

Christianity without Dogma  
- religious renewal for post-modern times

# *The Christian Community*

*in Forres*



## **What church is this that knows about reincarnation,**

the workings of the elemental world, adversary forces, angels, the difference between soul and spirit, astral and etheric forces, etc.?

Here a summary:

Rudolf Steiner (1861-1925) was asked by many people to give suggestions to take their particular craft or trade or art further. So came about Biodynamic farming, Waldorf Steiner education, Anthroposophic medicine (including mistletoe cancer treatments), Eurythmy, Beekeeping, etc. etc. Directions for new, timely and modern spiritual approaches were given to all who asked.

When young students and ministers approached him and asked about the future of religion, he basically said they should close their churches as they have lost the plot. Now, about 100 years later, it can be seen how the established churches have driven people away from understanding the relevance of Christ in relation to the human being. After pleadings from the students and ministers, Steiner suggested, that if 200 willing people could be found wanting to support a new religious direction, then he would advise them.

Consequently, in 1922, The Movement for Religious Renewal (commonly called 'The Christian Community') was brought down from the spirit world at the Goetheanum in Switzerland. It was from the outset a non-dogmatic religion serving all of mankind irrespective of sexuality, race, colour, creed, etc.. No particular belief is needed to join any of the services/sacraments and there is no 'I believe...', but a statement of fact 'An almighty divine being Spiritual-Physical is the ground of existence of the heavens and the Earth...' (the beginning of the Creed).

The theology of this religion is based on the deep and rich spiritual knowledge called Anthroposophy, that Steiner brought to mankind. Whereas scientific knowledge has increased dramatically in the last few hundred years, spiritual knowledge has become discredited and waned. Steiner brought Anthroposophy, which has given us the structure of the human being, our origin and destiny and the life between death (the transition of our consciousness)

and rebirth. Faith is based on understanding and knowledge, not on belief of a religious dogma.

The Christian Community offers a post modern take on all the commonly known sacraments – but based on spiritual knowledge. E.g. a baptism is not to make the baby/child a new member of the church, but it is to care for its deep spiritual need, since it just left the realm of spirit and finds itself in a comparatively hostile place. In the baptism service it is communicated to the child that we know about the spiritual word and its spiritual essence and as a consequence it can feel safe in this new worldly environment.

Another example, the word 'Sin' (the karmic consequence of earth existence) has a different meaning: It is used to remind us that we can be in balance or out of balance. We can listen or not listen to the inner, higher, spirit-based impulses –and act on them or not. We are not generally awake to the higher reality – the God or the Spirit's voice – due to the forces that challenge us within. They are necessary as overcoming them is our spiritual growth.

An individual 'sacramental consultation' replaces the confession of 'sins', where one learns to share ones difficulties with the angel of the community.

The services are formal rituals. A communication with the spiritual world is being sought; a communication where the priest speaks on behalf of the congregation.

Every individual is encouraged to have their own active inner relationship to spirit – group activity may support and enrich – but not replace it. The colours of the vestments change with the seasons and the occasions.

The Christian Community UK part of the international Movement for Religious Renewal and based on the New Testament, inspired by the original work of Rudolf Steiner and actualised by independent research and insight of priests and members.

The Christian Community feels united as a church with all communities whose members feel the Christ within themselves and which are aware of the health-bringing power of the Christ.

## What happens after our transition into the spirit world?

I am using the word 'transition' as every time we go to sleep we move from day-waking consciousness to 'everlasting' (or spirit-world/heaven) consciousness. We don't normally remember because we - a) don't have the organs to 'see' developed yet and - b) our ego, our 'I', is not strong enough yet to withstand the spirit power.

We humans are spirits in a body. The Soul is the home of our *thinking, feeling* and *instinctual drives/willing*. The Soul is our inner life, is the 'operating system' in the body – the actual operator of it all is the Higher Self in the Spirit world.

Our Spirit is here with us on Earth. The Spirit is the 'I' that can observe the thinking and feeling and instinctual activity. The 'I am' is a part of Christ's being which He has given us. "I am the I am"; Exodus 3:14. We are like seeds that have fallen from a sunflower onto soil – the sunflower being Christ. Now we are free to develop and follow anything we want, yet the sunflower-being is our true nature and a good guide for orientation, if we so choose.

The physical body we borrow for our incarnation along with the etheric and astral 'material', which we return to their spirit donors, worked on by the deeds of our incarnation. Our thinking (day waking) and feeling (dreaming) and instinctual drives/willing (totally asleep), are our 'servants' – providing the opportunities to develop.

What actually belongs to the 'I' are the things we have we worked on and overcome (e.g. jealousy) during this and previous incarnations – they are what we observe as the best in ourselves, like generosity, kindness, courage, etc. What we overcome belongs to us – the rest is all borrowed.

When the spirit and body disconnect at the transition of consciousness ('death') many things start to happen, but essentially:

We get met by friends on the other side. We find ourselves in a protective warmth filled environment. Many contemporary accounts confirm that – the 'out of body' experience reports.

At the transition, we leave the physical body like taking off a heavy coat and immediately see the life we have lived in the waking days as a 'tableau' – a picture of time as space (i.e. we see it all at once). This picture gradually fades over about 3 days.

We then 'turn round' and face the time we spent in 'sleep', we experience all that we did on the Earth from the other person's point of view.

This is 'Kama Loca' (a Sanskrit word meaning 'the looking backwards', not to be confused with 'Karma' – the balance of the soul's spiritual account), which lasts about one third of our earthly life. The 'review' requires us to experience our life again but backwards, from the transition to birth, from the point of view of those we have affected. E.g. if we caused pain we will experience that pain, if we have forgiven we experience a special quality of love. This review enables us to form a clear picture of who and what we are.

Deep inside we remember all this, otherwise we would not act as 'moral' and conscientious as we usually do, but we would run around acting in a reckless and murderous way. We are responsible for our development and for who we are and who we will be. There is no getting away from ourselves.

After becoming aware of our now Higher Self we encounter the most luminous high energy being, more radiant than the sun and purer than the snow, the being of Christ, and go into the 'Sun Sphere' as an 'I', unencumbered by earthly realities.

Henceforth we work to metamorphose those improvements we want to strive for in our next incarnation and develop our future karma.

We use the seeds you have garnered on the earth (i.e. all the spirit work you have done) which is elaborated by the higher beings into attributes and abilities for our next incarnation.

Eventually, having worked through all the levels of awareness – Moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn and the starry heavens – we meet the foundation of all existence ('God') at 'Cosmic Midnight'. Then we decide to reincarnate because, having worked through all our seeds, we can not benefit by more time in the spirit. The whole process takes notionally 800 years, but can vary greatly.

Then we come down to the Earth in the reverse order of the above and incarnate as a new human being, usually of the opposite sex. We then experience all the consequences we have prepared for ourselves (easy and difficult) in the spirit world.

If you would like to experience the service for adults, 'The Act of Consecration', where we are consecrated for the development of our being in love and evolution, please email me and I'll inform you of the next service, or see [www.forres.cc](http://www.forres.cc)

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