

It is, perhaps, the most simple thing that we can say about Holy Communion, yet it is still supremely worth saying. In Holy Communion, Jesus Christ tells us he wants our company.
Rowan Williams, *Being Christian*

COMMUNION

silence

UNION

When I am really living true, my own deepest desire—to become the person God created me to be—is in complete harmony with God’s will for me. God’s will therefore, becomes not something remote and unknowable, but something as close to me as the deepest desire of my own heart, and something that the Lord is only waiting and longing to reveal to me in every moment of my life and in every breath of my prayer. God’s will—his desire for me—and my own deepest desire are one and the same thing.
Margaret Silf, *Inner Compass*

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

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

Check our weekly email for information about groups meeting locally. Rob Des Cotes’ books are available online (or from Ruth)

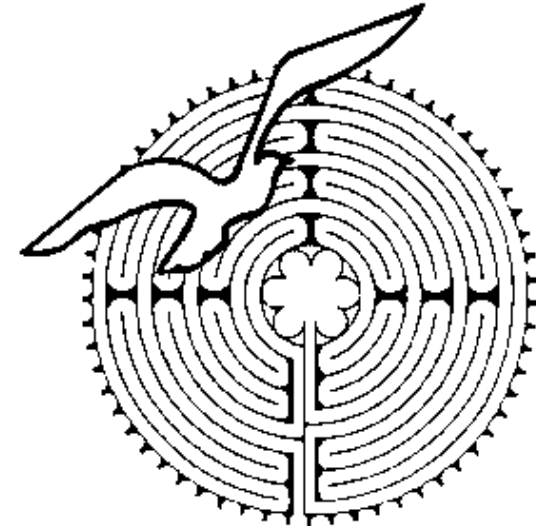
Our next **Contemplative Communion Service** will be **Saturday, November 6 @ 7 pm.**

Imago Dei Christian Community

www.imagodeicommunity.ca

Contemplative Liturgy

October 2, 2021



with meditations on the theme of Desire

Life is shaped by the end you live for. You are made in the image of what you desire.

Thomas Merton

Contemplative Liturgy

Human and divine desiring is a core feature of the spiritual life. Our desires energize the spiritual quest. When uncovered, expressed, and recognized, our deepest desires, our wants, our longings, our outward and inward searching ultimately lead us to God. Janet Ruffing
Spiritual Direction, Beyond the Beginnings

ONE THING GOD HAS SPOKEN, TWO THINGS HAVE I HEARD
THAT YOU O GOD ARE STRONG, THAT YOU O LORD ARE LOVING

Psalm 73:21-26

AWAKENING

Most of us have never discovered where our desires lead us on their own. Instead we attempt to satisfy ourselves in the short-term. We bury our unformed, barely perceptible longings for intimacy with God by settling for whatever forms are immediately available or convenient. Janet Ruffing

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

ILLUMINATION

Silence in the presence of God belongs to the core of prayer. It deepens our awareness of both ourselves and God. For it is in the stillness of prayer that we learn what our own desires most truly are.

David Benner, *Desiring God*

BE STILL AND KNOW HE IS LORD
BE STILL, MY SOUL

In the process of praying we find that we and our desires get sorted out. Prayer allows our desires room to be—to become conscious, intelligent, and available to us, even to become enlarged and expanded. Janet Ruffing

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 (Taizé)

CONFESSION

It often feels frightening or disconcerting to discover that we don't know what we want, or to find that we don't want something badly enough to make the choices it would require. As each thing we think we want emerges, it takes some time to test out whether we really do want it or not. This interior sorting through requires listening to ourselves at deeper levels than most of us are accustomed to. Janet Ruffing

MY SOUL IS THIRSTING FOR YOU, O GOD, MY GOD (PS. 63) (Anna)

Our desires are in themselves, deeply spiritual. Our deepest desires prove that the universe is not centered on ourselves, because they require that we reach out and move on. David Benner

KYRIE ELEISON, KYRIE ELEISON, KYRIE ELE-I-SON
LORD, HAVE MERCY, LORD HAVE MERCY
LORD HAVE MERCY ON US

For Christians, to share in the Eucharist, the Holy Communion, means to live as people who know that they are always guests -that they are welcomed and that they are wanted.