



THE MANDALA

Mandala is the Sanskrit word for "circle." In religious art, the mandala is used to symbolize wholeness – the circle of eternity. Many believe that the mandala – a circle with a center – is the primal pattern of creation that is reproduced in atoms, cells, galaxies and solar systems. The mandala pattern has been used in many religious traditions: both Tibetan monks and Navajo Indians create intricate mandalas of colored sand to demonstrate the impermanence of life.

from: The Mandala Project, www.mandalaproject.org

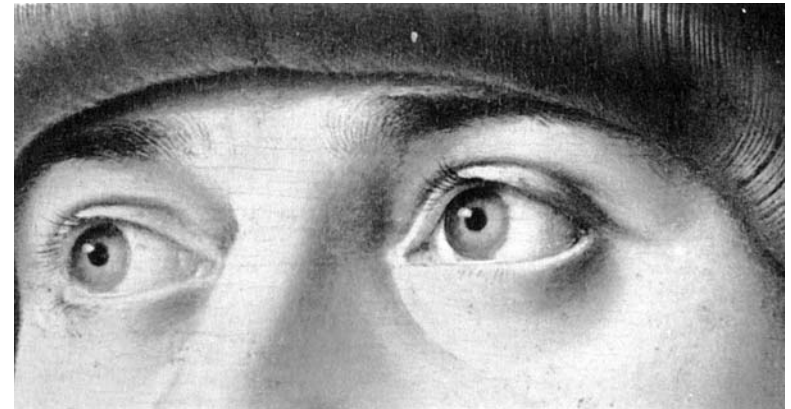
ICUJP
INTERFAITH COMMUNITIES
UNITED FOR JUSTICE & PEACE

JUNE 8, 2003
IMMANUEL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

*Religious communities must
stop blessing war and violence...*

BE NOT AFRAID

Another Nation – Another World



INTERFAITH WORSHIP SERVICE AND RECEPTION

TO HONOR THOSE
WHO TAKE RISKS FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE

BE NOT AFRAID

Another Nation – Another World



June 8, 2003

WHY WE ARE HERE

Today we join together in an interfaith community to honor those who take risks for justice and peace. In our congregation today are those who have vigiled, been arrested, collected signatures, petitioned councilpeople and legislators, written letters and statements, marched in the sun and rain, lost their jobs and in every other way challenged the integrity of what we do and what is done in our names.

Today we create an antidote to the culture of fear that has pervaded our landscape since 9/11, constricting our civil liberties, making pre-emptive aggression the baseline of our foreign policy and justifying war against Afghanistan and Iraq.

Our traditions teach us to envision of world of justice and peace. Our traditions teach that Spirit can transform a broken world and that we are partners in this process. Our shared vision requires each of us to reject the culture of fear and to engage in the daily work of peacemaking.

Special Honoree: DR. DAVID WHEELER

The reception following the program honors Dr. David Wheeler, ecumenical pastor, theologian and activist. After living and teaching extensively in Latin America, David came to Los Angeles in 1999 to be Senior Minister of the historic First Baptist Church of Los Angeles, a multicultural congregation with a long progressive tradition. Under David's leadership First Baptist Church hosted ICUJP's meetings and public events for over a year. Ironically, given the congregation's history, David's public commitments to ICUJP, CLUE, Faith Communities for Families and Children, Mobilization for the Human Family and LA Council of Churches were instrumental in his forced resignation earlier this year.

photomurals: Sheila Pinkel, Professor of Art, Pomona College

mandala: Elaine Vandenberg Clermont

ORDER OF SERVICE

INVOCATION: **Joseph Lam**, Lakota Tribe

CHANT: **Cantor Steven Puzarne**

SPEAKER:

Suleiman Grosslight, Sharag of Sufi Order and Teacher

MUSIC: **SGI-USA Buddhist Choir**

Directed by **Brenda Elster**

Ode to Joy • Step Out

SPEAKERS:

Gerry Hall, Vice General Director, SGI-USA

Brachmacharini Saraswati, a monastic member of the Vedanta Society

Hanah, Laurie, Eric and Avi Eisenberg-Zahner,

Anti-War Vigil and members of Adat Chaverim Synagogue

SONG: **Fidel Sanchez**, Community Organizer,

Peace Ministry in Pico Union, United Methodist Church

Como Quiero a Mí Pueblo • Yo Quiero Amigos

SPEAKERS:

Sherrel Johnson, Community Coordinator,

Council on American Islamic Relations

Rev. Dr. George F. Regas, Convenor of ICUJP

Rev. Dr. David Wheeler, Baptist Minister

MUSIC: **First Baptist Gospel Choir**

Directed by **Robert Turner**

Peace of Mind • I Love to Praise Him

MEDITATION: **Penelope Thompson**, Zen Center of Los Angeles

SPEAKER:

Imam Saadiq Saafir, Masjid Ibaadillah and ILM Foundation

PLEDGE CEREMONY:

We invite those who wish to do so to come forward and to offer symbolic pledges to engage in the continuing work of peacemaking and healing the world.

DEDICATION: **Rev. James Lawson**

MUSIC: **Palasadians for Peace Choir**

Directed by **Dwight Stone**

Children of the Light K. Shaw • *Unite and Conquer* Fasman/Stone/Dirolf