

Worship Sharing 3/21/23

## Wellspring of Life

Begin now, as you read these words, as you sit in your chair, to offer your whole selves, utterly and in joyful abandon, in quiet, glad surrender to Him who is within. In secret ejaculations of praise, turn in humble wonder to the Light, faint though it may be.

~Thomas Raymond Kelly

The highest goodness resembles water, Water greatly benefits myriad things without contention. It stays in places that people dislike. Therefore it is similar to the Tao. Dwelling with the right location, Feeling with great depth, Giving with great kindness, Speaking with great integrity, Governing with great administration, Handling with great capability, Moving with great timing. Because it does not contend it is there for beyond reproach.

~(Translation by Derek Lin, 2006)

Rediscovering the controversies that occupied early Christianity sharpens our awareness of the major issue in the whole debate, then and now: What is the source of religious authority? What is the relation between the authority of one's own experience and that claimed for the scriptures, the ritual and the clergy?

~Elaine Pagels

One's own experience of the transcendent has been referred to over time as both inner light and a wellspring of inner water.

~Anonymous

There is a light within each person, and it lights up the whole universe. If it does not shine, there is darkness.

~Elaine Pagels

Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks this water will get thirsty again and again. Anyone who drinks the water I give will never thirst—not ever. The water I give will be an artesian spring within, gushing fountains of endless life."

~John 4: 13-14

So all the wells that his father's servants had dug in the time of his father Abraham, the Philistines stopped up, filling them with earth. Isaac reopened the wells that had been dug in the time of his father Abraham, which the Philistines had stopped up after Abraham died, and he gave them the same names his father had given them.

~Genesis 26:18

**Queries** – respond to one of these or choose a query that speaks to you.

What is your experience of inner light or streams of living water?

What clogs up your inner wellspring of life?

How do you reopen the inner wells of your life?