**Contemplative Service for Wednesday**

**July 12, 2023**



**First reading**: John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. This One was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through this One, without whom not one thing came into being. What has come into being thus was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

# Music: “Song Without Words, Op. 19 No. 1” by Felix Mendelssohn, performed by Mia Pečnik

# https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t6WRHTjnA-U

**Second reading**: C.S. Lewis, from *Letters to Malcolm*

Prayer without words is the best.

**Music:** “Song Without Words, Op. 109” by Felix Mendlssohn, performed by Yo-Yo Ma

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bv0FwfG9ZuM

**Time of Silent Contemplation**

*Prayer is not so much talking to or addressing God, but rather about deepening our awareness that God — the Breath of Life present throughout the universe — comes to visible expression in us.*

*—Michael Morwood*

**Communal Blessing**

Word unspoken, but all-availing, we ask to be lifted on your unspoken syllables, crooned in your silent vowels. Word-Made-Flesh, here is the expression whose meaning we cannot control or fully understand. We enter the great and dynamic silence of your saying. We speak nothing but enter the Word of your freedom and wholeness. Amen.

# Music: “Song Without Words Op 67 No 2,” by Felix Mendelssohn, performed by Yuja Wang

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ievpSwyvxoE>

*May the Word be with you, infuse you, and arise from within you.*