

Beauty is to the soul as food is to the body. It speaks to a need in us that nothing else can fill but the beauty of God.
~Frederick Buechner

COMMUNION

ONE THING I ASK, ONE THING I SEEK
THAT I MAY DWELL IN YOUR HOUSE, O LORD
ALL OF MY DAYS, ALL OF MY LIFE
THAT I MAY SEE YOU, LORD

HEAR ME O LORD, HEAR ME WHEN I CRY
LORD DO NOT HIDE YOUR FACE FROM ME
YOU HAVE BEEN MY HELP, YOU HAVE BEEN MY SHIELD
AND YOU WILL LIFT ME UP

ONE THING I ASK, ONE THING I DESIRE
IS TO SEE YOU (rpt)

UNION

Art awakens us to the possibility of perfection and to its source. It not only creates and represents beauty, it also symbolizes human conversion; the progression, ideal and hope of beauty in us. It provides fundamental clues to what we are and what we are becoming.

~Richard Viladesau, *Theology and the Arts*

GOD IS PRESENT EVERYWHERE (see insert)

If you would like to receive the Imago Dei email meditations to encourage your life of prayer, you can sign up on the website, or email imago@shaw.ca

Check our website for information about groups meeting locally. Rob Des Cotes' books are available online.

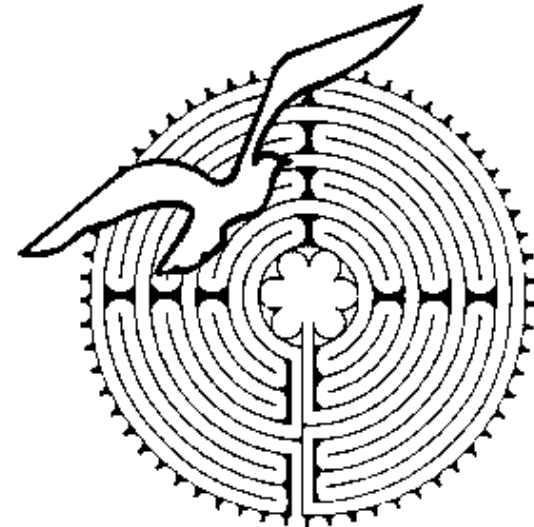
Our next **Contemplative Communion Service** will be **TBA, 7pm.**

Imago Dei Christian Community

www.imagodeicommunity.ca

Contemplative Liturgy

June 8, 2024



with meditations on Beauty

Beauty is the persuasive power of God's truth and goodness.

Richard Harries, *Art and the Beauty of God*

Contemplative Liturgy

Psalm 19:1-4

AWAKENING

God is the foundation and fountain of all being and all beauty. A person's highest vocation is to be able to respond to this beauty. ~Jonathan Edwards, *Religious Affections*

MY SOUL FOLLOWS HARD AFTER YOU
EARLY IN THE EVENING I WILL RISE UP TO SEEK YOU
AND BECAUSE YOU HAVE BEEN MY STRENGTH
IN THE SHADOW OF YOUR WINGS
I WILL REJOICE, REJOICE, REJOICE

God is the beauty that is anticipated by the human mind and heart. To say that God is beauty is to affirm that God is the horizon for every experience of the beautiful; intellectual beauty, moral beauty, relational beauty and aesthetic beauty. God is what we anticipate, and implicitly know and love in all experiences of form, order, loveliness and desirability. ~Richard Viladesau, *Theology and the Arts*

YOU ARE EVERYTHING MY SOUL LONGS FOR
YOU ARE EVERYTHING MY HEART DESIRES

ILLUMINATION

When we are in the presence of something beautiful we feel 'received.' Beauty is our home and we are born with a love for home. The realm of the aesthetics orients us; it reminds us of the perfection that is possible in ourselves and in the world. ~John Dykstra Eusden, *Sensing Beauty*

Psalm 27:4

IN THE CLEFT OF THE ROCK, IN THE HIDING PLACE
SHOW ME YOUR FACE
IN THE WHISPER OF THE WIND, IN THE SILENCE OF PRAYER,
LET ME HEAR YOUR VOICE

FOR YOUR VOICE IS SWEET AND YOUR FACE IS LOVELY
I WILL SEARCH FOR THE ONE MY HEART LOVES
YOUR VOICE IS SWEET AND YOUR FACE IS LOVELY
I WILL SEARCH FOR THE ONE I LOVE

We do not merely see beauty, we want something else that can hardly be put into words--to be united with the beauty we see, to pass into it, to receive it into ourselves, to bathe in it, to become part of it....We are summoned to pass through this beauty, beyond her, into that splendour which she fitfully reflects. ~C.S. Lewis

MY SOUL MAGNIFIES THE LORD
HIS PRAISES FILL MY HEART WITH SPIRIT AND TRUTH
LET ALL WITHIN ME BLESS HIS NAME
I WILL EXALT HIM WITH THE LOVE
THAT HE GIVES MY HEART

CONFESSION

Late have I loved you, beauty so old and so new: Late have I loved you. I had my back to the light and my face towards the things which are illuminated. So my face, by which I was enabled to see the things lit up, was not itself illuminated. ~Augustine

IN REPENTANCE AND REST IS MY SALVATION
AND THE QUIET OF TRUST WILL BE MY STRENGTH

THE FRUIT OF SILENCE IS PRAYER,
THE FRUIT OF PRAYER IS FAITH
THE FRUIT OF FAITH IS LOVE.
THE FRUIT OF LOVE IS PEACE

God is Present Everywhere

They who seek the throne of grace
Find that throne in every place
If we live a life of prayer
God is present everywhere.

In our world, or in our home
In our mind and in our soul
If we look to God in prayer
God is present everywhere.

Then my heart in every strait
In God's presence come and wait
God receives our every prayer
God is present everywhere.

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