Universal Worship Readings
"Collective Awakening in Beloved Community"
November 8, 2026

Hinduism
Why shouldn't you strengthen your own vibrations through fellowship with people seeking Self-realization—and by group meditation with them? This practice will fortify your own spiritual convictions. You will find that many seemingly [unsurmountable] barriers in your life will crumble and dissolve in the waters of meditation. Your devotion and love for God will commingle with the devotion and love of others. Divine bliss will radiate from you, helping all persons you meet.

~*Paramahansa Yogananda*

Buddhism
The main purpose of a sangha (spiritual community) is to cultivate brotherhood, sisterhood and harmony. And, with a sangha like that to take refuge in, everything is possible. We are nourished and we don't lose our hope. That is why mindful communication, deep listening and loving speech are so important. We need to find ways to keep communication open, share views, and come easily to collective insight and consensus. That is real sangha-building and it takes time and energy. We need a lot of patience. We need time to sit together, eat together, talk together, and work together. And to cultivate a collective energy of mindfulness, peace, happiness and compassion.

~*Zen and the Art of Saving the Planet, p 269, Thich Nat Hahn*

Zoroastrianism
Happiness comes to them who bring happiness to others…

The resolute one who, moved by the principles of Thy Faith, extends the prosperity of order to his neighbors... earns through Righteousness, the Blessed Recompense.

~*Yasna 43:1, 15*

Taoism
The Tao is called the Great Mother: empty yet inexhaustible, it gives birth to infinite worlds. It is always present within you. You can use it in any way you want…

Let the Tao be present in your life and you will become genuine.
Let it be present in your family and your family will flourish.
Let it be present in your country and your country will be an example to all the countries in the world.
Let it be present in the universe and the universe will sing.
How do I know this is true? By looking inside myself.

~Tao Te Ching, 6, 54 (S. Mitchell trans)

Bah'ai
The supreme need of humanity is cooperation and reciprocity. In human life, cooperation and association are essential. Through association and meeting we find happiness and development, individual and collective…The stronger the ties of fellowship and solidarity amongst people, the greater will be the power of constructiveness and accomplishment in all the planes of human activity.

~'Abdu'l-Bahá

Indigenous
Abundance, in the sense of fullness, has a power that takes us away from worry. It is the kind of feeling you get when you are in communion with the natural [world]—in communion with the source. It is the kind of fullness you get by being with other people. Most work done in the village is done collectively. The purpose is not so much the desire to get the job done, but to raise enough energy for people to feel nourished by what they do. The nourishment does not come *after* the job it comes *before* the job and *during* the job. You are nourished first and then the work flows out of your fullness.

~Malidoma Patrice Somé (Medicine man of Dagara tribe, West Africa)

Judaism
With justice, a king sustains the earth, but a fraudulent person destroys it.

~Proverbs 29

What does this verse mean?
With the justice that the king does, he sustains the earth, but the fraudulent person destroys it. If one makes oneself like Terumot (portion of produce that is set aside as an offering) set aside in the corner of the house and says: "Why should I trouble myself for the community? What's in it for me to take part in their disputes? Why should I listen to their voices? I'm fine [without this]." This person destroys the world. This is the meaning of "the fraudulent person destroys [the world]".

~Rabbi Jill Jacobs

There is a story about Rav Assi (Jewish Talmudist of the 3rd & 4th centuries), that when he was dying, his nephew entered and found him crying. He said to him: "Why are you crying? Is there any Torah that you did not study and teach to others? Look–your students sit before you. Are there any acts of lovingkindness that you did not do? Furthermore, despite your stature, [you humbled yourself and] you stayed far from disputes and did not allow yourself to be appointed over the affairs of the community."

Rav Assi replied: "My son, this is why I am crying. What if I am asked to account for the fact that I was able to arbitrate disputes among the people of Israel and did not?" [This is the meaning of] "the fraudulent person destroys [the world]."

~Midrash Tanhuma, Parshat Mishpatim 2

Christianity
(excerpt from Paul's letter to the Thessalonians…)
But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work.

Be at peace among yourselves.

And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint-hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them.

See that none of you repays evil for evil. Always seek to do good to one another and to all.

~Thessalonians 4:12-15

Islam
And hold fast, all together, by the rope which Allah [provides] and be not divided among yourselves…

Let there arise out of you a band of people inviting to all that is good, enjoining what is right and forbidding what is wrong—they are the ones to attain felicity.

Be not like those who are divided amongst themselves and fall into disputations…

~Qur'an 3:103-105

Truth
My thoughtful self…
Reproach no one.
Hold grudge against no one.
Take revenge with no one.
Bear malice against no one.
Be wise.
Be kind to all, tolerant to all, considerate to all, polite to all.
O my thoughtful self.

~The Gayan, Hazrat Inayat Khan