and Your continuous goodness, which You bestow upon us day by day. Truly, Your mercies never fail, and Your love and kindness never cease. Therefore do we forever put our trust in You.

*A Quaker Query*

Joy Pryor

Grand Rapids Friends Meeting

*Quakers worship in silence, waiting and listening to the Spirit. Self-reflection and thanksgiving may also be experienced.*

Query:

Are we good stewards of the abundant gifts bestowed upon us?  
How do we express our gratitude for these gifts?  
How do we share out of this experience?

*O Make Our Hearts to Blossom*

arranged by Lee Copenhaver

*Bound for Jubilee*

Joyce Eilers

Whatever 4 or More: Marv Ebbens, Phil Hertel, Tom Macholon, Dale Male, Joe Veenstra  
Westminster Presbyterian Church

*Verses from the Holy QUR'AN Sora XXXI, Luqman (The wise)*

Imam Morsy Salem

Islamic Mosque and Religious Institute

Translation:

31/ 12-20: We bestowed (in the past) Wisdom on Luqman: “show (thy) gratitude to God. Any who is (so) grateful does so to the profit of his own soul: but if any is ungrateful, Verily God is free of all wants, worthy of all praise. Behold, Luqman said to his son By way of instruction: “O my son! Join not in worship (others) with God: for false Worship is indeed the highest wrong-doing.” And We have enjoined on man (to be Good) to his parents: in travail upon travail did his mother bear him, and in years Twain was his weaning: (hear the command), “show gratitude to Me and to thy Parents: to Me is (thy final) goal. “But if they strive to make thee join in worship with Me things of which thou hast no knowledge, obey them not; yet bear them company In this life with justice (and consideration), and follow the way of those who turn to Me (in love): in the End the return of you all is to Me, and I will tell you the truth (and meaning) of all that ye did.” “O my son” (said Luqman), “if there be (but) the Weight of a mustard-seed and it were (hidden) in a rock, or (anywhere) in the Heavens or on earth, God will bring it forth: for God understands the finest mysteries, (and) is well-acquainted (with them). “O my son! establish regular prayer, enjoin What is just, and forbid what is wrong: and bear with patient constancy whate’er Betide thee; for this is firmness (of purpose) in (the conduct of) affairs. “And swell not thy cheek (for pride) at men, nor walk in insolence through the earth; For God loveth not any arrogant boaster. “And be moderate in thy pace, and lower Thy voice; for the harshest of sounds without doubt is the braying of the ass.” Do ye not see that God has subjected to your (use) all things in the heavens and on Earth. And has made his bounties flow to you in exceeding measure, (both) seen And unseen? Yet there are among men those who dispute about God, without Knowledge and without guidance, and without a Book to enlighten them!

*A Buddhist Prayer*

Karen Gipson

*Don't Forget Where All Your Blessings Come From*

New Spiritual Reflections

Kim Houston, Sandy Willis, Latonya Watson, Kimberley Morgan, and Robert Johnson