

~ *Four* ~

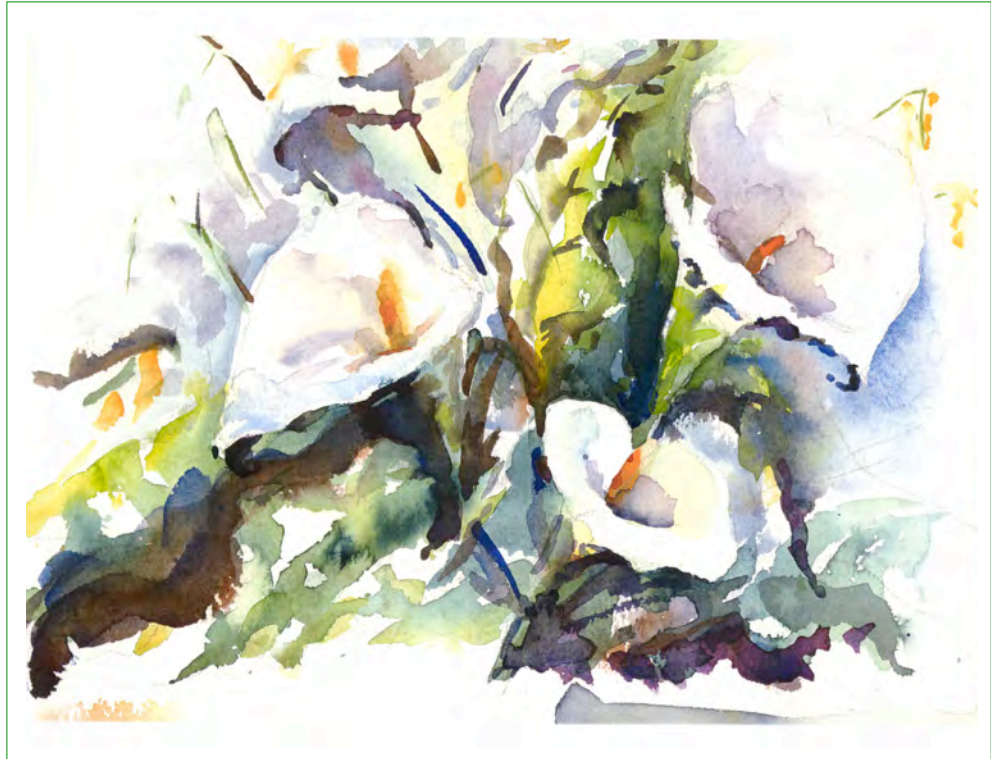
The Joy of Service

“At the heart of silence is prayer.
At the heart of prayer is faith.
At the heart of faith is life.
At the heart of life is service...”

Mother Teresa

Giving is a manifestation of our personal fullness. As we give, we experience the magic in generosity. We live at peace as we direct our efforts to work for the whole human family.

The flowers of my garden
I share with all
and thrill within my heart
with every breath of life.



A golden stepping stone to an experience of wholeness comes from a willingness to share the best of ourselves with all. We dedicate our lives to give when we know we can live for more than just ourselves, in service for the common good. It is in giving that we receive. The joy is in giving. This process brings abundant rewards to those who reciprocally and with the whole of themselves give as they receive and receive as they give.

A beautiful Sufi melody speaks of such abundance in living and my heart rejoices to share it with you...

"From you... I receive
to you... I give

Together we share...
from this we live."

Service has to do with intention. When we make our primordial intent to serve others, we contribute to the unifying power of fellowship. This basic enthusiasm can potentially become a part of everything we do and in that effort retain a reality of youth as we serve. Blessings untold shower our lives as we experience the everlasting joy of making each of our experiences useful for our fellow human beings. Service expands through each of our acts and the potential exists for ever-broader manifestations. Life becomes a celebration of every opportunity to give as we see the act of service through the eyes of ONE Being.

Peace Pilgrim dedicated her life to all human beings. She said, "I looked at every situation I came into to see if there was something I could do there to be of service. I did as many good things as I could each day, remembering the importance of a pleasant word and a cheery smile. I was filled with a runaway enthusiasm to help others." And she invited those she met on the road, "Concentrate on giving so that you may open yourself

to receiving; concentrate on living according to the light you have so that you may open yourself to more light."

In giving, the soul begins to function in and through all things and reveals itself in its true role as All-Soul.



Commitments

In the unifying power of fellowship, I serve all my fellow human beings through ever-expanding ways. Just as each cell in our bodies cooperates for our total functioning I offer openhearted cooperation in the interest of our common well-being. I let the bells of generosity ring a harmonious melody as I align all actions with my experience of oneness. Through my stewardship of values I serve everyone, everywhere.



Embracing wholeness by being of service

How am I contributing to the well-being of others in the present?

What fields of potentially broader service to society would I like to explore?

How can I better use my special talents?

How am I serving today?



Affirmations

My radiating eagerness towards all living creatures is an open invitation to share.

I am responsible for our common well-being.

Listening to every song of life I live intensely and share experience with my fellows and all creation.

I choose to give and serve from the depths of my highest realization.



*My personal reflections about sharing
in the splendor of generosity and joyous service:*