



**Being human,
Being love**

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Office and Building Hours

Office Monday - Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Building will be open:
Monday - Thursday,
7:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Other building hours by
scheduled appointment only.

Welcome to Christ Community Church

This community is open to all who would join and continue the human journey, seeking to learn, to grow, to love deeply, and live more meaningfully! We are glad you are here. Let us know how we can connect with you.

Ian Lawton, Executive Minister,
Preaching and Theological Inquiry
Bob Kleinheksel, Minister of Care
and Social Justice
Brigit Lewis, Administration and Fund
Development
Allison Rockey, Outreach and
Communications Ministry
Brad Vander Ark, Audio/Visual and
Online Ministry
Betty Van Till, Organist and Music
Coordinator
Toni Van Dyken, Spiritual Director
Richard A. Rhem, Minister Emeritus
Peter J. Theune, Minister Emeritus

Sacred Contracts
Sunday, January 14, 2007
Christ Community Church

Prelude

...Betty Van Till

Welcome and news of the community

Musical celebration
The Weight

...C³ Band
...Robbie Robertson

Gathered in community

Images of God and Goddess, life and meaning are erupting in our consciousness. They remind us of where we came from, connect us with kindred images in other traditions and create a path on which we can travel. We honor all symbols of self, community and nature.

One: We honor the Artist,
All: Exciting the senses, drawing grandeur out of the ordinary.

One: We honor the Child,
All: the part of us which is enchanted and enchanting to others.

One: We honor the Mystic,
All: journeying within, one with all things.

One: We honor the Hero,
All: confronting struggle with courage and passion.

The Star shines with hope eternal, grace from above. The Moon speaks of elusive light, brief glimpses of paths taken, and paths unfolding. The Sun radiates the bright essence of being, true Self shining forth.

***Opening hymn**

The Universe in God

...tune: *Lauda Anima*
...words: *George Stuart*

All creation sings a story of great splendor to declare when we contemplate its beauty, we are called forth into prayer we enchanted stand in silence, God discovered everywhere.

When we stumble on new knowledge, when new insights help us grow we are quick to rediscover, just how much we do not know but the universe smiles gently as our theories come and go.

Outer space and inner being, both have secrets they conceal galaxies so grimly awesome, deep emotions that we feel all in God are judged so sacred, it is God they all reveal.

Ageless mysteries still excite us, time and space we must explore God the 'Presence' and 'Surrounding,' God the ever-wondrous 'More' not just found in science labors, but in praise when we adore.

Participants:

Preacher: Ian Lawton

Liturgist: Bob Kleinheksel

C³ Band: Steve Weideman, Lauren Mattone, Brad Vander Ark, Garrett Borns, Betty Van Till

Organist: Betty Van Till

Ushers: Gay Maria Ray (captain) Lloyd Plakke, Steve Platt, Cheryl Van Abbema, Rod Van Abbema, Ric Van Weelden, Marti Youngdahl, Michael Youngdahl, Char Zoet, Ron Zoet The green team ushers next Sunday.

Greeters: Justin & Kathleen Kleaveland, and Sharon Hamlin

Sound Booth: Brian Drabczyk

Camera: Brad Vander Ark, Kate Ujlaky

Ministry Council Hosts: Diane Hansen, and Lynne Deur (tour leader)

Growing Place: Cheryl Van Abbema

Reading note:

An archetype could be understood as the symbolic images around which we tend to organize our experiences. Jung defined archetypes as “definite forms in the psyche that seem to be present always and everywhere.” Archetypal images are found in all traditions and include birth, death, sun, mothers, fathers, heroes, demons, victims, saboteurs, wise ones, etc. Archetypes do not have content, only form. They are neutral, and have both healthy and shadow manifestations.

Worship center news

This morning, three and four year olds hear the story of “Simeon’s Epiphany.”

Kindergarten and first graders probe deeper into “The Meaning of Epiphany” and see if they have epiphany eyes!

Second graders hear the story of the “Flight into Egypt.”

Third graders hear the story, “I Am the Light.”

Fourth and fifth graders are encouraged to share with their parents today’s “clue.”

Prayer

...Bob Kleinheksel

Musical reflection

Day After Tomorrow

...Steve Weideman

...Tom Waits

Children’s sermon

Reading

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”
...Matthew 22:34-40

To fulfill your divine potential and even to resolve the many issues of daily lifelike power plays at the office or the healing of past injuries, you must enlist a higher plane of consciousness. You must get beyond reason to where you can “see” and “understand” the symbolic or greater meaning of the experiences. Your archetypes are your guides into this realm of symbolic perspective.
...Carolyn Myss, *Sacred Contracts*, page 19

Sermon

“Literal and Symbolic Spirituality”

...Ian Lawton

Offertory

Keep Hope Alive

...C³ Band

...Steve Weideman

*When things look dark on the horizon
And nothing seems to go your way
Keep yourself open to the world
Someone might touch your heart today.*

*Don't give in to fear. Don't give in to hate
We can make the future, a better place,
Let's keep hope alive, keep hope alive
If we're gonna survive, keep hope alive
We can build a foundation, with love and grace
Let's keep hope alive.*

*When life hits you like a ton of bricks
And tears keep falling more and more
We can all join here together
And then we'll let our spirits soar.*

*Who could ever hurt a child of God?
Who could ravage a whole town?
Do we dare demand a peaceful world
Or will aggression drag us down*

*People often do each other wrong
Burning bridges won't make it right
Let me sing from every mountain
And into darkness shine a light*

Reception of gifts

*Closing hymn

One in All -- The Ground of Being

*...tune: Cwm Rhonda
...words: John Hetherington*

One in all -- the ground of being, you embed all power and worth.
Through your love all life has meaning, bringing all that is to birth.
God, your richness knows no limits, source of all in heaven and earth!
Source of all in heaven and earth!

Life of all -- the world we live in grows through risk, in painful ways.
Interplay of 'law' with 'freedom' leading through to life's deep praise.
God, your glory comes in sharing "love's delight" on which we gaze.
"Love's delight" on which we gaze.

Love for all -- is what God offers, spoken to each heart and mind.
As we read the signs around us we can see which path to find.
God, in Jesus seen so clearly, pain redeemed and hope enshrined.
Pain redeemed and hope enshrined.

Joy to all -- true resurrection is to know how we should be!
In the here and now, in action helping all, their God to see.
Through our service by our loving, Share with all -- life -- full and free!
Share with all -- life -- full and free!

*Blessing

Sing, feast, dance, make music and love, all in My presence, for Mine is the ecstasy of the spirit and Mine also is joy on earth. For my law is love unto all beings... Behold, I am the mother of all things and my love is poured out upon the earth.

...Starhawk

*Postlude

...C³ Band



What's happening at C3/CCC

Saturday, January 20

Be the change... fundraising celebration

Don't miss this fabulous dinner featuring international cuisine, entertainment, and a silent auction. This is sure to be a night you will not want to miss. More details are in the bulletin insert. Space is limited, so buy your tickets today.

The Compatibility of Science and Religion

"The misfortune that has overtaken the spiritual outlook of man is that as his universe expanded, his conception of the deity did not expand with it."

~ F. Wood Jones, *Design and Purpose*

As we look ahead to our Evolution Sunday on February 4, there will be many opportunities to explore the ways science and religion coincide to shape our ways of being in the world. Come explore what it means to evolve.

Sunday, January 21

Ian Lawton begins a three-week sermon series exploring the relationship between religion and science. Music will be provided this week by Lisa Chorny and a string quintet.

Wednesday, January 31

The Institute for Progressive Theology launches *Science and Religion 101*.

Church family news

Bob DeWall would like to thank all of those who sent cards, brought foods and those who visited him during his double knee surgery.

Claire and John (Greg) Bryson would like to thank the community for all of the care they received following the death of Claribel Trembath, Claire's mother.

Christ Community is an alternative to church as usual.
We live together in the awe of worship
in the Presence of the Mystery of God
Whose inclusive grace moves us to embrace all
with unconditional love and gracious acceptance,
irrespective of race, gender, economic status, age or sexual orientation.

Loving the world as God loves it,
following the way of Jesus,
sensitive to the winds of the Spirit,
seeking to discern the Word of God in the biblical tradition,
the Movement of God in the context of our culture.

Christ Community is an ecumenical community -
in background,
in faith perspective,
in worship expression;
a blending of all the great Christian traditions.

Christ Community finds its window to God in the face of Jesus
while affirming the quest and insight of other faiths;
opening ourselves to dialogue and mutual enrichment in our pluralistic world.

Christ Community is intentionally a community of open mind and warm heart...
where the broken find healing,
the doubting learn to trust,
the anxious find peace,
and the strong are confirmed,
trusting God...

The God of The Beginning,
The God of The End,
The God with us in The Meantime...
this in-between time.

We invite all to join us in this exciting venture of faith.

Mission statement of Christ Community Church since 1993

