

Epiphany 4: Worship and Spirituality

January 28, 2018

As we explore four different streams of spirituality: head, mystic, heart, and kingdom, our worship this morning focuses on mystic spirituality. This spirituality may speak of God as “unknowable,” “wind,” “breath,” or “Holy One.” It appreciates the repetitive style of Taizé, in which silence and repetitive songs or phrases hold the mind and body steady as the heart listens for the still, small presence and voice of God. Mystic spirituality prefers prayers that flow naturally from the heart and our deepest longings. It needs times of deep stillness and meditative prayer with few spoken words. People of this spiritual type do not need to focus on a lot of décor or seasonal altar designs; simple visuals are best.

Chime

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Jan Rheinheimer

Children’s Story

Don Rheinheimer

Chime

CENTERING

Prayer: Be Still (30 second pauses)

“**Be still**, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the earth.” Psalm 46: 10

Song: *Bless the Lord*

Hilary Rhodes, Songleader

Scripture Reading: Psalm 23 (p. 435)

Silence (1½ minutes)

Chime

Song: *Come and Fill*

LECTIO DIVINA: Mark 1: 16-20

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Lectio Divina is composed of four movements: *lectio, meditatio, oratio*, followed by a final *contemplation*, with short periods of silence in between.

1st reading: (1½ minutes) *Listen, and place yourself in the text.*

2nd reading: (1½) *What does it mean to follow Jesus?*

3rd reading: (1½) *In what way is Jesus inviting you to follow him?*

4th reading: (4) *Listen to your heart; offer thanks.*

Song: *We are Called*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

During this time, you are invited to pray silently or verbally for: **our world and local community, the wider church and congregation, and our families and ourselves.** During the final section, you may come forward to do any or all of the following:

- light a candle to symbolize your prayer,
- receive a blessing or anointing
- bring your morning offering

Song: *Stay with Me*

Prayers for the WORLD and OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

Song: *O Lord Hear Our Prayers*

Prayers for the WIDER CHURCH and OUR CONGREGATION

Song: *O Lord Hear Our Prayers*

Prayers for OUR FAMILIES and OURSELVES

During the music for meditation, you are invited to come forward to light a candle, receive anointing, and/or bring your offering.

Lord's Prayer

Silence (1 minute)

BENEDICTION

Blessed is the Lord (Benedictus) (Forrest)

Octet

Closing Chime

This Week's Activities

Today	Nursery: Chelsea Tatum, Bart Miller	10:00 AM
	Melissa Miller, Adriana Martinez	11:15 AM
	Justice Group Anniversary Luncheon	12:30 PM
	PADS at Congregation Etz Chaim	5:00 PM
Tue	Lunch Bunch at Maxfields	12:00 PM
Wed	WOW Bible Study	9:30 AM
Thu	Ministry Team	7:00 PM
Sat	Pastor Congregation Relations Committee	9:00 AM

Announcements

- Next week, our worship will be structured around **Heart Spirituality**. People with Heart Spirituality gauge the authenticity of worship by the way the experience feels to them. In their prayer language, they prefer personal names for God and concrete, tangible phrases: "Father," "Friend," "my personal Savior." The people of heart spirituality want a sermon that inspires, transforms, "convicts and converts." They want, in the words of Doris Aker's hymn *Sweet, Sweet Spirit*, to "have been revived when we shall leave this place." Those with Heart Spirituality appreciate how sharing time allows for any participant to share whatever is on their heart. Time and the order of worship are not the point. While signing the hymn stanzas in sequence is important, it is imperative that there be freedom to repeat a refrain or to continue the music under the words of a prayer. There is stronger attention to the immediate movement of the Spirit than to the order of service on the page.

- Next Sunday, we will celebrate **Communion Sunday**. Let us each prayerfully prepare for this time and consider whether we are being called to reconciliation in a relationship where there has been brokenness (Matthew 5:23-24).
- All are warmly invited to hear **Karin and Mark Edwards** (Redekopp & Edwards), performing a duo-piano recital on Friday, February 2, at 7:30 PM at Wheaton College (Pierce Chapel). Works by Beethoven, Reger, Benjamin, Hovhaness, Bartok, and Infante will be included. Admission is free to students and Wheaton College ID holders. Tickets cost \$10 for general audience and \$5 for seniors over 60. Would love to see you there!
- **Bistro** is right around the corner! The MYF need a few adult volunteers to assist with this annual four-course meal. We need adults to help decorate on Saturday afternoon (12:30-3:30 PM). We're also looking for a coffee expert to be our barista during the event. Talk to Pastor Hillary if you're interested. And stay tuned for info about reservations.
- The **Pastor Congregation Relations Committee** meets on a periodic basis with each of the pastors. It functions as a support group for the pastors and as a link between them and the congregation. The next meeting with Don, Jan, and Hillary will take place on February 3. If you have suggestions, concerns, or positive feedback about our pastors that you'd like addressed at the meeting, please email sharingwithpcrc@lombardmennonite.org, or contact any of the PCRC members.
- This summer, the **MYF** are looking for enthusiastic and spiritually mature adults to accompany their summer trip. Could it be you? Talk to Hillary if you are interested; dates are not yet scheduled and are still flexible.
- Worship Commission is looking for more adults and teens to **lead Children's Time** during worship. Share a song, tell a story, or act out a Bible passage with the littlest members of our church. There are tips to guide you and you can co-lead with someone to test if this is your passion. Talk to Pastor Hillary if you're interested.