



The CENTER
for Christian Spirituality

Summer By the Sea

8:45 a.m. + June 25, 2023

*God's love is ever new, always with us yet before us.
To live in this love is to be committed to the whole, to live in the whole,
to think the whole, to love the whole,
to be "turned to the whole."*

Ilia Delio, The Unbearable Wholeness of Being

Entering with a Song

*Come just as you are, hear the Spirit call.
Come just as you are.
Come and see, come receive,
Come and live forever.*

*Come just as you are, hear the Spirit call.
Come just as you are.
Come receive, Christ the King,
Come and live forever.*

*Life everlasting, and strength for today.
Taste the living water, and never thirst again.*

"Come Just as You Are"

Turning, Turning

Sitting with a Psalm

*Gracious are You and just;
The Heart of all hearts is merciful
and forgiving.*

*You preserve the simple;
Though I am humbled, You lift me up.*

*Return, O my soul, to your rest;
for you, O Loving Companion Presence,
bestow grace upon grace,
a balm for my soul.*

*Contemplative adaptation of Psalm 116:5-7
Nan Merrill*

Aligning Ourselves with God

“Tis the Gift to Be Simple”

*'Tis the gift to be simple,
'Tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be.
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.
When true simplicity is gained,
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed,
To turn, turn will be our delight,
Till by turning, turning we come round right.*

Entering the Story by the Sea

Matthew 17:24-27, 18:1-5

When they came into Capernaum, the collectors of the temple tax came to Peter and said, “Does your teacher not pay the temple tax?” He said, “Yes, he does.”

And when he entered the house, Jesus spoke of it first, asking, “What do you think, Simon? From whom do kings of the earth take toll or tribute? From their children or from others?” When Peter said, “From others,” Jesus said to him, “Then the children are free. However, so that we do not cause them to stumble, go to the sea and cast a hook; take the first fish that comes up, and when you open its mouth, you will find a coin; take that and give it to them for you and me.”

At that same hour the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who then is greater in the kingdom of the heavens?”

Jesus called a child to him, and stood him in the middle of them, and said, “Truly I tell you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of the heavens. Whoever then will humble themselves like this child is the greater in the kingdom of the heavens. And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me.”

Meditation

Silence for Reflection

Aligning Ourselves with God

“Tis the Gift to Be Simple”

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Extending the Circle

“Circle Me”

*Circle me, O God.
Keep faith within, keep doubt without.
Circle me, O God.
Keep calm within, keep turmoil out.
Keep life within, keep death without.
O circle me, O circle me.*

Circle them...

Circle us...

Resting in the Silence

During these 5 minutes of silence, simply rest in God’s abiding and loving presence in this moment. Simply be here now. Descend into this Silence. There is nothing you need to do. Just relax. Sense your body. Breathe more deeply than usual. It can help to focus on the region of the heart. You might use a breath prayer to help you descend into this silence at the level of the heart, such as “Return” (inhale), “to your rest” (exhale), or use a sacred word (such as Love, Peace, Beloved, Abba, Jesus, or Spirit).

Coming to the Table

“Come Just as You Are”

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Communion

Receiving a Good Word



June Book Discussion

Wednesday, June 28 | 6:30 p.m. | The Anchor House

Our Book of the month for June is Fire of the North: The Life of St. Cuthbert, written by David Adam, who was the Vicar of the Holy Island of Lindisfarne for 13 years. St. Cuthbert was a 7th century monk and bishop of Lindisfarne, which was a major epicenter of Celtic Christianity. Drawing out the qualities which make Cuthbert so important in our own time, Fire of the North celebrates the saint's ready sense of God's presence and eager response to nature. The narrative is complemented throughout by prayers specially composed to help us experience the direct force of Celtic spirituality for ourselves.

"Saints & Pilgrims: A Pilgrimage along the Coast of East England"

October 16-27, 2023

Journey in the footsteps of medieval British saints and pilgrims along the eastern coast of England. There are three primary anchor pilgrimage sites and saints: Julian of Norwich, Hilda of Whitby, and Cuthbert of Lindisfarne. Along the way we will also visit the Shrine of Our Lady in the town of Walsingham (which was a major pilgrimage site in the medieval period); Rievaulx Abbey, home of St. Aelred; and Durham Cathedral. We conclude our pilgrimage in Edinburgh. This contemplative pilgrimage will be an opportunity to deepen your spirituality through exploring the literary texts as well as the historical contexts of these great British saints of medieval Christianity. To reserve a spot please see Michael or Peter for a Registration Form, the deposit is \$300. For more information go to www.thecenterfcs.org/pilgrimage.

Our Staff

Haley Brown – Ministry Assistant & Director of gastrochurch
Peter Johns – Associate Director

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

*Thank you for worshipping with us today. Please register your attendance.
If you are worshipping online, please text the word center to (844) 474-0707
If you are worshipping in person, please text the word chapel to (844) 474-0707*

For information about The Center for Christian Spirituality and upcoming events, visit: www.TheCenterFCS.org.