

November 2024 Chalice Circle: Care for Possibility  
UU Value: Justice

Opening Words and Chalice Lighting

"We light this chalice today to illuminate our way toward Love. Inside the womb of this waiting time, we are bathed in sounds, floating in love, growing out of our comfort zone. We experience love, sorrow, pain, and joy. There is a numinous quickening as we await a new world yet unborn."

(Melissa Jeter)

Check-in: Without crosstalk or interruption, briefly describe where you are in your life now, and notice what needs to be shared in order to be fully present in our circle.

[Song: Speak Your Words To Power ft. Emmeline Pankhurst by Violet Vonder Haar](#)

(Emmeline Pankhurst (15 July 1858 – 14 June 1928) was a British political activist and leader of the British suffragette movement who helped women win the right to vote.)

lyrics

say it like you mean it  
say it like you mean it  
say it like you mean it  
and say it out loud

scream it like you feel it  
scream it like you feel it  
scream it like you feel it  
and scream it out loud

speak your words to power  
like you know what to say  
speak your words to power  
til you're not afraid  
speak your words to power  
like it's life or death  
speak your words to power  
til your last breath

sing it like you know it  
sing it like you know it  
sing it like you know it  
like you know all the words

write it like you've been there baby  
write it like you've been there  
write it like you've been there  
and you know how it hurts

speak your words to power  
like you know what to say  
speak your words to power  
til you're not afraid  
speak your words to power  
like it's life or death  
speak your words to power  
til your last breath

Reading1:

"Through love, all is possible." (Sarah J. Maas)

## Reading 2:

“Say these words when you lie down and when you rise up, when you go out and when you return. In times of mourning and in times of joy. Inscribe them on your doorposts, embroider them on your garments, tattoo them on your shoulders, teach them to your children, your neighbors, your enemies, recite them in your sleep, here in the cruel shadow of empire: Another world is possible.

Thus spoke the prophet Roque Dalton:  
All together they have more death than we,  
but all together, we have more life than they.  
There is more bloody death in their hands  
than we could ever wield, unless  
we lay down our souls to become them,  
and then we will lose everything. So instead,  
imagine winning. This is your sacred task.  
This is your power. Imagine  
every detail of winning, the exact smell of the summer streets  
in which no one has been shot, the muscles you have never  
unclenched from worry, gone soft as newborn skin,  
the sparkling taste of food when we know  
that no one on earth is hungry, that the beggars are fed,  
that the old man under the bridge and the woman  
wrapping herself in thin sheets in the back seat of a car,  
and the children who suck on stones,  
nest under a flock of roofs that keep multiplying their shelter.  
Lean with all your being towards that day  
when the poor of the world shake down a rain of good fortune  
out of the heavy clouds, and justice rolls down like waters.

Defend the world in which we win as if it were your child.  
It is your child.  
Defend it as if it were your lover.  
It is your lover.

When you inhale and when you exhale  
breathe the possibility of another world  
into the 37.2 trillion cells of your body  
until it shines with hope.  
Then imagine more.

Imagine rape is unimaginable. Imagine war is a scarcely credible rumor  
That the crimes of our age, the grotesque inhumanities of greed,  
the sheer and astounding shamelessness of it, the vast fortunes  
made by stealing lives, the horrible normalcy it came to have,  
is unimaginable to our heirs, the generations of the free.

Don't waver. Don't let despair sink its sharp teeth  
Into the throat with which you sing. Escalate your dreams.  
Make them burn so fiercely that you can follow them down  
any dark alleyway of history and not lose your way.  
Make them burn clear as a starry drinking gourd  
Over the grim fog of exhaustion, and keep walking.

Hold hands. Share water. Keep imagining.  
So that we, and the children of our children's children  
may live"

[\("V'ahavta" by Aurora Levins Morales\)](#)

Questions to Consider:

1. Do you have a mantra or phrase that you say to yourself to provide strength or comfort? Why does it speak to you?
2. When you imagine that "another world is possible," what images or ideas sprout in your mind?
3. What inspires you to feel hopeful? To take action?

Sitting in Silence: We will sit in silence for 3-5 minutes. Take this time to reflect on the readings, questions, and theme. Center yourself and consider what you want to share with the group.

Sharing/Deep Listening: Please share your own experiences and thoughts about the topic and readings with no crosstalk or interruption. Please ensure everyone gets an equal opportunity to share.

Additional Thoughts/Crosstalk: As time allows, after listening to others, do you have additional thoughts to share?

Checkout: What are you taking with you as you leave the circle? How can we support you in the month ahead?

Closing Words/Extinguishing the Chalice

"We are on a journey.

We didn't plan it.

We didn't have time for the bread to rise.

We may find ourselves in the wilderness, hungry, thirsty,

Doubting that we should have ever come.

But look around:

We are not alone.

It is our journey together:

A journey to our better selves,

A journey to a better world,

A journey to a more promised land."

(Debra Haffner)