



## *Embody Grace*

8:45 a.m. + January 14, 2024

I've accepted that the whole of my life will be a pilgrimage toward the sound of the genuine in me. This may sound troubling to those who've been conditioned to believe that our journey is to God and God alone, but I say the two paths are one. My journey to the truth of God cannot be parsed from my journey to the truth of who I am. A fidelity to the true self is a fidelity to truth. I won't apologize for this.  
Cole Arthur Riley

Welcoming the Presence

*Spirit of Truth, enter my mind.  
Spirit of Wisdom, enter my heart.*

*"Spirit of Truth Enter My Mind"*

Becoming Our True Selves

Welcoming the Presence

*Spirit of Truth, enter my mind.  
Spirit of Wisdom, enter my heart.*

*"Spirit of Truth Enter My Mind"*

Seeking Truth

*Psalm 25:10, 85:10, 86:15, 26:3, Proverbs 3:3-4, Ephesians 4:24*

*All the paths of the Lord are faithful love and truth,  
to those who keep His covenant and testimonies.*

*Graciousness and truth have met together.  
Righteousness and peace have kissed.*

*You, O Beloved, are God - compassionate and gracious,  
longsuffering and abounding in unfailing love and truth.*

*Your faithful love is in front of my eyes, guiding me.  
I walk in Your truth, in Your faithfulness.*

*Never let loving-kindness and truth leave you.  
Tie them around your neck. Write them on the tablet of your heart.  
And you will find favor and a good reputation  
in the eyes of God and people.*

*Put on the New Human, which, according to God,  
was created in righteousness and purity of the truth.*

Song of Response

*"The Heart of God"*

*Faith that moves mountains,  
Grace that forgives.  
Peace that calms stormy seas.  
Love that brings healing.  
Trust that endures.  
Truth that can set us free.  
Help us embody all that you are,  
And live lives that reflect your grace.  
To walk with the stranger until we are friends,  
And we all find our place – at home in the heart of God.*

*Make us faithful to forgive,  
When we're wounded by the world.  
Peaceful bearers of your grace,  
Help us love as you love.*

*With faith that moves mountains...*

Sitting with Scripture

*John 1:14, 16-18*

*And the Word became flesh and tabernacled in us,  
and we beheld his glory, glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth...*

*From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.  
The law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.*

Meditation

Finding Solid Ground

*"Grounded in You"*

*Every mountain points the way to you.  
Every clump of earth recalls how we were made.  
Every rock sings out songs of faithfulness,  
And reminds us all that is true:  
We are grounded in you.*

Meditation

Song of Response

*"Enneagram Chant 3"*

*My solid ground supports authentic being.*

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 Christ, Love, Abba, Jesus, or Spirit. Or follow the rhythm of your breath.

Song of Response

*"The Heart of God"*

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*With faith that moves mountains...*

Holy Communion

Receiving a Good Word



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](http://www.TheCenterFCS.org).

Please register your presence in the notebooks in the foyer.

## Centering Prayer

Today | The Chapel | after Contemplative Worship

## Worship Response

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

## Creative Space

Saturday, January 20 | The Anchor House | 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.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. Create Space is on the third Saturday of each month and is open to all. Art supplies will be provided. Learn more and sign up at the registration link below.

## SoulCollage® Open Studio

Sunday, January 21 | The Anchor House | 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited to join in this fun, powerful method of using scissors and glue to create the story of your life. Each card we create has the potential for deep personal meaning and gives voice to an aspect of the self that helps us explore our inner wisdom. If you are a newcomer to SoulCollage® there will be an introduction at 1:00 pm and you'll have plenty of time to make cards. Add \$10 for Introductory Materials. Register via our weekly email.

## Centered: Lessons on Receiving and Embodying Grace

Friday, Feb. 23 (6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.) & Saturday, Feb. 24 (9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.) | The Anchor House

This is an introduction to Contemplative Christianity and Prayer. In our Weekend Workshop and Retreat, you will receive: A simple and comprehensive way of understanding “contemplative Christianity” and “contemplative prayer,” techniques to use your body as a tool for transformation, practices to help you destress and navigate stress with flow and ease, Several ways to pray that use your body, contemplative songs to help you remember sacred wisdom and to center you, a template for walking a path of transformation – body, soul and spirit, an overview of the entire contemplative journey and how it is integrally related to service and ministry, handouts to help you remember the key teachings and practices, renewal from gifting yourself with the experience of a retreat.

## Our Annual Aim & Pledge: Embody Grace

All of us are part of a never-ending process of receiving and giving. Life is not possible without this organic flow. And this flow is an expression of Grace. Yet we can more consciously participate in this flow of receiving and embodying grace. “Embody Grace” is our aim and intention this year as a contemplative community. We at The Center will seek to provide opportunities to experience grace and learn ways to more consciously embody God’s grace, peace, truth, and love.

We invite you to help us be stewards of the grace of God at work in and through The Center for Christian Spirituality. To make your estimate of giving for 2024, simply text [ccsestimate](#) to 832-626-7767 and a link to the form will be texted back to you.