



Grain

“Ecology and spirituality are fundamentally connected, because deep ecological awareness, ultimately, is spiritual awareness.” –Fritjov Capra

Field

²⁴O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. ²⁵Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great. ²⁶There go the ships, and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it. ²⁷These all look to you to give them their food in due season; ²⁸when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things. ²⁹When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. ³⁰When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground. ³¹May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works— ³²who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke. ³³I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. Psalm 104:24-33

Thoughts by William Mattson, Rhinelander

Each of us has a personal sense of the sacred, though it may be hard to define to others and even to ourselves. It's perhaps most often something felt, something ethereal that somehow penetrates to the soul, in contrast to an ordinary externality that is merely observed with one or more of the five senses but never penetrates. That which is sacred receives our special respect, a reverence, a holiness one might say. Because we are all unique, it's likely that there are as many opinions on the sacred as there are people. But some theologians, spiritual mystics, and scientists assert that really all is sacred. This is a powerful and transformative framework for understanding and living in the mysteries of the heavenly cosmos and its singular blue planet.

Father Richard Rohr in the *Universal Christ* (2019) explains that the indwelling of the Divine Presence is in everything and every being. It's the entire cosmos and it's every small detail within. Franciscans teach that our cosmos is in fact the first incarnation. It is God's energy transformed into material and spiritual existence according to a mysterious creative force named Christ, the transcendent within everything. All is in Christ; the planets, the rocks, the soils, the water, and all living and nonliving things.

Chemistry Professor Stuart Kauffman, member of the Institute of Biocomplexity and Informatics asserts that no matter how thoroughly it is studied, there is ultimately an unknowable mystery at creation's roots. The perplexingly mysterious forces behind creation and creativity ought to be revered and declared sacred. But, ironically, we are also its nemesis. Behold the sacred. Happy Monday!

Share

Send any quotes you'd like to share with our network to cindyc@loppw.org

All Monday Quotes found under the Resources & Advocacy Tools tab at www.loppw.org

Many blessings upon you,

William Mattson