

The mystery of the spiritual life is that Jesus desires to meet us in the seclusion of our own heart, to make his love known to us there, to free us from our fears, and to make our own deepest self known to us. Each time you let the love of God penetrate deeper into your heart it leads to a love of ourselves that enables us to give whole-hearted love to our fellow human beings. In the seclusion of our hearts we learn to know the hidden presence of God; and with that spiritual knowledge we can lead a loving life. ~Henri Nouwen

## COMMUNION

○ GOD WE CALL  
○ GOD WE CALL  
FROM DEEP INSIDE WE YEARN  
FROM DEEP INSIDE WE YEARN  
FROM DEEP INSIDE WE YEARN  
FOR YOU

## UNION

The most holy and necessary practice in our spiritual life is the presence of God. That means finding constant pleasure in His divine company, speaking humbly and lovingly with him in all seasons, at every moment, without limiting the conversation in any way. ~Brother Lawrence

BE THOU MY VISION  
(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](mailto:imago@shaw.ca)

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

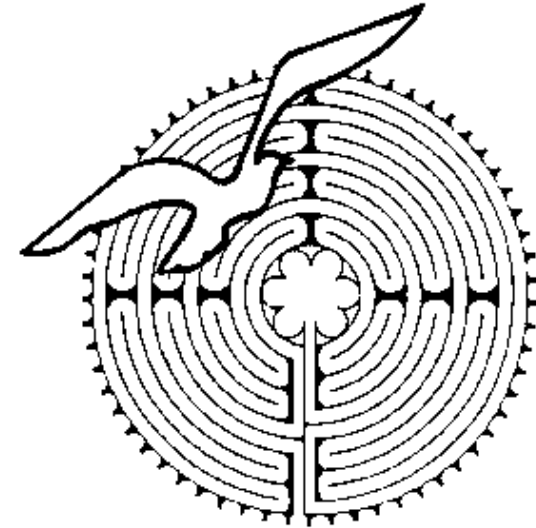
Our next **Contemplative Communion Service** will be December 14 @ 7 pm.

## Imago Dei Christian Community

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

# Contemplative Liturgy

## November 9, 2024



with meditations on the Presence of God

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*I am as sure as I live that nothing is so near to me as God.  
God is nearer to me than I am to myself; my existence  
depends on the nearness and the presence of God.*

~Meister Eckhart

# *Contemplative Liturgy*

## **Psalm 89:14-16**

### **AWAKENING**

We rarely think of the air we breathe, yet it is in us and around us all the time. In similar fashion, the presence of God penetrates us, is all around us, is always embracing us.

~Thomas Keating

HOW GENTLY AND LOVINGLY  
YOU AWAKEN MY HEART  
WHERE IN SECRET YOU DWELL WITH ME  
(rpt)

AND IN YOUR SWEET BREATH  
FILLED WITH GOOD AND GLORY  
HOW TENDERLY YOU FILL MY HEART WITH LOVE  
(rpt)

### **ILLUMINATION**

We cannot attain the presence of God. We're already totally in the presence of God. What's missing is awareness.

~David Brenner

I LIVE NOW NOT I  
BUT CHRIST LIVES IN ME  
(rpt)

VIVO IAM NON EGO  
VIVIT VERO IN ME CHRISTUS  
(rpt)

It is not necessary to maintain a conversation when we are in the presence of God. We can come into His presence and rest our weary souls in quiet contemplation of Him. Our groanings, which cannot be uttered, rise to Him and tell Him better than words how dependent we are upon Him.

~Ole Hallesby

IN GOD ALONE MY SOUL CAN FIND REST AND PEACE  
IN GOD MY PEACE AND JOY  
ONLY IN GOD MY SOUL CAN FIND ITS REST  
FIND ITS REST AND PEACE

### **CONFESSION**

If I were going to begin practicing the presence of God for the first time today, it would help to begin by admitting the three most terrible truths of our existence: that we are so ruined, and so loved, and in charge of so little.

~Anne Lamott

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

Whatever we have done in the past, be it good or evil, great or small, is irrelevant to our stance before God today. It is only NOW that we are in the presence of God.

~Brennan Manning

LAMB OF GOD  
(see insert)

LAMB OF GOD  
YOU TAKE AWAY THE SINS OF THE WORLD  
HAVE MERCY ON US (echo)  
(rpt)

LAMB OF GOD  
YOU TAKE AWAY THE SINS OF THE WORLD  
GRANT US PEACE (echo)  
(rpt)

BE THOU MY VISION, O LORD OF MY HEART  
NAUGHT BE ALL ELSE TO ME  
SAVE THAT THOU ART  
THOU MY BEST THOUGHT  
BY DAY OR BY NIGHT  
WAKING OR SLEEPING  
THY PRESENCE MY LIGHT

BE THOU MY WISDOM AND THOU MY TRUE WORD  
I EVER WITH THEE AND THOU WITH ME LORD  
THOU MY GREAT FATHER AND I THY TRUE CHILD  
THOU IN ME DWELLING AND I THY TRUE CHILD

RICHES I NEED NOT NOR VAIN EMPTY PRAISE  
THOU MINE INHERITANCE NOW AND ALWAYS  
THOU AND THOU ONLY, FIRST IN MY HEART  
HIGH KING OF HEAVEN, MY TREASURE THOU ART

HIGH KING OF HEAVEN, MY VICTORY WON  
MAY I REACH HEAVEN'S JOYS, O BRIGHT HEAV'N'S SUN  
HEART OF MY OWN HEART, WHATEVER BEFALL  
STILL BE MY VISION, O RULER OF ALL