

# Pathways Retreat

December 2017

Above the clouds the sky is always blue.  
Therese of Lisieux

## Mystic of the Month

Saint Therese of Lisieux (1873-1898)

The world came to know Therese through her autobiography, *Story of a Soul*. She described her life as a "little way of spiritual childhood" and lived each day with an unshakable confidence in God's love. "What matters in life," she wrote, "is not great deeds, but great love." Therese's spirituality is of doing the ordinary, with extraordinary love. Loving flowers, she saw herself as the "little flower of Jesus," who gave glory to God by just being her beautiful little self among all the other flowers in God's garden. Because of this beautiful analogy, the title "little flower" remains with St. Therese.



Everything is grace because  
everything is God's gift. Whatever  
be the character of life or its  
unexpected events—to the heart  
that loves, all is well.  
Terese of Lisieux

**Our annual fundraising newsletter** is now [available here](#). Read Rhiannon Harrison's story of learning to see God through time spent at Pathways Retreat, as well as a photographic window into 2017. With gratitude for all who make the ministry of Pathways Retreat possible.



## Gift Certificates

In this season of gift-giving, consider giving the gift of a personal retreat at Pathways to friends, family, pastors, and teachers. Gift Certificates may be purchased for *any amount* by check or on our [website](#).

Suggested donations for individual retreats:

Half-day retreat: \$15-20

Full-day retreat: \$25-40

# Prepare the Way of the Lord

## Advent Listening

**Mondays 7-8pm (December 4, 11, 18)**

The ancient chant, "O come, O come, Emmanuel" will begin at 7 pm followed by Centering Prayer. During group time, each will have opportunity to share of personal Advent practices. Nina Lancot, facilitator. A donation to Pathways Retreat is appreciated.

## Advent Scripture & Poetry

**Fridays 8:00-8:30am (December 1, 8, 15, 22)**

Beginning with meditative reading of scripture, there will be space for silence and a guided invitation to write a poem and/or color. Pathways staff facilitates this prayer resource from [LEAD](#).



## Suggested Advent Resources based on the lectionary readings:

[THE REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY](#)

[UNFOLDING LIGHT](#) -- poetic reflections on the lectionary texts sent out daily by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

[MALCOLM GUIE](#) -- sonnets and reflections, weekly, based on the lectionary texts.

[PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS: DAILY MEDITATIONS FOR ADVENT](#) -- by Richard Rohr (book/kindle)

The value of life does not depend  
upon the place we occupy.  
It depends upon the way we  
occupy that place.  
Therese of Lisieux

## December Calendar

### Advent Listening

Mondays (except Dec. 25) 7-8pm

### [Contemplative Sit](#)

Featuring Terese of Lisieux readings  
Tuesdays (except Dec. 26) 7:30-8am

### [Centering Prayer](#)

Thursdays (except Dec. 28) 7:30-8am

### Advent Scripture & Poetry

Fridays (except Dec. 29) 8-8:30am

### [Monthly Iona Healing Prayers](#)

Thursday, December 14, 7:00pm

### [Spiritual Directors Day Away](#)

Tuesday, December 19, 9am – 2pm

*Please note:*

*Pathways staff will be resting from  
December 25 – January 5.*

Pathways Retreat is a contemplative spiritual retreat center in the city limits of Goshen, Indiana, offering rest, reflection and renewal with God.

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[www.pathwaysretreat.org](http://www.pathwaysretreat.org)

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