



Awakening to the Logos

September 28, 2025

As, therefore, the seeds and plants which are put into the ground grow and blossom through being irrigated, and are thus made fertile for the production of fruits, but if they are deprived of moisture they wither away, so likewise the soul, as it appears when it is watered with the wholesome stream of Wisdom, shoots forth, and brings fruit to perfection....

On which account it is said in Genesis, "And a fountain went up from the earth, and watered all the face of the Earth" (Gen. 2:6).... In this way in truth, it is that the Logos of God irrigates the virtues; for that is the beginning and the fountain of all good actions.... For there are four generic virtues: prudence, courage, self-control, and justice. And of these, every single one is a princess and a ruler; and he who has acquired them is, from the moment of the acquisition, a ruler and a king, even if he or she has no abundance of any kind of treasure.

Philo of Alexandria (1st century)

Offering Ourselves

"Come Just as You Are"

*Come just as you are,
Hear the Spirit call.
Come just as you are,
Come and see, come receive, come and live forever.*

*Come just as you are,
Hear the Spirit call.
Come just as you are,
Come receive, Christ the King, come and live forever.*

*Life everlasting,
And strength for today.
Taste the Living Water,
And never thirst again.*

Sensing Our Need

"Drink Living Water"

*Come you hungry, come you thirsty;
Drink Living Water, come unto me.*

*Come you weary, bring your burdens;
Drink Living Water, come unto me.*

*Come you wounded, bring your suffering;
Drink Living Water, come unto me.*

Contemplating Scripture

John 4:1-14

Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, "Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John" (although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized), he left Judea and started back to Galilee. But he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the Gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you Living Water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but everyone who drinks of the Water that I will give to them will never be thirsty – ever. The Water that I will give will become in them a wellspring of Water springing up to eternal life."

Meditation

Song of Response

"Spring Up, O Well"

*I've got a River of Life flowing out of me,
Makes the lame to walk and the blind to see.
Opens prison doors, sets the captives free.
I've got a River of Life flowing out of me.*

*Spring up, O Well within my soul.
Spring up, O Well and make me whole.
Spring up, O Well and give to me,
That Life abundantly.*

Prayer from Psalm 1

by Jerry Webber

*There is a path on which blessing and life come upon us:
when we are oriented toward You, God;
when we listen with our hearts to Your Word,
opening ourselves to be shaped by Your life-giving speech,
meditating on Your presence, centering and grounding our lives;
when we embrace truth, not shrinking from what is real,
from truth about ourselves, You and the world;
when we are not invested in deceiving You,
others or ourselves as if we are more or less than we truly are...*

*This person is watered and nourished from within, oriented toward You,
a connection with You that is life-giving,
so that no matter what happens in the outer world,
her life is not moved, not shaken,
but continues to grow in fruitfulness.*

Song of Response

"Spring Up O Well"

*I've got a River of Life flowing out of me,
Makes the lame to walk and the blind to see.
Opens prison doors, sets the captives free.
I've got a River of Life flowing out of me.*

*Spring up, O Well within my soul.
Spring up, O Well and make me whole.
Spring up, O Well and give to me,
That life abundantly.*

Centering in the Silence

During these minutes of silence, simply rest in God's abiding and loving presence in this moment. You are in God and God is in you. Just be and relax. Center your attention in your heart and imagine your breath flowing in and out from your heart area. If it helps you to center, imagine within your heart is the Wellspring of Living Water – Wisdom, Spirit, *Logos*.

Moving to the Table

"Come Just as You Are"

*Come just as you are, hear the Spirit call.
Come just as you are,
Come and see, come receive, come and live forever.*

*Come just as you are, hear the Spirit call.
Come just as you are,
Come receive, Christ the King, come and live forever.*

*Life everlasting,
And strength for today.
Taste the Living Water,
And never thirst again.*

Receiving Holy Communion

"I've Got Peace Like a River"

*I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in my soul.*

I've got courage like a river...

I've got justice like a river...

I've got wisdom like a river...

I've got strength like a river...

Receiving a Good Word



Our Staff

Haley Brown – Associate Director of The Anchor House

Courtney Garrison – Ministry Assistant

Christian Ibanez – AV Production

Peter Johns – Associate Director of Contemplative Worship

Zachary Montasser – Violinist

Nick Cavazos – AV Production

Rev. Rachel Sciretti – Associate Pastor

Rev. Dr. Michael Sciretti, Jr. – Pastor of The Center

Today's Music

'Come Just As You Are' – Joseph Sabolick, *'Drink Living Water'* – Colin Fulmer & Rufino Zaragoza,
'Spring Up, O Well' – Mary A. Lathbury, *'I've Got Peace Like a River'* – Traditional

For information about The Center for Christian Spirituality and upcoming events, visit:

www.TheCenterFCS.org.

Please register your presence in the notebooks in the foyer.

Yoga at The Center: A Posture of Prayer

Monday, September 29 | The Anchor House | 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. | \$10 per class

In this course, led by Jonathan Mangrum, we will use the practice of yoga as a lens to explore what it means to embody spirituality. Each class will include time engaging in breath work, meditation, yoga postures, and poses.



October 3 – 5: Hope in Focus with Steve Pavey

Steve Pavey is a photographer, a contemplative, a storyteller, a cultural organizer – all of which come together in the vocation of cultivating a way to see, in order to bear witness to the world both as it is, and as it could be. Join us for a weekend to focus on hope – the hope we must live into of re-connection with ourselves, with each other, and the more-than-human world around us. Scan the QR Code for more information and ways to register or R.S.V.P. for each event.



- **Friday, October 3rd | The Anchor House | 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. –**
“A Long Loving Look at the Real”: Artist’s Talk and Visio Divina Practice
- **Saturday, October 4th | The Anchor House | 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. | \$35 –**
“The Gate of Heaven is Everywhere”: Guided Retreat with Photography
- **Sunday, October 5th | The Chapel & Anchor House | 8:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. –**
Special Worship Service and Q&A with Artist

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 5 | The Anchor House | 5:00 p.m.

Hop, run or fly over with your special pet friend for an individual blessing by Michael and Rachel. Let’s give thanks for fur, feathers, and friendship in all its unique forms. We will meet at The Anchor House. All people and pets are welcome, but please make sure all pets are either on a leash or in a carrier. We will have a brief worship service celebrating the unique relationship we have with our pets, and then each owner is invited to bring their pet forward for an individual blessing.

“You Are the Bridge: Uniting Heaven and Earth in Turbulent Times” with Rev. Dr. Michael Sciretti, Jr.

October 10 – 12 | Praxis Retreat and Learning Center | Telephone, TX | \$175

*Who am I, really? Why am I really here? These are primordial wisdom questions that, if answered from the perspective of perennial wisdom, have dramatic effects on how we live our daily lives. Join the Oriental Orthodox Order in the West as Rev. Dr. Michael Sciretti guides us through the dialogues from Talking with Angels, transcribed by Gitta Mallasz. This is an in-person only retreat which will be held at The Praxis Retreat and Learning Center in Telephone, TX. **Space is limited and the registration deadline is October 3rd.***



Holding One Another in the Light

As our commitment to one another deepens, we want to be able to pray for one another – bearing burdens and joining in celebrations. Here is how to participate:

1. *Make a request for prayer or thanksgiving using the QR link or go to thecenterfcs.org*
2. *Opt in to receive the weekly prayer list by emailing Rachel at rscoretti@chapelwood.org.*
3. *Then spend time holding one another in the Light.*



Giving to The Center

We invite you to financially give to The Center in response to what you have received today or throughout our contemplative offerings. Using the QR code will take you to a page where you can make a one-time offering or recurring gift. Thank you for your contribution and investment.



The Anchor House Hours

Tuesdays – Fridays | Noon - 4pm

The Anchor House is open in the afternoons for you to come and pray, meditate, walk the Labyrinth or just be still. If you would like to request a specific room for spiritual direction, counseling or for your own time of retreat outside of these hours, please let Haley know and we will make sure a room is available for you.