

## Circles and Lines

*Dalene Rowley*

A ring of women  
 Spontaneously gathered round  
 Willing hands outstretched  
 Gently pulling, untwisting, unbraiding  
 Strands of gold, blue, brunette  
 Tales of motherhood, neighborhood, sisterhood  
 Spilling forth as a spring of fresh mountain waters  
 Among friends and strangers soon-to-be-friends  
 Gathered round to serve a sister  
 Who needed 200 tiny braids unwound  
 One Sabbath Eve

A ring of men  
 Circled round tradition  
 Willing hands outstretched  
 Bouncing babies  
 Pronouncing blessings  
 Bestowing the gift of the Holy Ghost  
 Extending lines of Priesthood power  
 Down through the ages

Though one, perhaps more formal,  
 Has a name  
 I doubt not for one moment  
 The power of the other  
 Also borne of eternity  
 Nor do I doubt its source  
 For I am healed  
 empowered  
 lifted  
 merely by being witness