

Reader: After the final plague, Pharaoh let the Israelites go. They left Egypt in the middle of the night, and with the full moon as their guide, they walked to the shores of the Reed Sea. According to one *midrash*, they continued to walk until the waters were up to their necks and then - a miracle! The waters parted, and the people crossed on dry land. "...And Miriam the Prophet, Aaron's sister, took a timbrel in her hand and all the women went after her with timbrels, dancing." (Exodus 15:20)

QUESTION: *Who is a woman you have known whose talents have brought joy and celebration to you and to others? Share with your table.*

Miriam's Song

Chorus:

And the women dancing with their timbrels followed Miriam as she sang her song
Sing a song to the One whom we've exalted
Miriam and the women danced and danced the whole night long.

And Miriam was a weaver of unique variety
The tapestry she wove was one which sang our history
With every thread and every strand she crafted her delight
A woman touched with spirit she dances toward the light.

As Miriam stood upon the shores and gazed across the sea
The wonder of this miracle she soon came to believe
Whoever thought the sea would part with an outstretched hand
And we would pass to freedom and march to the Promised Land.

And Miriam the Prophet took her timbrel in her hand
And all the women followed her just as she had planned
And Miriam raised her voice with song, she sang with praise and might
We've just lived through a miracle, we're going to dance tonight.

-Debbie Friedman

