



The Path of Christ Consciousness

Full Program Syllabus

Receive profound guidance from great mystical luminaries to navigate life's chaos with courage and grace – and learn to channel your unique gifts into creating a sacred, compassionate world that brings the vision of Heaven on Earth to life.

Featuring the deeper teachings of Jesus, Hildegard of Bingen, Meister Eckhart, Thomas Merton, and many more.

Unit 1: The Real Teachings of Jesus — Jesus As Mystic

(June & July 2025)

The mystic is, in one word, a lover. One who says “yes” to life. **The first four classes of this immersion explore Jesus as a mystic — a lover of life, creation, and existence.** You'll delve deeply into Jesus' perception of self, his work and vocation, and the ideas of those who lived during his life and afterwards right up to today.

What does Jesus teach us about how to love and experience a God *who is love*? Explore these questions by way of the wisdom tradition of Israel from which he derives and speaks as a wisdom figure; and through the four paths of creation spirituality, the archetype of the Cosmic Christ and Jesus' and Paul's teachings of that archetype that invites all of us to be mystics, lovers, and healers.

In these sessions, you'll:

- Explore the **concepts of mysticism and spirituality** such as nondualism, “Oneing,” ecstasy, and breakthrough as Jesus lived and taught them
- **Embark on the path of The Lover** — as the mystic who says “yes” to life
- Discover nature and art **as triggers of mysticism**
- See how Jesus was immersed in **the Four Paths of Creation Spirituality** — Via Positiva, Via Negativa, Via Creativa, and Via Transformativa — and earth-based mysticism
- Receive foundational grounding for expanded interpretation of Jesus’ teachings using **parables as tools for awakening**

Unit 1 Classes & Sessions:

- **Unit 1, Class 1:** What is a Mystic? (Tuesday, June 10, 2025)
- **Workshop** with Neil Douglas-Klotz (Thursday, June 12, 2025)
- **Unit 1, Class 2:** Jesus & the Wisdom tradition: The “I AM” (Tuesday, June 17, 2025)
- **Workshop** with Bruce Chilton (Wednesday, June 18, 2025)
- **Unit 1, Class 3:** Jesus, Creation & the Four Paths of Creation Spirituality (Tuesday, June 24, 2025)
- **Integration Session** (Thursday, June 26, 2025)
- **Unit 1, Class 4:** Jesus & the Cosmic Christ (and Stations of the Cosmic Christ) (Tuesday, July 8, 2025)

Unit 2: The Real Teachings of Jesus — Jesus As Prophet

(July & August 2025)

The prophet, says Rabbi Heschel, is “one who interferes.” The prophet “speaks out” (*pro-pheto* in Greek) and says “no” to injustice. The prophet engages his/her fifth chakra and speaks truth to power.

The prophet also steers the next four sessions explore Jesus’ teachings about love and justice from his prophetic tradition (wisdom is said to be a “friend of the prophets” after all). And, how the crucifixion of Jesus resulted from his speaking truth to the Empire of his day.

You'll explore how Jesus awakened people as a parable storyteller and teacher of the Beatitudes, compassion, and of archetypes such as the resurrection, sending of the Spirit and the Cosmic Christ. Lastly, you'll consider how he calls us to be prophets, or, as William Hocking put it, "mystics in action."

In these sessions, you'll:

- Explore how **the deep "yes" (mysticism) and "no" (prophet)** brings spirit (or "life" in Hebrew) into the world
- Expand your understanding of the prophet beyond ideology and indoctrination to **experience universal experiences/archetypes**
- Learn how the prophet **carries inner work into one's outer work in society**
- Consider how **the 8 Beatitudes essentially replace the 10 commandments** — as an extension of loving your neighbor and loving God
- **Reflect on the relationships between creativity and compassion** — and how to be a modern prophet
- **Deepen your sense of the healthy Divine Feminine and Sacred Masculine as embodied in Jesus** — and how true masculinity is exhibited in embracing healthy habits or virtues (or virility) of both men and women
- **Discover the prophet in yourself** and through teachers like Martin Luther King, Jr, Howard Thurman, Sister Dorothy Stang, and others

Unit 2 Classes & Sessions:

- **Unit 2, Class 1:** What is a Prophet? Creation as "Kingdom of God" (Tuesday, July 15, 2025)
- **Workshop** with Rabbi David Zaslow (Wednesday, July 16, 2025)
- **Unit 2, Class 2:** Jesus and the Prophetic Tradition: The Beatitudes (Tuesday, July 22, 2025)
- **Integration Session** (Thursday, July 24, 2025)
- **Unit 2, Class 3:** The Crucifixion: Jesus and the Empire — "Two Kingdoms Colliding" (Tuesday, July 29, 2025)
- **Unit 2, Class 4:** Jesus as Teacher of Archetypes, including the Resurrection and more (Stations of the Cosmic Christ) (Tuesday, August 5, 2025)

- **Workshop** with Andrew Harvey (Thursday, August 7, 2025)
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Unit 3: Hildegard of Bingen & Thomas Aquinas as Mystic-Prophets

(August to September 2025)

Having considered the mysticism of Jesus and his prophetic personhood, you'll now turn to Jesus' impact on real-life historical figures such as the amazing 12th-century abbess, writer (of 10 books), painter, musician, composer, playwright, healer, and recently declared saint and doctor of the church, **Hildegard of Bingen**.

And also **Thomas Aquinas**, another doctor of the church born about 50 years after Hildegard. Both were deeply committed to saying “yes” to life, as well as “no” to the power-over dynamics of the patriarchal order.

Each is an amazing guide to nurturing your own mystical and prophetic vocations, especially through creativity and art — including art as meditation and the art of teaching.

In these sessions, you'll:

- Explore how Hildegard and Aquinas **put into practice what Jesus taught and did** — and how you can too
- Understand why saying “yes” and saying “no” were important to Hildegard's spiritual path, which included standing up to dominant ruling power in the 12th century
- Learn how **opportunities for virtue and growth can follow after collapse, uncertainty, and failure**
- Learn how **the mystical and prophetic can align in moments of turmoil** to support positive change — and the art of being both contemplative and active

Unit 3 Classes & Sessions:

- **Unit 3, Class 1:** Hildegard's Illuminations & Mystic teachings (Tuesday, August 12, 2025)
 - **Integration Session** (Thursday, August 14, 2025)
 - **Unit 3, Class 2:** Hildegard's Critique of Religion & Culture (Tuesday, August 19, 2025)
 - **Workshop** with Mirabai Starr (Thursday, August 21, 2025)
 - **Unit 3, Class 3:** Mystical Teachings of Thomas Aquinas (Tuesday, August 26, 2025)
 - **Unit 3, Class 4:** Prophetic Teachings of Thomas Aquinas (Tuesday, September 9, 2025)
 - **Integration Session** (Thursday, September 11, 2025)
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Unit 4: Meister Eckhart, Mechtild of Magdeburg & Julian of Norwich as Mystic-Prophets

(September & October 2025)

Eckhart, Mechtild, and Julian were profound mystic-prophetic leaders who speak deeply to us today. Mechtild belonged to the Beguines, the women's movement of the Middle Ages. Her teachings on the dark night of the soul speak deeply to many wrestling with global warming, matricide, and democracide today.

Eckhart, likely the greatest mystical-prophetic writer in Christian history, fashioned a contemplative-active spiritual theology that was creation-centered and profoundly ecumenical. Buddhists, Hindus, Jews, women scholars, and Sufis recognize his truth as theirs.

Julian, the first woman to write a book in English, lived through the devastating Bubonic plague all the while proposing a theology of "God is the goodness in nature" and developing a "God as Mother" theology.

In these sessions, you'll:

- **Go deeper into the 4 Paths of Creation Spirituality** with the help of profound practitioners like Eckhart, Mechtild, and Julian of Norwich
- Contemplate how **justice, joy, and compassion intersect**

- Learn **how the concept of “God as Mother” was born and developed by Julian and Eckhart**
- **Explore the goodness and sacredness of creation** — and why creativity and co-creation are essential paths to healing

Unit 4 Classes & Sessions:

- **Unit 4, Class 1:** Meister Eckhart: Love of Creation & Engaging the Darkness (Tuesday, September 16, 2025)
- **Unit 4, Class 2:** Meister Eckhart: How we Birth God’s Son into the World When We Birth Justice & Compassion (Tuesday, September 23, 2025)
- **Workshop** with Christena Cleveland, PhD (Thursday, September 25, 2025)
- **Unit 4, Class 3:** The Creation Mysticism of Julian of Norwich (Tuesday, September 30, 2025)
- **Unit 4, Class 4:** The “Dark Night” from Mechtild of Magdeburg & the Good News from Julian of Norwich: “All Shall Be Well.” (Tuesday, October 7, 2025)
- **Integration Session** (Thursday, October 9, 2025)

Unit 5: Father Bede Griffiths, Mary Oliver & Teilhard de Chardin as Mystic-prophets

(October & November 2025)

Father Bede Griffiths was a saintly monk and pioneer in deep ecumenism who oversaw a Christian ashram in Southern India for over 50 years. He wrote many profound books relating Asian thought to Christianity and in a public dialogue with Matthew declared that “the future of spirituality is creation spirituality” and “the future of theology is the Cosmic Christ.”

Teilhard de Chardin, scientist, poet, and creation mystic, brought science and mysticism together, returned the ancient archetype of the “Cosmic Christ,” and developed the idea of the “noosphere,” envisioning and anticipating a unified humanity.

Mary Oliver called herself a “praise poet” and speaks as only great poets can of the sacredness of Mother Earth, creation, prayers as paying attention and in doing so names the Four Paths of creation spirituality in pungent images and language.

In these sessions, you’ll:

- Explore how today’s science can help us move beyond the dualism of **patriarchy that divides mysticism and the prophetic**; spirit and matter
- **Contemplate the return of the Divine Feminine and the Sacred Masculine**
- **Pinpoint the decline of mysticism** through distortions driven by patriarchy and mechanistic science — and how post-modern science and Creation Spirituality can heal that division
- Learn how Creation Spirituality, **Mary Oliver, and Eastern wisdom can help heal dualism** — and find balance between the masculine and feminine at a time of such polarity

Unit 5 Classes & Sessions:

- **Unit 5, Class 1:** Father Bede, Creation Spirituality & his Outreach to Hinduism (Tuesday, October 14, 2025)
 - **Unit 5, Class 2:** Teilhard de Chardin on Science and Mysticism (Tuesday, October 21, 2025)
 - **Unit 5, Class 3:** Mary Oliver, “Praise Poet” & Nature Mystic (Tuesday, October 28, 2025)
 - **Unit 5, Class 4:** Mary Oliver as Prophet (Tuesday, November 4, 2025)
 - **Integration Session** (Thursday, November 6, 2025)
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Unit 6: Thomas Merton, Dorothee Soelle, Thomas Berry as Mystic Prophets & the Black Madonna Archetype as a Contemporary Archetype that Heals

(November & December 2025)

Thomas Merton, Catholic monk, spiritual theologian, ecumenical pioneer, and prolific writer, underwent a spiritual conversion while reading Zen poetry and Meister Eckhart in 1958 that thrust him into a prophetic role which ultimately cost him his life. He speaks profoundly and poetically to the Four Path journey of creation spirituality.

Dorothee Soelle, feminist and liberation theologian, studied Meister Eckhart and the Beguine women's movement in depth.

Thomas Berry, student of Teilhard de Chardin and eco-prophet par excellence, celebrated the new creation story of cosmogenesis and its power to bring back the sacred and celebrate our place in the universe. The final class in Unit 6 honors the powers of the Black Madonna archetype.

In these sessions, you'll:

- **Explore the deep grasp of the Four Paths** as Merton teaches them in his profound and poetic way
- Go deeper into Creation Spirituality to discern how the Divine Feminine permeates creation and **the unveils the self as a source of creational power**
- **Explore mysticism as feminism** as taught by Dorothee Solle
- Contemplate today's new creation story from science — and how, through Thomas Berry's genius, it awakens us to **joy, community building, and "reinventing the human"**
- Discover how **the ancient archetype of the Black Madonna is returning** with power today that heals and energizes

Unit 6 Classes & Sessions:

- **Unit 6, Class 1:** Thomas Merton on the Via Positiva & Via Negativa (Tuesday, November 18, 2025)
- **Workshop** with John Philip Newell (Thursday, November 20, 2025)
- **Unit 6, Class 2:** Thomas Merton on Via Creativa & Via Transformativa: Creativity, Justice & Dying a Martyr (Tuesday, December 2, 2025)
- **Unit 6, Class 3:** Dorothee Soelle as Mystic & Prophet (Tuesday, December 9, 2025)

- **Unit 6, Class 4:** Thomas Berry, St. John of the Cross and the Promise of the Black Madonna (Tuesday, December 16, 2025)
 - **Final Integration Session** (Thursday, December 18, 2025)
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