

Centre of the Universe

Joy And Concerns

Leader: Holy Spirit, see into our hearts, to all our concerns, worries, disappointments, and bewilderment; as well as to all our joys and reasons for gratitude. In the words of those who care to share their joys and concerns with us, hear also the silent prayers of all of us.

Hear our prayers, Gracious Spirit, as we improvise them now—or listen to the silent prayers of our hearts.

(Pause. Anyone who wishes to offer a prayer aloud is welcome to do so at this time.)



Leader: Holy Centre of all that is, we give You thanks that we can learn from our mistakes and laugh at our own childishness. With You at our side, around us and within us, we firmly believe that we can learn to live without illusions, yet full of faith in Your unseen world, in solidarity with our companions on the way, and in union with the Cosmic Christ, who works within us to bring about Your reign on earth.

All: *Blest be God forever.*

Leader: Glory be to the Creator and to the Christ and to the Holy Spirit.

All: *As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

—source unknown

Compiled by Les Miller and Melinda Rapallo
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CENTRE OF THE UNIVERSE ...a liturgy



Lord, You are at the
centre of our universe...

Centre of the Universe

Call to Worship

Leader: May the God who loves justice be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

Choral Prayer: Spirit of God

Side 1: I am not the Centre of reality, the Centre of the universe, the midpoint around which existence circles even though my prayers often begin with that illusion.

Side 2: I am more a needle on the spruce tree a puff of mist in the middle of a dome of clouds a migrating Canadian goose eleventh from the end of the Vee.

Side 1: It's just a little humorous how individualistic I can become how fixed on myself as I try to relate to You.

Side 2: Six billion of us look to You for our daily nourishment of bread and community and that's just this billionth part of the Milky Way which is itself a millionth part of the cosmos which is all we know of the still much larger reality.

Side 1: I am not its Centre, You are. And You stand under all that is.

Side 2: You give everything its being and its meaning and its destiny.

Side 1: And Your exploding creation surrounds You with adoration and dependence, with



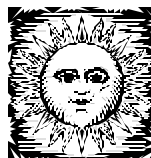
speechless awe and a few inadequate words—like these.

Side 2: Isn't it a comical hallucination that You seem to look straight at me and hear my prayer residing, as You listen, somehow in front of me and above me instead of under me and all around me and within me and all through me which is closer to the truth?

Side 1: I know I need to say nothing that if You wanted eloquent prayers from me You would gift me with eloquence.

Side 2: Accept instead my smile of illumination and relief and my surrender to all that is hanging here photosynthesizing on my blue spruce mother sweeping along with my misty ocean companions in the sky flapping through the air-crease passed on by Number Twelfth-from -the-End Goose, grateful to be a part of it at all without the responsibilities of being its Centre.

—source unknown



Gospel: Matthew 6:25-33



In this Gospel, Jesus teaches us to trust in the Providence of the Creator.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Silent Meditation

Let us give a few moments to silent meditation, calling silently on God to speak to our hearts.

