

## TAPROOT FAITH COMMUNITY

# IMAGINATION

**I have a dream** – excerpts

Martin Luther King, Jr.

### WELCOME

### SONG

#### Whatever you imagine

Can one day come to be...  
There are dreams to awaken,  
Roads to be taken.  
Follow them and they will set you free...

Whatever you imagine  
Is where your heart can go.  
There are worlds filled with treasure,  
Time without measure,  
To learn whatever you may need to know.

Imagine,  
And you and I can fly past the sun  
And leave all our doubts and fears behind us.  
You see, that's just what can happen  
When you look inside your mind.  
There's no limit to the wonders you can find!

Whatever you imagine  
Can make your life brand-new.  
There are miracles waiting,  
So keep concentrating  
And I promise you that if you do.....  
Whatever you imagine can come true.....

Wendy Moten

### PRAYER (ALL)

O Dawn of the New Creation,  
spill a ray of hope  
to lift the hearts  
of Your sons and daughters,  
for we are bound by a vision  
that is not always clear to see.  
As we live into Your promises,  
help us to help each other,  
for we truly need each other,  
as You need us  
and we need You  
every day of our lives. Amen.

### READING 1

Saramago, Portuguese poet  
Some people spend their entire lives reading but never get  
beyond reading the words on the page, they don't  
understand that the words are merely stepping stones  
placed across a fast-flowing river, and the reason they're  
there is so that we can reach the farther shore, it's the other  
side that matters.

### READING 2

Isaiah 35:1-10 (edited)

The desert and the parched land will be glad;  
the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.  
Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom;  
it will rejoice greatly and sing for joy.  
All will see the glory of God,  
the splendor of the Holy One.  
Then the eyes of the blind will be opened  
and the ears of the deaf will be cleared.  
Then those who are lame will leap like a deer,  
and the tongues of the mute will shout for joy.  
Water will gush forth in the wilderness  
and streams in the desert.  
The burning sand will become a pool,  
the thirsty ground bubbling springs.

Gladness and joy will overtake the world,  
and sorrow and lament will flee away.

## GOSPEL

Luke 1, 46–55

My Soul proclaims your greatness, O my God,  
and my spirit has rejoiced in you, my Savior,  
For your regard has blessed me,  
poor, and a serving woman.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed,  
For you who are mighty,  
have made me great.  
Most Holy be your Name.

Your mercy is on those who fear you throughout  
all generations.  
You have shown strength with your arm,  
You have scattered the proud in their hearts' fantasy.  
You have put down the mighty from their seat,  
and have lifted up the powerless.

You have filled the hungry with good things,  
and have sent the rich away empty.  
You, remembering your mercy,  
have helped your people Israel,  
As you promised Abraham and Sarah.  
Mercy to their children, forever.

## SHARED REFLECTION

**PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY** (Each person writes their  
dream on a prepared card and brings it to the bare altar)

What do you dream for?    Response: **Amen**

## SONG : **Everyday God**

1) Earth's Creator...  
Loving Maker...

**Everyday god**  
**O Jesus**

You who shaped us...  
Recreate us...

2) In your presence...  
We are gathered...  
You have called us...  
To restore us...

4) In our resting...  
In our rising...  
In our hoping...  
In our waiting...

6) God of laughter...  
God of sorrow...  
Home and shelter...  
Strong and patient...

8) Word of gladness...  
Word of mercy...  
Word of friendship...  
Word of challenge...

10) Our beginning...  
Our unfolding...  
Our enduring...  
Journeys ending...

## **O Spirit**

### **Come be with us**

3) Life of all lives...  
Love of all loves...  
Hope of all hopes...  
Light of all lights...

5) In our dreaming...  
In our daring...  
In our searching...  
In our sharing...

7) Way of freedom...  
Star of morning...  
Timeless healer...  
Flame eternal...

9) Gentle father...  
Faithful brother...  
Tender sister...  
Loving mother...

11) Alleluia...  
Now and always...  
Alleluia...  
Through all ages...

*Bernadette Farrell: Restless is the Heart*

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

**Loving God, Creator Spirit, Ground of our being, we  
thank you for the wonderful gift of imagination that  
helps us to recognize and name your presence in the  
universe.**

We thank you that through Jesus of Nazareth you showed us  
how to live lives of compassion.

- Through him we learned how to make space for the other, as you, Holy Mystery, make space for us.
- Through him we learned how to be attentive to what is around us and hear your silent voice.
- Through him we learned how to be focused and committed to what we do, as you are ever faithful to us.
- Through him we learned how to imagine what does not yet exist, and by doing so, with you, invite it to take form.

**We remember the night before he died, when he took bread, gave you thanks for everything he had, broke the bread and shared it with his friends asking them to remember his total commitment to you and his enduring love for each of them.**

**This is my body, given for you.**

**Likewise, knowing his life was to be poured out, He shared the cup of wine with them.**

**This is my blood shed for you. A covenant of love.**

We pray for all who allow the mind and heart and spirit of Jesus to motivate their actions. We pray that christian leadership may be open and affirming, creative and challenging. We pray that all might better recognize, acknowledge, and acclaim your presence in all people, at all times, in all places.

**For ourselves,  
who trust that your dream for the world is possible,  
we ask the grace to be the "body of Christ".  
Amen.**

#### **SONG – MEDITATION**

Imagine there's no countries  
It isn't hard to do  
Nothing to kill or die for

And no [bad] religion too  
Imagine all the people  
Living life in peace

You may say that I'm a dreamer  
But I'm not the only one  
I hope someday you'll join us  
And the world will be as one

Imagine no possessions  
I wonder if you can  
No need for greed or hunger  
A brotherhood of man  
Imagine all the people  
Sharing all the world

You may say that I'm a dreamer  
But I'm not the only one  
I hope someday you'll join us  
And the world will live as one

John Lennon (edited)

#### **CLOSING PRAYER (ALL)**

We pledge to walk together  
and be women and men determined to bring about  
a new time.

And then all that has divided us will merge.  
And then compassion will be wedded to power.  
And then softness will come to a world  
that is harsh and unkind.

And then both men and women will be gentle.  
And then both women and men will be strong.  
And then no person will be subject to another's will.  
And then the greed of some will give way  
to the needs of many.

And then all will share equally in the earth's abundance.  
And then all will care for the sick and the weak and the old.  
And then all will nourish the young.

And then all will cherish life's creatures.  
And then all will live in harmony with each other  
and the earth.

And then everywhere will be called Eden once again.

Judy Chicago

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG God of All People

David Haas

....the more fertile our imagination, the better we  
can be at being both reasonable and emotional. As  
broad and deep as our dreams are, so can our  
realities become....

The imagination, then, is where it all starts, both  
for you and for me.

Yann Martel

*Imagination is the instrument  
of compassion*

*Zbigniew Herbert*

*Show me the dreamer and I'll  
show you one of God's  
heartbeats for the human  
race.*

*Joan Chittister OSB*