

Communion for November 20, 2016 (Ideas excerpted from Joseph Campbell's work)

Lynnea pointed out that since November 8, for those who would accept the challenge, the hero's journey has begun. This new world we have embarked upon "will (probably) be much different than the old one," and it will offer "both treasure and danger." Perhaps our ancestors, when they braved the perilous journey to our shores back in 1620, had some of the same concerns and shared similar misgivings. Let us draw on the strength and courage of those who have gone before us, as we examine what our responsibilities are as we enter the unknown.

We gather at the table each week to experience a time of awakening. Our journey asks us to allow the "the bread of new birth" to nourish and to teach us. May this holy food fill us with courage as our "strength, endurance and meddle is tested" as we go forward from this moment in time. As we pass the bread let us consider a particular area where we feel called to focus our attention during the next four years: endangered species, climate change, tolerance, or my personal favorite: equality for women. If you are so inclined share this commitment with the person you are serving.

In order to be successful on "the hero's journey" (or the path of initiation) we must eventually face our greatest fear. The tests and obstacles we experience on the path strengthen us for important and pivotal moments in time. Many of us believe we have arrived at such a moment. We have been preparing ourselves for world service. May our heart centers remain open so that we might face our challenges with courage and with equanimity. May the blessed oil and vinegar in our cup, help us to release limited mind, so that we might experience divine mind. Campbell tells us that success on the hero's journey is always life changing. The choice is there for each of us to make.

May we prove to be worthy co-creators helping to birth the changes that are needed. As we take and eat, may we also be truly grateful for the ties that bind us to Spirit and each other for without relationship life would be meaningless.