

Gathering for Immigration

Words of the Day

Immigration has affected my life in

Chalice Lighting

My heart is moved by all I cannot save:
so much has been destroyed.

I have to cast my lot with those
who age after age, perversely,

with no extraordinary power,
reconstitute the world.

Adrienne Rich

The Basket

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Silence, holding ourselves and each other in silent support

Shared Readings

Recognize yourself in he and she who are not like you and me. *Carlos Fuentes*

These days, it feels to me like you make a devil's pact when you walk into this country.
Zadie Smith, White Teeth

My tongue is divided into two/ a border patrol runs through the middle/ frisking words/ asking for proper identification/ checking for pronunciation. *Quique Avilés, My Tongue Is Divided into Two*

Perhaps because fear of strangers and the tendency to mistreat strangers is so strong in us, one of the common messages of the world's religions is to do just the opposite – to welcome the stranger, to offer hospitality to the traveler. *Christine Robinson*

Nearly 80% percent of farm workers are migrant workers. Their back-breaking labor brings cheap fruits and vegetables to our tables. *UUA Immigration Study Guide*

Remember, remember always, that all of us, and you and I especially, are descended from immigrants and revolutionists. *Franklin D. Roosevelt*

Immigrants are blamed for a host of social ills and compared unfavorably to previous generations of immigrants Noncitizens make easy targets and convenient scapegoats.

Aviva Chomsky, "They Take Our Jobs!": And 20 Other Myths About Immigration

At this time of year they don't understand how dangerous it is. They've never walked a long distance in the desert. This is a death warrant.

Janice L. Fields, assistant to the medical examiner, Cochise, County, Arizona

And if a stranger dwells with you in your land, you shall not mistreat him. The stranger who dwells among you shall be to you as one born among you, and you shall love him as yourself; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.

Leviticus 19:33-34 New King James Version

If you/ Want to show/ Your love/ For America/ Love/ Americans/ Smile/ When you see/ One/
Flowerlike/ His/ Turban/ Rosepink. *Alice Waters, Patriot*

Some day, we will celebrate your courage, your story, your making your way to the Promised Land. Some day we will name this Exodus and thank God that some of you make it across.

Rev. Delle McCormick, La Ruta de Mujeres

Deep Sharing/Deep Listening

Round 1: Share your reflections on immigration and the preparation materials.

Round 2: Share additional thoughts or reflect on what others have shared.

Closing Circle

Extinguishing the Chalice

We extinguish this flame and we remember the warmth of our community, the light of our wisdom, the generosity of our sharing. We keep these in our heart until we meet again.

Song/Chime

Announcements

The Covenant

I commit myself:

- to come to meetings when I possibly can, knowing that my presence is important to the group
- to let the facilitator know if I will be absent or need to quit
- to share with the facilitator the responsibility for good group process by watching how much time I take to speak and noticing what is going on for others
- to do the reading and thinking about the topic ahead of time
- to not gossip about what is shared in the group, and tell only my own story to others
- to honor the safety of the group by listening to what others share with an open heart
- to refrain from cross-talk, judging, giving advice, or advocating a specific view
- to share as deeply as I can when it is my turn and to stay on the "I-message."