

*A Gathering*  
*at The Peepul Centre*  
*Orchardson Avenue, Leicester*

*on Sunday 17th February 2008 at 11am*

*A different way of being together for a time  
to celebrate the value of each other and the world*

*Today's theme is 'Darkness & Light'*

*Organised by members of Leicester Unitarian Fellowship*



*Music: 'Morning' (from 'Peer Gynt - Grieg)*

*Welcome and introduction  
Lighting the chalice candle & opening words*

*Song: 'Dark of Winter'  
(No.55 in 'Singing the Living Tradition')*

*Dark of Winter, soft and still, Your quiet calm surrounds me.  
Let my thoughts go where they will, Ease my mind profoundly.  
And then my soul will sing a song, A blessed song of love eternal.  
Gentle darkness, soft and still, Bring your quiet to me.*

*Darkness soothe my weary eyes, That I may see more clearly.  
When my heart with sorrow cries, Comfort and caress me.  
And then my soul may hear a voice, A still small voice of love eternal.  
Darkness, when my fears arise, Let your peace flow through me.*

*(repeat first verse)*

*Short talk: 'Darkness & Light'  
followed by a meditation and short period of silence.*

*Reading: 'Divine Warmth & Light'  
(Sufi - from Ibn Arabi d.1240)*

*Responsive Affirmation: 'We are the Light of the World'*

If we consider that trying to bring peace, justice and harmony to the world  
is bringing light to the world, then we are the light of the world.

***'We are the light of the world'***

When we act in ways that encourage love and fairness;  
When we share another's pain, or offer a comforting ear to a friend in need;

When we give food to the hungry or support ways to help the homeless;

***'We are the light of the world'***

When we fight temptations to wrongdoing within ourselves  
and treat our neighbours with respect;

When we try to overcome differences with understanding  
and solve conflict by peaceful means;

When we look for the good in other people and ourselves;

***'We are the light of the world'***

When we do not stay quiet in the face of prejudice, but speak out against it;

When we fight despair within ourselves and side with hope;

When we use our powers justly and in the service of love to humanity;

***'We are the light of the world.***

***We are the light of the world.***

***So be it.'***

***Song: 'Chinese Morning Song'***

***(T.C.Chao/Hu Te-Ai. - No.353 in 'Singing the Living Tradition')***

*Golden breaks the dawn; Comes the eastern sun,  
Over lake and lawn - Set its course to run.  
Birds above us fly, Flowers bloom below,  
Through the earth and sky, Life's great mercies flow.*

*As the spinning globe, Rolls away the night,  
Nature wears her robe, Spun of morning light.  
Dawn break in me too, As in skies above;  
Greet the day anew, Radiant with love.*

***Floating Leaves & Petals on Water***

***Song: 'Be Still and Know' (trad. chant)***

***Be still and know both day and night,  
Be still and know that dark and light, Are one holy circle.***

*'May you be at one with both dark and light'*

*A time for Sharing & Reflection (thoughts, poems, readings ...)*

### *Notices*

*Walking Meditation Dance:*

*'May the Long-Time Sun Shine Upon You'*  
*(Mike Heron - Incredible String Band)*

*May the long time sun shine upon you,  
All love surround you,  
And the pure light within you,  
Guide your way home.*

### *Benediction*

*Music: 'Meditation' (from 'Thais' - Massenet)*



*Keep in touch at [www.leicesterunitarians.org](http://www.leicesterunitarians.org)*