

Rockhaven Sunday Worship

Theme: Ecstasy of the Sun

May 27, 2018

EMERGENCE

We've discovered that the universe is not a place; it's a STORY, A STORY of an irreversible sequence of emergent events. For a long time, we thought the universe was an established realm that had its major creativity happening only at the beginning of time. Now we understand that the universe is an ONGOING CREATIVE EVENT. Stars came forth, galaxies came forth, planets have emerged, life burst into existence. This power of emergence could also be called ONGOING CREATIVITY. In some ways, it's the greatest discovery in the history of the human sciences—that the universe as a whole, and each being in it, is permeated with the power of EMERGENCE.

PRAYER: Honoring the EAST, AIR, LIGHT (stand and Breathe)

SONG: Consciousness Waking by Jan Novatka

Reading 1: If the dynamics of the universe from the beginning shaped the course of the heavens, lighted the sun, and formed the earth, if this same dynamism brought forth the continents and seas and atmosphere, if it awakened life in the primordial cell and then brought into being the unnumbered variety of living beings, and finally brought us into being and guided us safely through the turbulent centuries, there is reason to believe that this same guiding process (emergence) is precisely what has awakened in us in our present understanding of ourselves and our relation to this stupendous process. (Thomas Berry)

PAUSE

Reading 2: St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274) stated, "The immense diversity and pluriformity of this creation more perfectly represents God than any one creature alone or by itself." However, most Christians thought humans were the only creatures that God cared about, and all else—animals, plants, light, water, soil, minerals—was just "food" for our own sustenance and enjoyment. I do not believe that the Infinitely Loving Source we call God could be so stingy and withholding, and only care about one species—unless that care would lead to care for everything else too, which I would call full consciousness. That is the unique human gift. (Richard Rohr)

"The universe itself can be understood as the primary revelation of the divine." T. Berry

Go outside and be conscious of what is EMERGING all around you in the material world, and within you spiritually. (10 min.)

SHARING OF CONSCIOUSNESS

CREED: (Stand and pray together)

***Creator God, who dwells in all Creation, holy is your name.
Your universe is unfolding, may your will be done on Earth
as it is throughout the starry heavens.***

***Give us today our daily food and drink, and forgive our transgressions
against You, others, and nature as we forgive those who transgress
against us. And lead us away from the temptation of selfishness
and greed; deliver us from pride, which is the heaviest burden.***

***For yours is the Creation, the emerging power and the
encompassing glory forever. Amen!***

SONG: Mystery - Missa Gaia - Paul Winter
(Bring bread and wine to table)

Reading 3: Jesus' last supper was a meal of deep table friendship- with his closest followers— that evolved into the formatted, highly ritualized meal of bread and wine. The first disciples soon came to understand it as their special way of gathering, as a way to define their reality and their relationship with one another, a “memorial” meal with Jesus and thus with the larger society.

At the Last Supper, when Jesus held up the bread and spoke the words “This is my Body,” I believe he was speaking not just about the bread right in front of him, but about the whole universe, about every thing that is physical, material, and yet also spirit-filled. His assertion and Christians' repetition resound over all creation before they also settle into one piece of bread to be shared. The bread and wine, and all of creation, seem to believe who and what they are much more readily than humans do. When celebrants speak these words at the altar, they are speaking them to both the bread and the congregation—so they can carry it “to all of creation”. As St. Augustine preached, we must feed the Body of Christ to the people of God until they are what they eat! (Richard Rohr)
(Pass bread around and eat)

Reading 4: We also are the Body of Christ, as is all of the universe. The Apostle Paul used a perfect metaphor: “As a body is one though it has many parts, and all parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to **drink of one Spirit...** *Now you are Christ's body, and individually parts of it.” (1Corinthians 12:12-13)*
(Pass wine around the circle)

COMMUNAL PRAYER:

FINAL PRAYER: Traditional Irish Blessing

Liturgy prepared by: Sr. Corlita Bonnarens, RSM