



Encountering the Logos

August 31, 2025

They who live in the knowledge of the One are rightly called "Sons of God," as Moses also acknowledges when he says, "Ye are sons of the LORD God" (Deut. 14:1), and "God who begat thee" (Deut. 32:18), and "Is not He Himself thy father?" (Deut 32:6). Indeed with those whose soul is thus disposed it follows that they hold moral beauty to be the only good....

But if there be any as yet unfit to be called a Son of God, let him press to take his place under God's First-born, the Logos, who holds the eldership among the angels, their ruler as it were. And many names are his, for he is called, "the Beginning," and the Name of God, and His Logos, and the Man after His Image, and "he that sees," that is "Israel." Philo of Alexandria (1st century)

Stilling Ourselves

"Open the Eyes of My Heart"

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord.

Open the eyes of my heart.

I want to see you.

I want to see you.

*To see you high and lifted up.
Shining in the light of your glory.
Pour out your power and love,
As we sing holy, holy holy.*

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord...

*To see your presence all around,
Shining in the heart of creation.
Unveil your power and love,
And let my heart see your salvation.*

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord...

Pursing Peace

Micah 4:1-5

*In the last days
the Mountain of the House of the LORD shall be manifest,
established as the highest of the mountains
and shall be raised up above the hills.
Peoples shall stream to it,
and many nations shall come and say:
"Come, let us ascend into the Mountain of the LORD,
into the House of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."*

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the Logos of the LORD from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between many peoples
and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more;
but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees,
and no one shall make them afraid,
for the Mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.
For all the peoples walk, each in the name of its god,
but we will walk in the Name of the LORD our God
forever and ever.

Walking in the Name

"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 calm assurance I walk,
That all may be Beauty I walk.***

Contemplating Scripture

John 1:43-51

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Behold! Truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Meditation

Prayer Time (with sung response)

"The Beauty You See"

***I see the worst, you see the best.
I see a sinner, you see blessed!
Give me your eyes to gaze at the world,
To see the beauty you see.***

***I see the worst, you see the best.
I see a sinner, you see blessed!
Give me your eyes to gaze at myself,
To see the beauty you see.***

Centering in God

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 Abba, Spirit, Jesus, Beloved, Light, or Love.

Joining Heavenly Worship

*Holy, holy, holy.
Holy, holy, holy.
Holy, holy, holy,
I want to see you.*

"Open the Eyes of My Heart"

Receiving Holy Communion

Receiving a Good Word



Our Staff

Haley Brown – Associate Director of The Anchor House

Courtney Garrison – Ministry Assistant

Christian Ibanez – AV Production

Peter Johns – Associate Director of Contemplative Worship

Zachary Montasser – Violinist

Nick Cavazos – AV Production

Rev. Rachel Sciretti – Associate Pastor

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

Today's Music

'Open the Eyes of my Heart' – Paul Baloche, *'I Walk'* – Peter Johns, *'The Beauty You See'* – Peter Johns,

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.

Centering Prayer

Immediately following worship | The Chapel

Worship Response

10:00 a.m. | The Anchor House

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.

September Guided Silent Retreat

Saturday, September 6 | The Anchor House | 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. | \$35

Mary the Magdalene...healed, faithful, enlightened, courageous, present, commissioned. As the first witness to the resurrection, she was the Apostle to the Apostles whose ministry reaches through time and space to us today. Join us for a day of prayer inspired by the wisdom of Mary Magdalene, led by Rachel Sciretti. Through silence, sacred texts, poetry, art, and sensorial experiences, participants are invited to find themselves in her story and encounter the Living Christ.



Yoga at The Center: A Posture of Prayer

Monday, September 8 | The Anchor House | 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. | \$10 per class

In this course, led by Jonathan Mangrum, we will use the practice of yoga as a lens to explore what it means to embody spirituality. Each class will include time engaging in breath work, meditation, yoga postures, and poses.



Creative Space

Saturday, September 13 | The Anchor House | 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Creative Space is a nurturing, encouraging gathering of people who come together to create art and spend time in personal reflection. You will get an opportunity to explore spirituality through creative expression, as well as to be creative in a setting that is intentionally designed to enhance the spiritual. Materials are provided and everyone is welcome. No reservation is required.

Community Gathering: Second Sunday Chicken

Sunday, September 14 | The Chapelwood Gym | 11:30 a.m. | \$10

Following Worship Response, let's have lunch! It's a great way to get to know one another on a deeper level. Head over to the Chapelwood Gym for "Second Sunday Chicken." Check the website for menu and pricing. We hope to see you there.



Save the Date October 3 – 5: Hope in Focus with Steve Pavey

Steve Pavey is a photographer, a contemplative, a storyteller, a cultural organizer – all of which come together in the vocation of cultivating a way to see, in order to bear witness to the world both as it is, and as it could be. Join us for a weekend to focus on hope – the hope we must live into of re-connection with ourselves, with each other, and the more-than-human world around us.



"You Are the Bridge: Uniting Heaven and Earth in Turbulent Times" with Rev. Dr. Michael Sciretti, Jr.

October 10 – 12 | Praxis Retreat and Learning Center | Telephone, TX | \$175

Who am I, really? Why am I really here? These are primordial wisdom questions that, if answered from the perspective of perennial wisdom, have dramatic effects on how we live our daily lives. Join the Oriental Orthodox Order in the West as Rev. Dr. Michael Sciretti guides us through the dialogues from Talking with Angels, transcribed by Gitta Mallasz. This is an in-person only retreat which will be held at The Praxis Retreat and Learning Center in Telephone, TX. Space is limited and the registration deadline is October 3rd.



Holding One Another in the Light

As our commitment to one another deepens, we want to be able to pray for one another – bearing burdens and joining in celebrations. Here is how to participate:

1. *Make a request for prayer or thanksgiving using the QR link or go to thecenterfcs.org*
2. *Opt in to receive the weekly prayer list by emailing Rachel at rscoretti@chapelwood.org.*
3. *Then spend time holding one another in the Light.*



Giving to The Center

All of us are part of a never-ending process of giving and receiving. Life is not possible without this organic flow. What we co-create together here at The Center for Christian Spirituality is not possible without our conscious participation in this holy activity of freely receiving and freely giving. In this light, we invite you to financially give to The Center in response to what you have received today or throughout our contemplative offerings. Using the QR code will take you to a page where you can make a one-time offering or recurring gift. Thank you for your contribution and investment.

