

SPIRITUAL RESOURCES FOR TRANSFORMING IMPERIALISM



What is going on as America becomes global?
How is empire not only outward but a phenomenon of inward spirit?
What are spiritual alternatives to empire? How would they transform our society?
Amidst the global crisis and our efforts to understand and respond, how can we take joy in our present being?

Join in this inquiry into the meaning of our imperial aspirations and how to respond to them outwardly and inwardly. All are welcome!

Fifteen Sunday afternoon discussions 3–5 pm of various readings—spiritual, historical, political, economic, ecological, and sociological.

Led by Mel & Beth Keiser, Dan Snyder, Tony Bing, and others.

- I. **Jesus and Rome: The Witness of an Obscure Jewish Prophet** – Nov 11, 18, 25
John Dominic Crossan, *God and Empire: Jesus Against Rome, Then and Now* (2007)
- II. **U.S. Global Imperialism** – Dec 2, 9 David Griffin, et al. *The American Empire and the Commonwealth of God: A Political, Economic, and Religious Statement* (2006) selected essays; Jonathan Schell, *The Unconquerable World: Power, Nonviolence, and the Will of the People* (2003), handout from Intro, Ch 12
- III. **The Empire Internalized: Awakening the Inward Witness** – Jan 20, 27 Walter Wink, *Engaging the Powers: Discernment and Resistance in a World of Domination* (1992) handout from Intro, Chs 16 & 17; Daniel O Snyder, *Listening from Depth: Freeing America's Starving Angel* (in manuscript)
- IV. **The Arrogance of Power and the Inner Revolution** – Feb 3, 10, 17, 24
William Shakespeare, *King Lear*
- V. **Living Into Goodness While Dismantling Empire** – Mar 16, 30, Apr 6, 13
Michael Lerner, *The Left Hand of God: Taking Back Our Country from the Religious Right* (2006), selections; Jonathan Schell, *The Unconquerable World: Power, Nonviolence, and the Will of the People* (2003), selections; Robert McGahey, "The Imperative of Ecological Faith in a Warming World"

Contemplative and Celebrative Conclusion – May 3, Saturday, 9-3

No fee, except to cover cost of texts handed out; donations gratefully welcomed
For more details and driving directions, see www.commonlight.org or call 828-669-3616.

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