

Will you pray with me and for me...

From today's Daily Word:

I am open and receptive to God's healing power within me and within my dear ones. I trust with absolute faith that God is greater than any worldly condition. I cannot limit God. I listen to the still, small voice within and feel guided along my healing journey. I spiritually surrender my concerns... As I pray, I perceive God's healing presence moving through me and my beloveds. This presence is the health beyond the illness, the abundance beyond the insufficiency, and the life beyond death. It is the truth of my life.

- Bring to mind a worldly condition, a family condition, a personal condition, a Unity of Albany condition that you want to surrender to God's healing presence
- Center in, softening body, feeling supported, aware of breath, hold your concern lightly, as if it was a feather resting on your palm as you bring your awareness into the quiet, listening to the still small voice within....

- Talking with Gerri one afternoon about abundance, scarcity and sufficiency– MY ongoing growth with my relationship to money, discomfort talking about, releasing fears around it, and my gratitude for ALL the ways my needs are met...
- Last week's daily word, divine order, and *seeing the growth of our Unity family as a garden*
- Eastern Region Zoom call– communities facing issues and conditions that are very challenging... and the reminder that clarity, transparency, and gratitude go hand in hand for leadership
- All of the above leading me to consider, what is MINE to do, when seeing this opportunity to step in trust with the Divine Givingness
 - Invite our newest holder of the treasure to share her story
 - To find what inspires ME to help us grow
 - And to share why I think it matters that we sustain THIS Unity of Albany family

From Mark Nepo, Book of Awakening from April 11:

Quietly, each spring, things in the plant world start growing slowly toward the light, while their roots finger their way underground. But once breaking surface, the most amazing thing happens again and again without a sound: the exposed thing growing toward the light stays alive by turning light into food. ... leaves turn sunlight into sugar, which feeds their roots; then the roots, once nourished, make the stems and leaves grow further.

The smallest plant life in spring reveals to us both the challenge of being a spirit in human form and the quiet courage necessary to grow inwardly. For this is our deepest calling: how to turn light into food... if we dare to make our way into the open, we are drawn into the air and the light...something in our very fiber knows where the light is, even when we can't see it.

From Myrtle Filmore: How to Let God Help You, ch 28

Every visible form of wealth in the world today can be traced to its invisible source. Food comes from grains. Grain is planted in the earth; but who sees or knows the secret quickening that touches the seed and makes it to bear one hundred fold? No one. That is all carried out in the invisible Source of things; but the result of an unseen force acting upon the grain is food for the multitude.

The physical substance which we call the Earth is the visible form of the spiritual Substance that pervades all things. The grain is put into the earth; the quickening thought that runs through the spiritual universe causes the life germ to start and to take hold of the physical substance that nourishes it. The word is the seed. The word is dropped into the spiritual substance. it germinates. It grows. It brings forth its kind.

You who farm and you who garden, choose the seed for next year's planting from the finest specimens of this year's crop. You reject every defective seed that you detect... in this way you make sure of the nature of your coming crop... Begin right now to talk plenty, think plenty, give thanks for plenty...

The spiritual substance out of which visible wealth comes is never depleted. It is never affected by your talk about hard times, but you are affected because your ideas govern your demonstration. The unfailing resource is always willing to give. it has no choice in the matter; it must give, for it that is its nature...

You are to be as deeply grateful for every demonstration as you would be for some unexpected treasure poured into your lap. This will keep your heart fresh. Thanksgiving for good may be likened to the rain that falls upon the ready soil, refreshing vegetation and increasing the productiveness of the soil. When Jesus Christ had only a little supply from which to feed a multitude, he gave thanks for what he had, and that little grew into such an abundance that all were satisfied, and much was left over. The truths that are spoken here are energized by the living Spirit...

Your mind and heart are now open and receptive to the ideas that will inspire you with the understanding of the potency of your own thought and word...

Why it matters how our garden is growing: Social Change Ecosystem Framework

The work of Deepa Iyer [and her social change map](#) and seeing it on Rev Ogun Holder's instagram feed; this is what we do and WHO WE ARE!

Visionaries: We imagine and generate our boldest possibilities, hopes and dreams and remind us of our direction.

Caregivers: We nurture and nourish the people around us by creating and sustaining a community of care, joy and connection.

Builders: We develop, organize, and implement ideas, practices, people and resources in service to a collective vision.

- An invitation to start from JOY and gratitude, NOT angst and fear!

- Our financial resources offer an invitation to step up into a greater awareness of *our wholeness as a community and shifting our perception from one of lack to one of PLENTY...*
- **And** this is an invitation to cultivate our garden by asking “what is mine to do?” Can I offer a regular amount of a financial gift? Can I increase my current offering? Can I spread the word about how this garden grows ME? Can I say yes to attending a workshop, event, or OneSong and bring a friend? Can I help plant the seeds of love and kindness by participating in a kindness club event,... what are the other ways?
- **TBD times for** “Vision Gatherings” leading up to a Town Hall– 60-90 minutes small groups, facilitated in person/zoom to heart-storm ideas, ask questions, envision our future growing the vision and mission of our community, and shining our light in the world

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Growing our Garden matters as we live into the vision and mission that call us in partnership with God! And so it is. Amen