

August 2019 Worship

CENTRATION

Ever since God created the world, God's everlasting power and deity however invisible—have been there for the mind to see in the things God has made. —Romans 1:20



Honoring the SOUTH, FIRE, HEAT (upon lighting the candle)

(ALL) Oh, immense Fire of illumination, thank you for shining your light on our lives. You bring us the ability to see what was previously hidden. You bring the spark of life that activates growth and develops a strong life force. Your dynamic energy fuels our Radiant Self when we are connected to our heart-centered passions.

CENTRATION is the coming together in one life of the entire evolutionary development.

Evolutionary Cosmologist Brian Swimme writes that “the cosmological Powers of the Universe are coursing through us moment by moment. To become aware of these powers is to touch the Source of Life.” --The Powers of The Universe

How to Recognize the Universal Power of Centration in the World

In general, centration is the tendency of matter to organize itself around a center...for billions of years, intelligence of the universe has been gathering information about what works and moving past what doesn't. It provides us with its incredibly flexible, generative energy, continually centering, gathering elements of itself for the creation of every new being or mode of being.

From birth, the cosmos has been turning in on itself, creating centers: the early clustering of the original elements into stars; the swirling arms of the galaxies gathering them together, then continuing to create more centers as new stars formed. The dust of the universe collecting itself into planets around those stars

and in turn, pulling matter into moons and rings. Centered planets within centered solar systems within centered galaxies.

At the human level, the process of centration happens when lungs are formed because of a particular fish hundreds of millions of years ago. That process for building lungs has been remembered all of this time and is now present in you. We have billions of years of the universe present in us, in our bodies. Not only is the information in us, the energy is also in us, the power to act. We have energy coursing through us from our last meal which the sun poured out to be absorbed by the Earth and transformed into food. The sun gets its energy from the hydrogen atoms, which got their energy from the birth of the universe. Therefore the energy from the birth of the universe is coursing through us. In that sense, the universe gathers all of itself together and gives birth to each new being. That's the power of centration.

How to Recognize the Universal Power of Centration in Each Other

- Confidence – energy rooted to the beginning of time
- Freedom from social forces of conformity – courage to be who you are
- Joy of being the universe – recognize that you are the universe
- Focus – centration leads to immense focus
- Realizing seamlessness of universal primordial energy – ultimate exhilaration
- Glow at being in the center of things – this is the center of your being
- The deepest love possible between beings in process of centration

How Does the Universal Power of Centration Move in Us?

This intelligent, vital force, Brian Swimme says, 'has been roaring for 13.7 billion years and now it's roaring into our lives. It's been shaping the universe all this time and it's inviting us into the shaping itself.'

Do we see affirmations of Centration?

Separate Group Discussions – Come back and share with the larger group

Cosmic Christ

Cosmic Christ, your presence fills the cosmos. Your presence pulses through all galactic space across light years of time.

(ALL) Living Christ, make your presence felt among us.

We invite the cosmos to worship with us.

(ALL) We invite glittering galaxies high in the sky to radiate the splendor of God's presence.

We call distant domains of space to celebrate with us.

(ALL) We invite nebula, nova and black holes to thank God for their fascinating formation.

We summon that piece of stardust called Earth,

(ALL) To pulse with the rhythm of God's presence and celebrate God's glory in this planet garden.

We invite millions of living species to dance with life,

(ALL) The turtle, the toad and the elephant, the earthworm, the ant and the dragonfly.

We invite every creature in the web of creation to connect with others in this community called cosmos.

(ALL) Dance, creation, dance! Dance with cosmic energy!

(bring bread and wine to table)

We take these gifts of Earth and work of human hands, bread and wine, and we give thanks for who we are, and all we have.

Leader: We break and share this bread, as Jesus broke and shared it, mindful of God's presence with us. We share this bread, committing ourselves to allow the mind and spirit of Jesus to be evident in our living and loving.

We take this wine, mindful of the privilege of human existence, and our connectedness with God, Source of all that exists. May people see in us the spirit of gratitude and generous self-giving we have seen in Jesus.

Closing Prayer: (All) May the story we tell about God, about the universe, about creation, and about ourselves "educate, heal, and guide, us." Amen

SONG: In The Center of the Universe

Music by Jan Novotka, Melodies of the Universe

I AM in the center of all that is, in the center of the universe that is where I AM.

I STAND in the Center of all that is, in the center of the universe that is where I STAND.

I DWELL in the center of all that is, in the center of the universe that is where I DWELL.

I SEE in the center of all that is, in the center of the universe that is where I SEE.

I DANCE in the center of all that is, in the center of the universe that is where I DANCE.

I AM in the center of all that is, in the center of the universe that is where I AM.