Explore the Theme—"Here Comes the Sun" Enjoy a concert in celebration of the gift of sunshine, so essential for the transformation of the grain of wheat

for other "Explore the Theme" postings visit: https://www.shcj.org/explore-the-theme

A dormant seed SPRINGS TO LIFE through interaction with moisture, oxygen, LIGHT and soil



The grain of wheat requires sunlight as well as darkness and death if it is to vield a rich harvest. People, too require warmth and kindness, both from themselves and from others, in order to grow. Jetsunma (Venerable) Tenzin Palmo is an English-born buddhist nun and teacher of buddhist wisdom and practice. As President of Sakvadhita International Association of Buddhist Women she spoke these

words at a conference in Sydney, Australia in 2019:

"If we have a garden — consider our heart-mind as a garden — then we can't always be pulling out the weeds and not noticing the beautiful flowers ... which need to be watered, fertilized, and appreciated. Flowers grow in the sunshine and so the flowers of our good qualities grow in the sunshine of our awareness and our appreciation In order for things to grow they need to be appreciated, cultivated, so we not only work to transform the negative in us, but we also strive to encourage the goodness in us. Inherently we are completely ok."

When has the warmth of another's kindness helped me grow? Do I offer that same warmth to others? to myself?





SING: with the Beatles, "Here Comes the Sun,"

https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=KQetemT1sWc



SING IT AGAIN: with James Taylor & Yo-Yo

Ma, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qgO7BqAeeYk

"Here comes the sun

doo, doo, doo, doo Here comes the sun And I say it's all right Little darling, it's been a long, cold, lonely winter Little darling, it seems like years since it's been here And I say it's all right"



SING: with Miriam Makeba, "Ask the Rising Sun," https://www. youtube.com/watch?v=_

azLa3fzdoM

".... For the sun sees every tender leaf That drifts to earth and trembles. For the sun sees every stricken bird that tries to fly & fumbles...."



LISTEN: Pastoral Symphony, Movements #4 & 5, by Ludwig van

Beethoven; https://www.youtube. com/watch?v=Rn9 C6X4UXM

The music tells the story of a group of peasants enjoying a picnic in the countryside. A storm sends them scattering, then the sun gently, sweetly breaks through and they rejoice together with thankful praise.