



**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

Celebrating Evolution
Sunday, January 21, 2007
Christ Community Church

Prelude

Suite of Old Lettish Dances

...The Lafayette Ensemble
...Andrejs Jansons

Welcome and news of the community

Gathered in community

A Story of Creation

...Kathy Galloway & Jennifer Edinger, adapted

One: Once upon a time, a labor of love was undertaken.
It started with a sign, to show that something was about to happen.
Light came forth from deep darkness, bright, clear and unmistakable.
Then at a second time the waters were broken.
At first they gushed, then they dried to a trickle.
A space was created. It was exactly the right size.
By now the labor of love was well under way.

All: The seed of new life is sown. We are part of an evolving universe.

One: At a third time, a cradle was made ready.
It was comfortable and beautiful and waiting.
Food was prepared, issuing sweetly and warmly
And in precisely the right measure from the being of the laborer.
In a fourth stage, rhythm was established.
Ebbing and flowing, contracting and expanding,
Pain and joy, sun and moon, beginning and ending.
The labor of love progressed.

All: The seed of new life is sown. We are part of an evolving universe.

One: At a fifth time, there was ceaseless activity, fluttering like the
wings of a dove,
Humming like the murmur of the dragonfly, swimming like the
darting golden fish,
Wriggling like the lithe serpent, leaping like the flashing deer,
Surging like the mighty lion.
In a sixth moment, there was a sudden, endless hesitation.
Then a child was born and the child looked like the one who
had given it life.

The child too was born, with the power to create and to make
decisions, and to love.
The laborer looked at all that had been accomplished and rejoiced.

All: The seed of new life is sown. We are part of an evolving universe.

One: At the seventh time, the labor was finished,
The task was complete and the laborer rested
For she was very, very tired.

People of the earth, we are gently shaped in the womb of Godlike
creative power. The seed of new life is sown, and we see re-
creation. As new creations, we are nursed and sustained by an
evolving and universal Spirit. We add our shouts of thanksgiving
for the wonder, the joy and the glory of creation.

Participants:

Preacher: Ian Lawton

Liturgist: Bob Kleinheksel

Musicians: The Lafayette Ensemble: Anita Lauterberg, flute; Kathie Bolthouse, oboe; Dick Tindall, clarinet; Allen Beck, horn; & Charlie Misner, bassoon. Lisa Chorny & Bob Kleinheksel.

Ushers: Randy Ray (Captain), Dan Artibee, Marji Juhl, Lindy Postma, Gay Maria Ray, Dave Regester, Jean Regester, Bob Wassink. The blue team ushers next Sunday.

Greeters: Stephen, Junie, Audra, April, & Ava Lucas, and Jan Richardson

Sound Booth: Brian Drabczyk

Camera: Brad Vander Ark, Kate Ujlaky

Ministry Council Hosts: Cindy Terlouw, Gay Maria Ray

Reading resource:

If you are looking for more information on evolution, check out the latest issue of 'What Is Enlightenment' magazine.

You've heard the debate: Creation vs. Evolution, Darwinism vs. Intelligent Design. But could it really be that simple? Exploring the nature of evolution through perspectives both scientific and spiritual, this issue attempts to do what the mainstream media won't, offering a complex and nuanced look at one of the greatest mysteries of the modern era. Featuring Robert W. Godwin, Ken Wilber, John F. Haught, Zoltan Torey, John Stewart, and more.

Magazines will be sold in the narthex (\$7.50) with all proceeds going to C³/CCC. Pick up your copy today!

Worship center news

This morning, three and four-year-olds are introduced to the parable of the Good Shepherd.

Kindergarten and first graders hear the parable of the lost coin.

Second graders hear the story of "The Boy in the Temple."

Third graders begin their series entitled, "Remembering Jesus."

Fourth and fifth graders are encouraged to share with their parents today's "clue."

The Worship Center offering will be used to stock the People Center's freezer.

Opening song

Closer To Fine

...Lisa Chorny & Bob Kleinheksel

...Indigo Girls, Emily Saliers

I'm trying to tell you something about my life
maybe give me insight between black and white
and the best thing you've ever done for me
is to help me take my life less seriously
it's only life after all, yeah

well darkness has a hunger that's insatiable
and lightness has a call that's hard to hear
I wrap my fear around me like a blanket
I sailed my ship of safety till I sank it
I'm crawling on your shores

Chorus - All sing

**I went to the doctor, I went to the mountains
I looked to the children, I drank from the fountains
there's more than one answer to these questions
pointing me in a crooked line
and the less I seek my source for some definitive
the closer I am to fine
the closer I am to fine**

and I went to see the doctor of philosophy
with a poster of Rasputin and a beard down to his knee
he never did marry or see a b-grade movie
he graded my performance, he said he could see through me
I spent four years prostrate to the higher mind
got my paper and I was free

Chorus - All sing

I stopped by the bar at 3 a.m.
to seek solace in a bottle or possibly a friend
and I woke up with a headache like my head against a board
twice as cloudy as I'd been the night before
and I went in seeking clarity.

All sing

**I went to the doctor, I went to the mountains
I looked to the children, I drank from the fountains
yeah we go to the doctor, we go to the mountains
we look to the children, we drink from the fountains
yeah we go to the Bible, we go through the workout
we read up on revival and we stand up for the lookout
there's more than one answer to these questions
pointing me in a crooked line
the less I seek my source for some definitive
the closer I am to fine
the closer I am to fine
the closer I am to fine**

Children's message

...Bob Kleinheksel

Prayer

...Bob Kleinheksel

Musical reflection

Harvest Hymn

...The Lafayette Ensemble
...Red Oak Suite – David Crowe

Readings

The Lord created me, Wisdom, at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago, before the beginning of the earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

...Proverbs 8:22-32

Somewhere deep down we are all filled with a mystical longing, with a longing for ultimate meaningfulness, and therefore we need to see all of our world in that context. To attain this in today's climate, we need a new theology of the cosmos —one that is grounded in the best science of our day. It will be a theology in which God is very present precisely *in* all the dynamism and patterns of the created order. A theology of evolution sees God as deeply involved in the evolutionary process of the world. God is making the world by means of evolution. And the evolutionary process in its turn is seen as striving toward God. So, you see, God is Self-expressing and Self-realizing in evolution. All sorts of wonderful creatures have been generated from a few simple principles and a handful of elementary particles. The creativity that makes the world is built into the world as its own essence. And in this self-creating world there is gradually growing the most Godlike capacity, *consciousness*.

...Beatrice Bruteau

*Congregational hymn

Spirit of the Living God

...words adapted by Ian Lawton

Spirit of the living God, come, evolve in me.
Spirit of the living God, come, evolve in me.
Melt me, mold me, move me, awaken in me.
Spirit of the living God, come, evolve in me.

Sermon

"God as Self-Realization: The Universe Expressing Itself"

...Ian Lawton

Offertory

Menuet

...The Lafayette Ensemble
...Blas Maria de Colomer

Reception of gifts

*Blessing

Following the sun through the course of the day
Full glory and then retreat
I watch it blaze furious red in battle against its own inevitable demise
As darkness calls to me the stars hold winsome vigil until
The rosy morn is called forth by the songbirds
And at dawn from the primal deep
The golden orb appears
And once more
I feel the warmth that encourages my spirit to grow
And the light that compels my soul to seek.
This service has ended. Now for a new beginning. So be it.

*Postlude

Red Oak Suite: Barnyard Chase

...The Lafayette Ensemble
...David Crowe



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What's happening at C3/CCC

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 28

Join us at 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. as we continue our series on Evolution. Ian Lawton will be preaching and the music will be provided by the jazz group, Checkers Morton.

Wednesday, January 31

The Institute for Progressive Theology launches *Science and Religion 101* taught by Ian Lawton and Howard Van Till. Class meets in the Sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. For more details see the bulletin insert.

Sunday, February 11

Don't miss the Center for Religion and Life Brunch Lecture with Harry T. Cook beginning at 11:30 a.m. Buy your tickets in the Narthex today.

Church family news

Our sympathy is with Bev Burlingame on the death of her mother, Gladys Allen.

Gerry Rodarmer is recovering at North Ottawa Community Hospital.

Vicki Leech is recovering at home.

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



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