



In Communion... with Creation

8:45 a.m. + November 24, 2024

*At the conclusion of the creation, You gave direction to Your Wisdom,
and formed a rational living creature, as the citizen of the world, saying,
Let us make Adam after our image, and after our likeness.
And You have exhibited him as the cosmos of the cosmos,
and formed him a body out of the four elements, those primary bodies.
But You have prepared a soul out of nothing, and have bestowed upon him his five senses,
and set over his sensations a mind, as the conductor of the soul.
Apostolic Constitutions, 4th century*

Crossing the Threshold

Singing with Creation

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

*All creatures of our God and King.
Lift up your voice and with us sing.
O Praise ye! Alleluia!
O brother sun with golden beam,
O sister moon with silver gleam.*

*O praise ye! O praise ye!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*O brother wind, air, clouds, and rain.
By which all creatures ye sustain.
O praise ye! Alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice.
Ye lights of evening find a voice.*

*O sister water, flowing clear.
Make music for thy Lord to hear.
Alleluia. Alleluia!
O brother fire who lights the night.
Providing warmth, enhancing sight.*

*Let all things their Creator bless.
And worship God in humbleness.
O praise ye! Alleluia.
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, three in one.*

Contemplating Scripture

Genesis 1:24-28, 31

*And God says, "Let Us make Adam (the Human) in Our Image.
And let them rule over the fish of the Sea,
and over the birds of the Heavens,
and over the animals on all the Earth,
and over all reptiles that creep upon the Earth."*

*So God creates the Adam (the Human) in His Image.
In the Image of God he created Him, Male and Female he created Them.
And God blesses them. And God says to them,
"Be fruitful and be great and fill the Earth and subdue it.
And rule over the fish of the Sea,
and over the birds of the Heavens,
and over all the life that moves over the Earth."*

And God sees all that He has made. And behold! Very Good, Very Beautiful!

Meditation

Bearing and Seeing Beauty

"With Beauty I Walk"

*With beauty behind me I walk,
With beauty before me I walk.
Today as I travel, I journey in goodness.
Seeking out beauty I walk.
With beauty below me I walk.
With beauty above me I walk.
Today as I wander the way of contentment,
With clam assurance I walk,
That all may be beauty I walk.*

Contemplating Scripture

Genesis 2:15, Micah 6:8

*The LORD God took Adam - the Human -
and placed him in the Garden of Eden
to serve and protect it.*

*He has told you, O Human, what is Good, and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?*

Meditation

Song of Response

"Created World, Creative World"

*Created world. Creative world.
Between two worlds - a bridge.
Created world. Creative world.
Between two worlds - a bridge.*

*Be sure you understand this, be sure you understand.
Be sure you understand this, between two worlds a bridge.*

*You yourself, within yourself.
Between two worlds - a bridge.
You yourself, within yourself.
Between two worlds - a bridge.*

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.

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Communion

Creation Offers a Blessing

"The Peace of the Earth"

*The peace of the earth be with you,
The peace of the heavens too;
The peace of the rivers be with you,
The peace of the oceans too.
Deep peace falling over you;
God's peace growing in you.*

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

Quartet

Katherine Jones – Soprano, **Cody Arthur** – Alto, **Dallas Gray** – Tenor, **Nathan Holmes** – Bass

Today's Music

"All Creatures of our God and King" – Francis of Assisi, *"With Beauty I Walk"* – Peter Johns
"Created World, Creative World" – Michael J Sciretti Jr., *"The Peace of the Earth"* – Traditional.

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, rsciretti@chapelwood.org.

Centering Prayer

Today | The Chapel | after Contemplative Worship

Worship Response

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

Everything Belongs: A Contemplative Journey through Songs from The Center, Volume 2

Final Class: Sunday, November 24 | 6:00-7:30 p.m. | The Anchor House

The Anchor House

Please note The Anchor House will be closed this week.

December Guided Silent Retreat

Monday, December 2 | 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. | The Villa de Matel | \$25

For December's guided silent retreat at The Villa de Matel (6510 Lawndale St., Houston), we will explore our Advent theme this year – "The In-Between Way" – with an emphasis on the contemplative practice of "watchfulness." There will be plenty of time for reading and reflection, and space for prayerful art. Participants will receive handouts with readings, prayers and songs for use as lectio divina as well as reflective questions. Please register by November 29.



Upcoming Advent Opportunities & Special Services

Dec 5 & 6 – Carols and Keyboards 7:00 p.m.

Dec 12 – Minaret Foundation: Angels and Messengers 6:30 p.m.

Dec 15 – Advent Community Gathering 10:00 a.m.

Dec 21 – Gastrochurch Fundraiser: Hogwarts Christmas Feast 7:00 p.m.

Dec 22 – The Service of the Longest Night 6:00 p.m.

Dec. 24 – Contemplative Christmas Eve Worship at 6:00 p.m.