

Let Christ turn your natural optimism into Christian hope, your energy into moral virtue, your good will into genuine self-sacrificing love! This is the path you are called to take. This is the path to overcoming all that threatens hope, virtue and love in your lives and in your culture.

~Pope Francis

## COMMUNION

○ LOVE THAT WILL NOT LET ME GO (insert)

## UNION

...O God who is to come, grant me the grace to live now, in such a way that I may merit to live in you forever, in the blissful hour of your eternity.

-Karl Rahner

IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL  
IN THE LORD I WILL REJOICE  
LOOK TO GOD, DO NOT BE AFRAID  
LIFT UP YOUR VOICES, THE LORD IS NEAR  
LIFT UP YOUR VOICES, THE LORD IS NEAR

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](mailto:imago@shaw.ca)

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

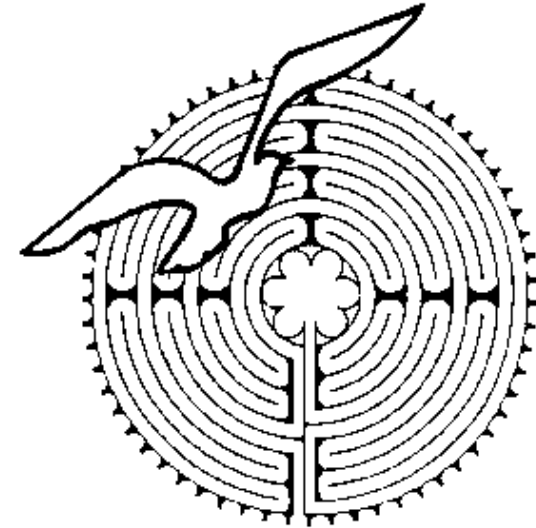
Our next **Contemplative Communion Service** will be **February 8 @ 7 pm.**

## Imago Dei Christian Community

[www.imagodeicommunity.ca](http://www.imagodeicommunity.ca)

# *Contemplative Liturgy*

## January 11, 2024



with meditations on Hope

# *Contemplative Liturgy*

## **Psalm 130:6-8**

### **AWAKENING**

But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law. God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children. And because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, "Abba, Father." Now you are no longer a slave but God's own child. And since you are his child, God has made you his heir. Galatians 4:4-8

WE HAVE RECEIVED  
THE SPIRIT AS A CHILD OF GOD  
AND BY THIS WE CRY  
'ABBA FATHER, ABBA FATHER'

### **ILLUMINATION**

Hope means hoping when things are hopeless, or it is no virtue at all... As long as matters are really hopeful, hope is mere flattery or platitude; it is only when everything is hopeless that hope begins to be a strength.  
~Gilbert K. Chesterton

WAIT FOR THE LORD  
WHOSE DAY IS NEAR  
WAIT FOR THE LORD  
BE STRONG, TAKE HEART

Christian hope does not promise successful days to the rich and the strong, but resurrection and life to those who must exist in the shadows of death. Success is no name of God. Righteousness is. ~Jürgen Moltmann

KINDLE A FLAME  
TO LIGHTEN THE DARK  
AND TAKE ALL FEAR AWAY (Iona)

To have Christian hope means to know about evil and yet to go to meet the future with confidence. The core of faith rests upon accepting being loved by God, and therefore to believe is to say Yes, not only to him, but to creation, to creatures, above all, to men, to try to see the image of God in each person and thereby to become a lover.

~Pope Benedict XVI

OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN (61-VOICES UNITED)

### **CONFESSION**

The celebration [of Advent] is possible only to those who are troubled in soul, who know themselves to be poor and imperfect, and who look forward to something greater to come.  
~Dietrich Bonhoeffer

ALL POOR ONES AND HUMBLE (68-VOICES UNITED)

**O LOVE THAT WILL NOT LET ME GO**

O LOVE THAT WILL NOT LET ME GO  
I REST MY WEARY SOUL IN THEE  
I GIVE THEE BACK THE LIFE I OWE  
THAT IN THINE OCEAN DEPTHS ITS FLOW  
MAY RICHER FULLER BE  
THAT IN THINE OCEAN DEPTHS ITS FLOW  
MAY RICHER FULLER BE

O LIGHT THAT FOLLOWS ALL MY WAY  
I YIELD MY FADING TORCH TO THEE  
MY HEART RESTORES ITS BORROWED RAY  
THAT IN THY SUNSHINE'S BLAZE ITS DAY  
MAY BRIGHTER, FAIRER BE  
THAT IN THY SUNSHINE'S BLAZE ITS DAY  
MAY BRIGHTER, FAIRER BE

O CROSS THAT HELPS ME LIFT MY HEAD  
I DARE NOT WANDER FAR FROM THEE  
FOR THOUGH I LAY IN GLORY DEAD  
YET FROM THE GROUND IN BLOSSOMS RED  
LIFE SHALL NEVER END  
YET FROM THE GROUND IN BLOSSOMS RED  
LIFE SHALL NEVER END

O JOY THAT SEES ME THROUGH THE PAIN  
I CANNOT CLOSE MY HEART TO THEE  
I TRACE THE RAINBOW THROUGH THE RAIN  
AND FEEL THE PROMISE IS NOT VAIN  
THAT MORN SHALL TEARLESS BE  
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