**Worship**

"worship"

1. (chiefly British) a person of importance

2. reverence offered a divine being or supernatural power; also: an act of expressing such reverence

3. a form of religious practice with its creed and ritual

4. extravagant respect or admiration for or devotion to an object of esteem

 synonyms: adulation, deification, hero worship, idolatry, idolization.

Merriam-Webster

Be still and cool in thy own mind and spirit, and then thou wilt feel the principle of God.

George Fox

Though it was silent from words, yet the Word of the Lord God was among us; it was as a hammer and a fire; it was sharper than any two-edged sword; it pierced through our inward parts; it melted and brought us into tears that there was scarcely a dry eye among us.

Richard Davies (1657)

...we met together and waited together in silence; it may be sometimes not a word in our meetings for months; but everyone that was faithful waited upon the living word in our own hearts...

John Burnyeat (1631-1690)

All true and acceptable worship to God is offered in the inward and immediate moving and drawing of his own Spirit, which is neither limited to places, times, nor persons: for though we be to worship him always, and that we are continually to fear before him, yet as to the outward signification thereof in prayers, praises or preachings, we ought not to do it in our own will, where and when we will; but where and when we are moved thereunto by the stirring and secret inspiration of the Spirit of God in our hearts;

Robert Barclay, *Apologies*

My faith as a mystic is the trust that He "who opens forth the Light That doth both shine and give us sight to see" is himself my continual teacher, leading me by a way I know not towards all truth, and directing my heart and mind to the lessons He would have me learn.

Caroline Stephen (1908)

"worship" - an encounter with God.

Rev. Keck N. Mowry

Marengo United Methodist Church

(2014)

Dare you see a Soul *at the White Heat?*

Then crouch within the door -

Red - is the Fire's common tint -

But when the vivid Ore

Has vanquished Flame's conditions,

It quivers from the Forge

Without a color, but the light

Of unanointed Blaze.

Least Village has its Blacksmith

Whose Anvil's even ring

Stands symbol for the finer Forge

That soundless tugs - within -

Refining these impatient Ores

With Hammer, and with Blaze

Until the Designated Light

Repudiate the Forge -

 Emily Dickinson (1862)

**Query: What do Quakers mean when we refer to "worship"?**

**Query: Is worship experiential or existential; active or passive? Is worship something you do, or is it something you "be"?**