

To Ponder: from *Love in an Unfinished Universe* Bruce Sanguin
~ The Omega Center

As New Testament scholar, Walter Wink, points out, in Ezekiel's vision a human is sitting on God's throne! This leads Wink to write: "Lo I tell you a mystery. God is human and we are to be like God." In this theological vision of the Human One, to realize our human nature is to realize our divine nature. We don't become human by transcending our human nature and becoming divine. **We realize our divine nature by becoming true humans.**

We prepare for the story of the birth of Jesus, the Human One, by waking up to the truth that we, like him, are called to be fully human. To get this is to be startled by the coming of God into our lives. It turns out that what we are called to prepare for is the birth of the True Human in *us*, in our *community*, and in the *world*. This is not secular humanism, for the human, we know intuitively, is participating in a repair/co-creation that is part of a divine plan or intention. We understand that the gospel story is an externalization of our own story told through the life, death, and resurrection of one who was Human – and that we are to become that! And that this carries with it an immense responsibility, to consciously participate in our own evolution in and toward the incarnation of the Human. And notice, that in the Advent readings Jesus doesn't talk about the "second coming of Christ", but rather the coming of the "Human One" (Matthew 24:39). We are anticipating, in other words, our own recreation, rendering us active agents in the repair and recreation of the world.

The practice of the Advent season is to purge ourselves of everything in our lives that is not love, that is not freedom, that is not truth. Needless to say, this is not an easy path. It certainly is not a passive path. You and I are completing or perfecting the love that was known in Jesus of Nazareth, and in all courageous souls, willing to join the lineage of the heart-broken ones. ... Through you, and the body of Christ, by God's grace, the cosmogenesis, the birth of the universe, occurs again and again.

Reading: from *The Divine Dance: the Trinity and your Transformation* (Richard Rohr)

I say móre: the just man justices;
Keeps grace: thát keeps all his goings graces;
Acts in God's eye what in God's eye he is —
Christ — for Christ plays in ten thousand places,
Lovely in limbs, and lovely in eyes not his
To the Father through the features of men's faces
Gerard Manley Hopkins

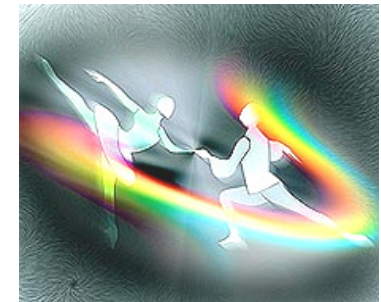
It's God in you that loves God.

It's God through you that recognizes God.

It's God for you that assures you
it is all finally and forever okay.

Now you're living inside the Trinitarian flow.

You are already home free.



Sharing...

a word...

a phrase...

a reflection...

The Tiny Child to Bethlehem Came Marty Haugen

The tiny child to Bethlehem came that all of the world might turn
to care for every creature the same, the way of compassion to learn.

When truth becomes the light of our way, when peace is the gift we share,
when love is more than words that we say the spirit of Jesus is there.

And see within his shining eyes a God who is near at hand,
A God whose wisdom baffles the wise, so only the child understands.

Let all creation echo and ring in praise of the infant small!
Now lift your heart and voices to sing, and welcome the child in us all.

Welcome the Child—Part II Marty Haugen

Here is the child that will topple the mighty:
Welcome, O child! Welcome, O child!
Here is the child that will raise up the lowly:
Welcome, O welcome the child in us all!

Here is the child that is hope for the nations:
Welcome, O child! Welcome, O child!
Here is the child who is one with the broken:
Welcome, O welcome the child in us all!

Here is the child that is one with the helpless:
Welcome, O child! Welcome, O child!
Here is the child that is one with our suffering:
Welcome, O welcome the child in us all!

Sing out the wondrous story!
Sing now the wondrous birth!
Sing how God's grace and glory
shines out over all the earth!

Join in the song that resounds through the ages:
Welcome, O song! Welcome, O song!
Music of lovers and shepherds and sages:
Welcome, O welcome the song in us all!

This the night our God comes to meet us
Welcome, O God, welcome, O God!
Deep in the silence Love comes to greet us
Welcome, O welcome the God of us all!
Welcome, O welcome the God of us all!

Thank You For Joining Us!

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We realize our divine nature
by becoming true humans.



Our prayer is characterized
by silence ~

Be still and know that I am God!

In that silence we listen for a new word.
God is present in all our lives.
God cares for us, and
our life experiences are a source
of deepening knowledge of God and self.

Inspired by God's Word in the silence
we share from our hearts.