

Community of Infinite Spirit (CIS) A Divine Science Ministry & School Office 1160 Richard Rd, Hollister, CA 95023 831-313-1696 / 408-293-3838 <u>infinitespirit@comcast.net</u> <u>www.CommunityofInfiniteSpirit.org</u> 501(c3) nonprofit religious organization



February 2025

Dear Friends of CIS,

## "To Love" by Rev. Christine Emmerling D.D.

When we think of the month of February our first thoughts are about Valentine's Day and those we love or infatuation. Valentine's Day is about romance and the romantic kind of love. It's fun to be romanced and the one being romantic. It's good for couples to keep a little romance going throughout their marriage. Many people marry based on romantic love and then their marriage doesn't withstand the day-to-day realities of living together.

A love that can endure the years of time requires much more depth. It needs a foundation based on a common spirituality and values, and respect for one another. Making God first, Jesus said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" (Matt. 22:37). Now in Divine Science we recognize God as Omnipresent, and therefore being all life. I think of God's love as being unconditional, compassionate and forgiving. Then I too am to love unconditionally, be compassionate and forgiving.

So many young people leave home with many unresolved issues with their family. Then these issues get projected onto their relationships at work, friends and loved ones. When we look deeper within, we find these same kinds of feelings towards our own self. Our inner dialog is always finding fault, and then we go around fault finding those around us and the world at large.

Let us go back to God's love for us. Understanding our relationship with God is the starting point to all healing. We were created out of God's unconditional and compassionate love then we too have this very same capacity to love. I think of a parent's love for their infant child being the closest to that kind of love. There are no expectations of love in return, no anger when being kept awake all night. We just want to help them and take away their pain. There is a complete acceptance. By first loving God we can love our self, and then this love overflows into our lives.

Just because we are alive is proof of God's love as a living expression within us. There is no separation in God, there is only one. The "I Am that I Am" is one. That aspect of consciousness that knows it's oneness is the Christ within, our true divine nature of pure love. That part of us knows love, embraces all that we are, and understands our human frailties as an infant that will someday become a full mature spiritual being of love - God in expression.

## Love Your Neighbor as Yourself by Rev Teresa Stuefloten, M.Div.

Jesus was asked: "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and all your might and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And the second is like unto it, Love your neighbor as yourself." Mathew 22:37-39

Love your neighbor as yourself. How much do you love yourself? How much do you judge yourself? How often are you critical of yourself, looking at what you see as your flaws, putting yourself down? When you look in the mirror, do you like what you see, or are you critical of your own reflection?

You cannot truly love your neighbor if you do not love yourself. "As yourself" is the crucial part of "love your neighbor." If you are critical of yourself, you are likely critical of the flaws you perceive in your neighbor. If you cannot forgive yourself for the mistakes, you think you made, you likely cannot forgive your neighbor for mistakes you feel they made.

You are a Divine expression, made in the image and likeness of God. (Genesis 1:27) As God is perfect, so you were created in perfection.

The word love is mentioned more than 500 times in the Bible. Corinthians 16:14 says, "Let all that you do be done in love." This month, begin letting this love apply to yourself.

When you look in the mirror, love the face you see looking back at you. Care lovingly for the physical body you have been given, thanking it for carrying you through this physical lifetime. When you feel you have made a mistake, forgive yourself and let it go. Let go of any past mistakes you are still carrying regret about. If you knew then what you know now you would not have made that mistake. Let it go. Love the person you have become. Be proud of your journey of living, growing, and awakening.

In this month of love, begin to truly love yourself so that you can truly love your neighbor as yourself.

**Ways to Feed Your Soul:** Sunday Service live at 11am PT), and Wednesday Chakra Meditation at 6pm PT: Feb 5<sup>th</sup> by Rev. Teresa; Feb 12<sup>th</sup> by Rev. Christine; Feb 19<sup>th</sup> by Rev. Sheree, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> Rev. Sheree. You may call-in to both services at 1-518-418-1389.

Website, <u>www.CommunityofInfiniteSpirit.org</u> and click on "Healing Words." For your listening and/or reading pleasure. Our inspirational writings include Sunday talks and meditations. We have Podcasts of our Sunday Service and Wednesday Meditation. On our website calendar we have daily affirmations. You may also go to our Facebook page or YouTube channel Community of Infinite Spirit to listen to our Sunday Service and meditations. Facebook and Instagram both have our affirmations and inspirational messages. Help us grow by liking us, subscribe and share with your friends. Call in for an inspirational message at 408-286-6969.

Divine Science courses are available by correspondence and Zoom. We also have Zoom metaphysical book study groups on Tue. at 7pm PT & Wed. at 11am PT. Contact Rev. Dr. Christine for more information 831-313-1696.

**Daily Affirm the Divine Science Statement of Being:** "God is all, both invisible and visible. One Presence, One Mind, One Power is all. This One that is all, is perfect life, perfect love, and perfect substance. I am (we all are) an individualized expression of God, and am ever one with this perfect life, perfect love and, perfect substance."

## **SPIRITUAL SUPPORT**

Rev. Christine at 831-313-1696 / 408-293-3838 cell or <u>infinitespirit@comcast.net</u> Rev. Teresa Stuefloten M.Div, cell phone 408-888-4637 or teresastuefloten@yahoo.com. Rev. Sheree Garrett cell phone 408-218-2897 or <u>gsheree216@gmail.com</u> Your Donations Make a Difference: Your donations go to support this ministry and non-profit charities. To donate go to our website at https://www.communityofinfinitespirit.org/donate. Or send to Community of Infinite Spirit, 1160 Richard Rd, Hollister, CA 95023. All donations are tax deductible. Community of Infinite Spirit thanks you.

Your Board of Directors in Service with Love and Joy, President Rev. Cheryl Magill; Secretary Rev. Teresa Stuefloten, M.Div. Treasurer Rev. Sheree Garrett; At-large Debbie Yardley; Ex-officio Rev. Christine Emmerling, D.D.

We are a light unto the world for individual and global peace, spiritual understanding and abundant life!

Our Mission is to be aware of the Infinite Spirit that is All: both invisible and visible: To live a God inspired and fulfilling life in peace, love and joy. To each Universal Principle of "Omnipresence." To respect all world religions, all people and all life. To be a supportive spiritual community for the good of all.

> Our Creed is Love Our Path is Service Our Goal is God Awareness