



In Communion

8:45 a.m. + November 3, 2024

Since its earliest centuries, the church has set aside a day to remember the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us in the faith, stretching across the centuries and around the globe. However hard it might seem to follow the way of Jesus in our own time and place, this is a day to remember that we may be crazy, but we are not alone.

Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals

Crossing the Threshold

from 'Celtic Benediction'

I watch this morning for the light that the darkness has not overcome . . . (pause)

I watch for the fire that was in the beginning and that burns still in the brilliance of the rising sun . . . (pause)

I watch for the glow of life that gleams in the growing earth and glistens in sea and sky . . . (pause)

I watch for your light, O God, in the eyes of every living creature,

and in the ever-living flame of my own soul . . . (pause)

If the grace of seeing were mine this day I would glimpse you in all that lives.

Grant me the grace of seeing . . . (pause)

Grant me the grace of seeing this day . . . (pause)

Opening Ourselves to God

"Come, Holy Spirit, descend on us"

Come, Holy Spirit, descend on us, descend on us,

We gather here in Jesus' name.

Come, Breath of Heaven, descend on us, descend on us,

We gather here in Jesus' name.

Come, Word of Mercy, descend on us, descend on us,

We gather here in Jesus' name.

Praying a Psalm Quietly

Psalm 39 (A Book of Psalms)

*Unnamable, unthinkable God, Lord of the dead and the living,
teach us how transient we are and how fragile is everything we love.*

For all of us flash into being, as insubstantial as a breath.

Our lives are a fleeting shadow; then we vanish into the night.

And now, Lord, what do I wait for? My only trust is in You.

Help me to give up my desires and to let go of who I am.

*You have granted me this brief existence, which is almost nothing in Your sight:
may I receive it gratefully and gratefully give it back.*

Turn toward me; touch my spirit; stay beside me,

until the moment when I must step out into Your final darkness. Amen.

Opening Ourselves to Worship

"Come, Holy Spirit, descend on us"

*Come, to renew us, descend on us, descend on us,
We gather here in Jesus' name.*

*Come, to forgive us, descend on us, descend on us,
We gather here in Jesus' name.*

*Come, Holy Spirit, descend on us, descend on us,
We gather here in Jesus' name.*

Listening to Scripture

Song of Songs 8:6; Romans 8:35, 38-39

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death, jealousy is fierce as the grave. Its flashes are flashes of fire, the very flame of the Lord.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

*For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love
of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Faith in the Midst of Doubt

"Things Unseen"

*Life is more than all we see,
Faith is more than all we know.
For we hope in things unseen,
Trusting God to help us grow.
God help us see what we're blind to,
Hear the cries we ignore.
See beyond just this moment,
To the glory in store.
Grant us faith in the darkness,
In the cold of the night,
To see goodness and light.*

An All Saints Remembering

Ever-living God, this day revives in us memories of loved ones who have gone before.

What happiness we shared when they walked among us.

What joy, when, loving and being loved, we lived our lives together.

Their memory is a blessing forever. (silence as you whisper the name(s) of loved ones.)

We see dimly now but one day we will see in full.

They stand in your presence fully known and fully knowing.

Their souls are bound up in ours for ever.

*As a great crowd of witnesses, they surround us with their blessing,
and offer you hymns of praise and thanksgiving.*

We give you thanks that they now live and reign with you.

Glimpses of Eternity

"Pour Out Through Me"

*Pour out through me,
Lord of glory, Lord of grace.
That all may see,
Thy eternal, radiant face.*

A Canticle for All Saints and All Souls

from Out of the Silence

Response: Nothing can separate us from the Love of God.

Nothing can separate us from the Love of God. No affliction, no hardship . . . For we know that: (R)
No persecution, no danger, no sword . . . For we know that: (R)
No terror, no knife, no bomb . . . For we know that: (R)
No poison, no shock, no sudden death . . . For we know that: (R)
There is nothing in death or in life . . . For we know that: (R)
No powers that be, no evil's grip . . . For we know that: (R)
In the world as it is or the world as it shall be . . . For we know that: (R)
There is nothing in the whole of creation . . . For we know that: (R)
You have embodied Your Love for us in Jesus . . . For we know that: (R)
We shall trust in Your Presence through all that is to come . . . For we know that: (R)

Response

"God's Eye"

*God's eye be within me, God's foot be before me,
God's spirit be round me to shield and restore me.
God's freedom to choose me, God's justice to fuse me,
God's purpose to liberate and transform and use me.*

Silence

During these minutes of silence, simply rest in God's abiding and loving presence in this moment. You are in God and God is in you. Just be and relax. Center your attention in your heart and imagine your breath flowing in and out from your heart area. If it helps you to center, use a sacred prayer word such as Jesus, Abba, Spirit, Light, or Love.

Communion

"Deep River"

Remembering with Thanksgiving

from Jan Richardson

*For those who walked with us, **this is a prayer** . . . (silence)*
*For those who have gone ahead, **this is a blessing** . . . (silence)*
*For those who touched and tended us, who lingered with us while they lived, **this is a thanksgiving** . . . (silence)*
*For those who journey still with us in the shadows of awareness,
in the crevices of memory, in the landscape of our dreams, **this is a benediction.***

Receiving a Good Word



Our Staff

Haley Brown – Associate Director of The Anchor House

Courtney Garrison – Ministry Assistant

Peter Johns – Associate Director of Contemplative Worship

Zachary Montasser – Violinist

Rev. Rachel Sciretti – Associate Pastor

Rev. Dr. Michael Sciretti, Jr. – Pastor of The Center

Today's Music

"Come Holy Spirit" – John Bell, **"Things Unseen"** – Peter Johns

"Pour Out Through Me" – Darlene Franz, **"God's Eye"** – John Bell. **"Deep River"** – Traditional arr. Donald P. Moore

For information about The Center for Christian Spirituality and upcoming events, visit:

www.TheCenterFCS.org.

Please register your presence in the notebooks in the foyer.

If you have a prayer request or seeking support, please contact Rachel Sciretti, rscoretti@chapelwood.org.

Centering Prayer

Today | The Chapel | after Contemplative Worship

Worship Response

Today | The Anchor House | 10:00 a.m.

The Anchor House Hours

Tuesdays – Fridays | Noon - 4pm

The Anchor House is open in the afternoons for you to come and pray, meditate, walk the Labyrinth or just be still. If you would like to request a specific room for spiritual direction, counseling or for your own time of retreat outside of these hours, please let Haley know and we will make sure a room is available for you.

Minaret Foundation Upcoming Gatherings

November 7 & December 12 | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. | ISGH Community Hall

For information and to register please use the QR code provided.



Everything Belongs: Songs from The Center, Volume 2 - Contemplative Concert

November 10 | 6:00 p.m. | The Chapel

Join us in the Chapel for the launch of our new Contemplative Worship album – Everything Belongs: Songs from The Center, Volume 2. All the songs on this album were composed by Peter Johns for worship here at The Center for Christian Spirituality on Sunday mornings. Peter will be joined by a host of other musicians for an evening of Contemplative Worship. Following the free concert there will be a catered reception in The Anchor House. To purchase a ticket for the reception please use the QR code provided.



Exploring SoulCollage and Labyrinth

November 16 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. | The Labyrinth

This will be an open drop in evening of prayer and creativity! We'll make cards featuring an image of the labyrinth and then engage in a candlelight labyrinth walk under an almost full moon! OR if you prefer, you can come at 7 pm and walk the labyrinth before you create your card. You can even come for just SoulCollage® OR just walking the Labyrinth!

