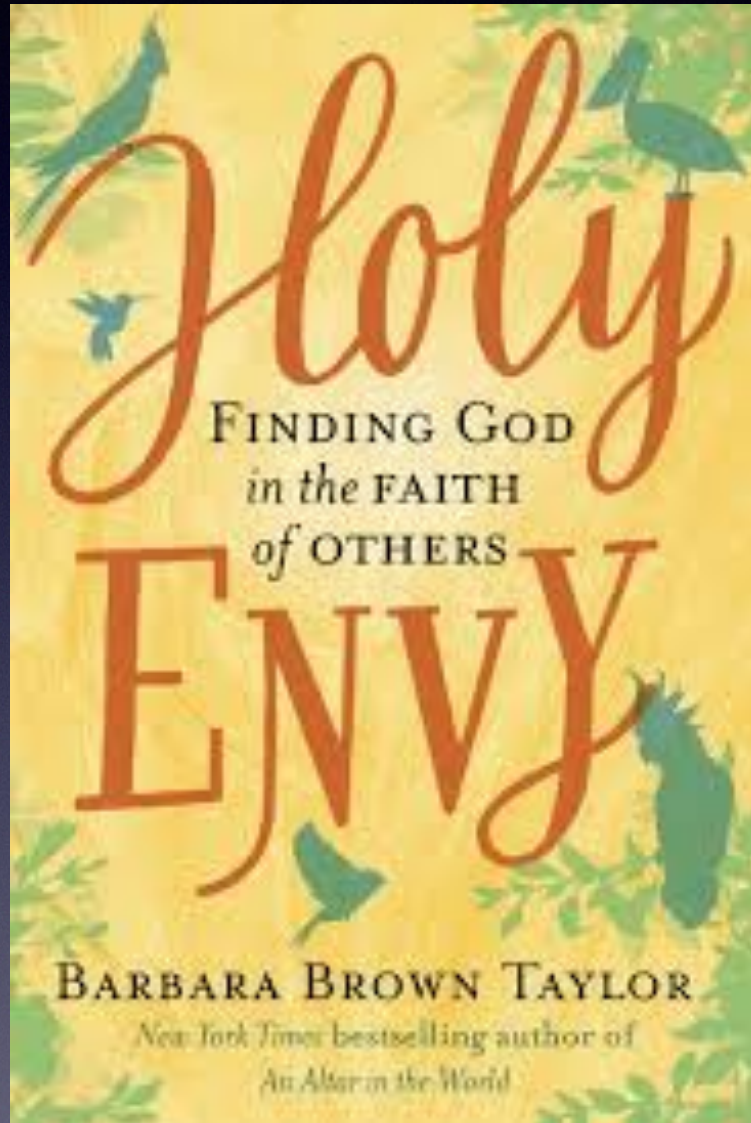


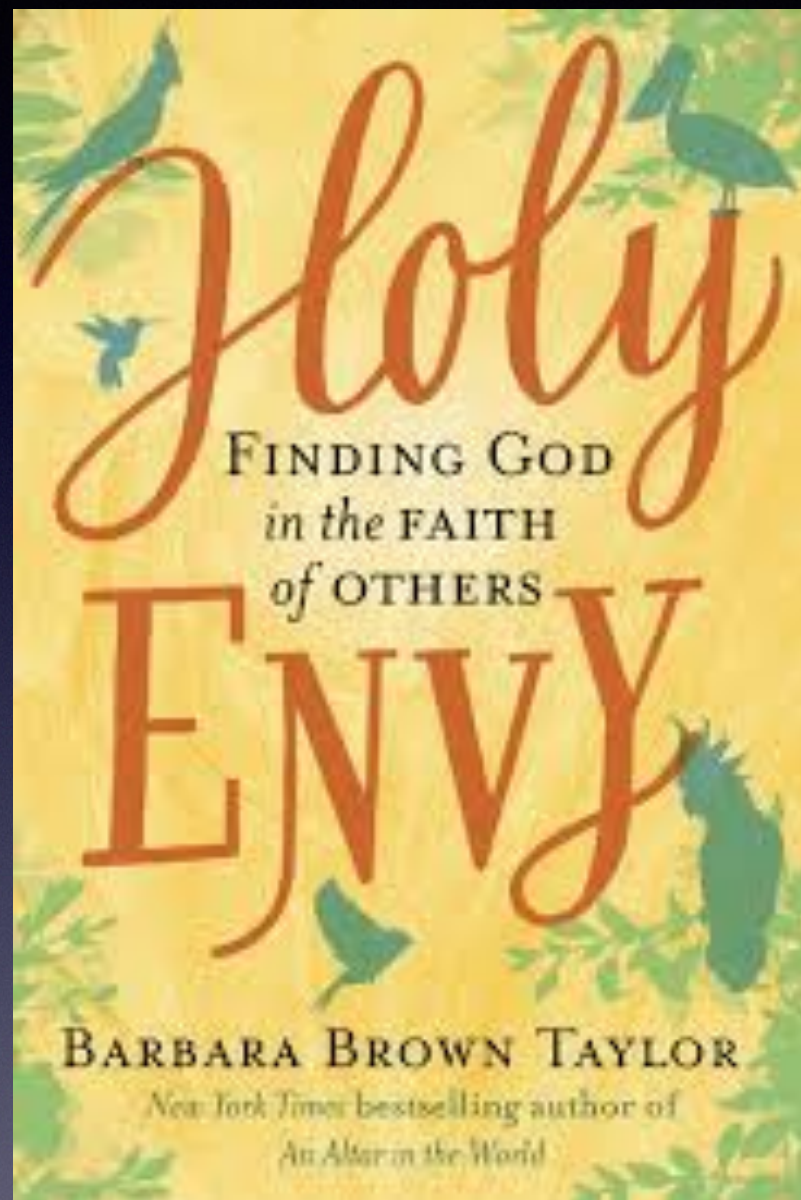
Holy Envy



Holy Manners Bookstudy 43

ACTS
Fall 2019

St David's United Church
Calgary



Holy Envy

Session 2

Welcomes,
Intros &
Housekeeping

Opening Prayer

Jock

I offer you peace.

I offer you love.

I offer you friendship.

I see your beauty.

I hear your need.

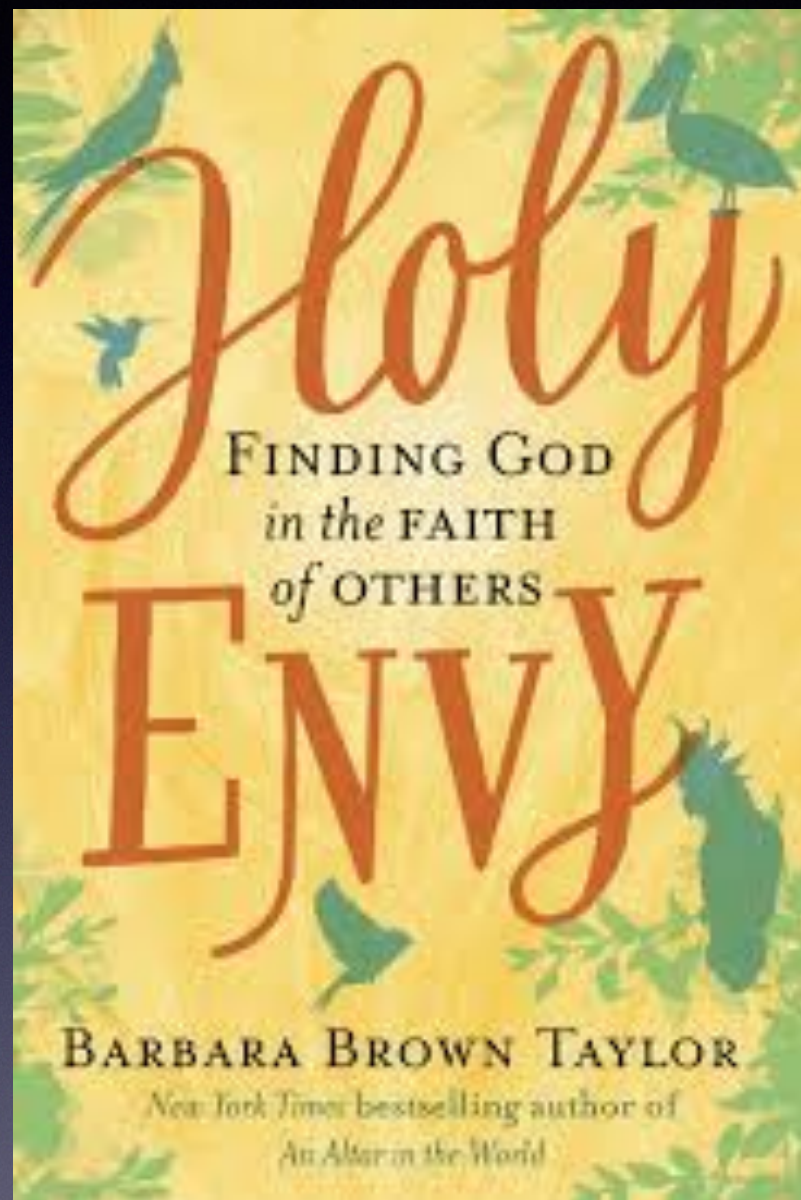
I feel your feelings.

My wisdom flows from
the Highest Source.

I salute that Source in you.

Let us work together
for unity and love.

(Gandhi's Prayer for Peace)



Opening Thoughts

Brenda

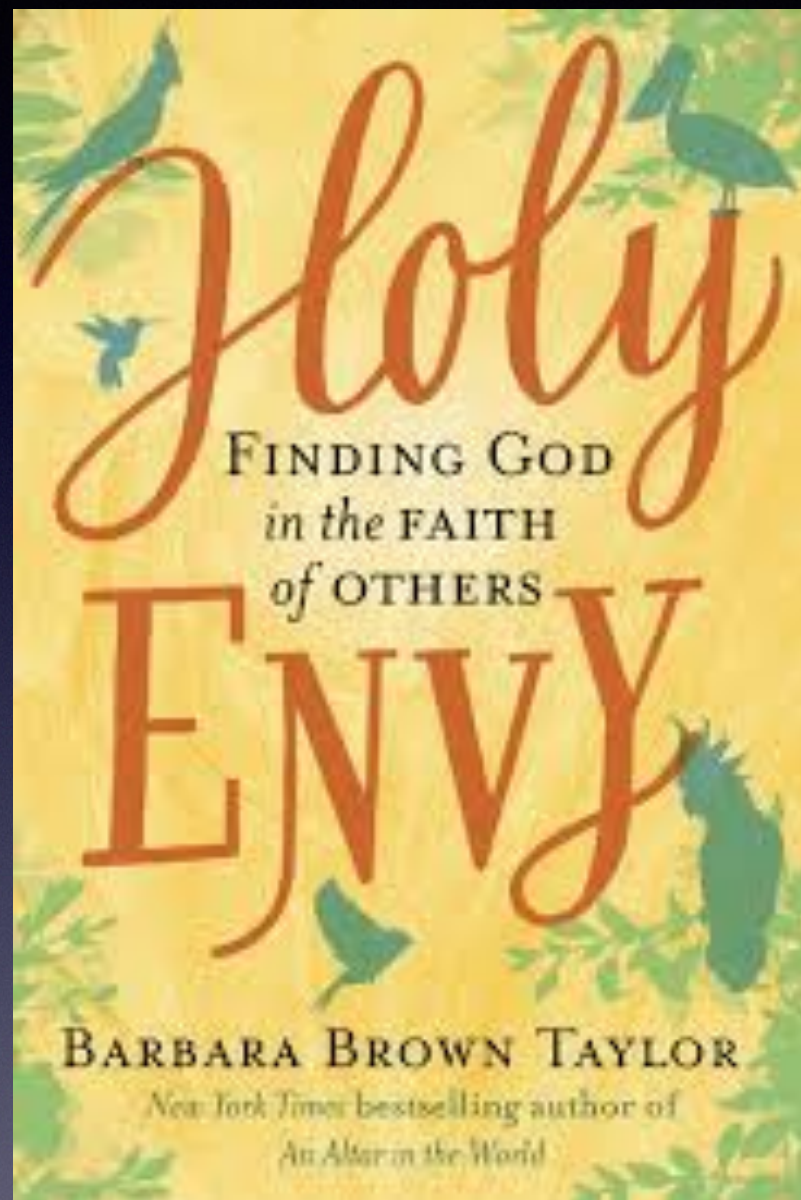
Presentation

Wayne

Our Readings for Tonight

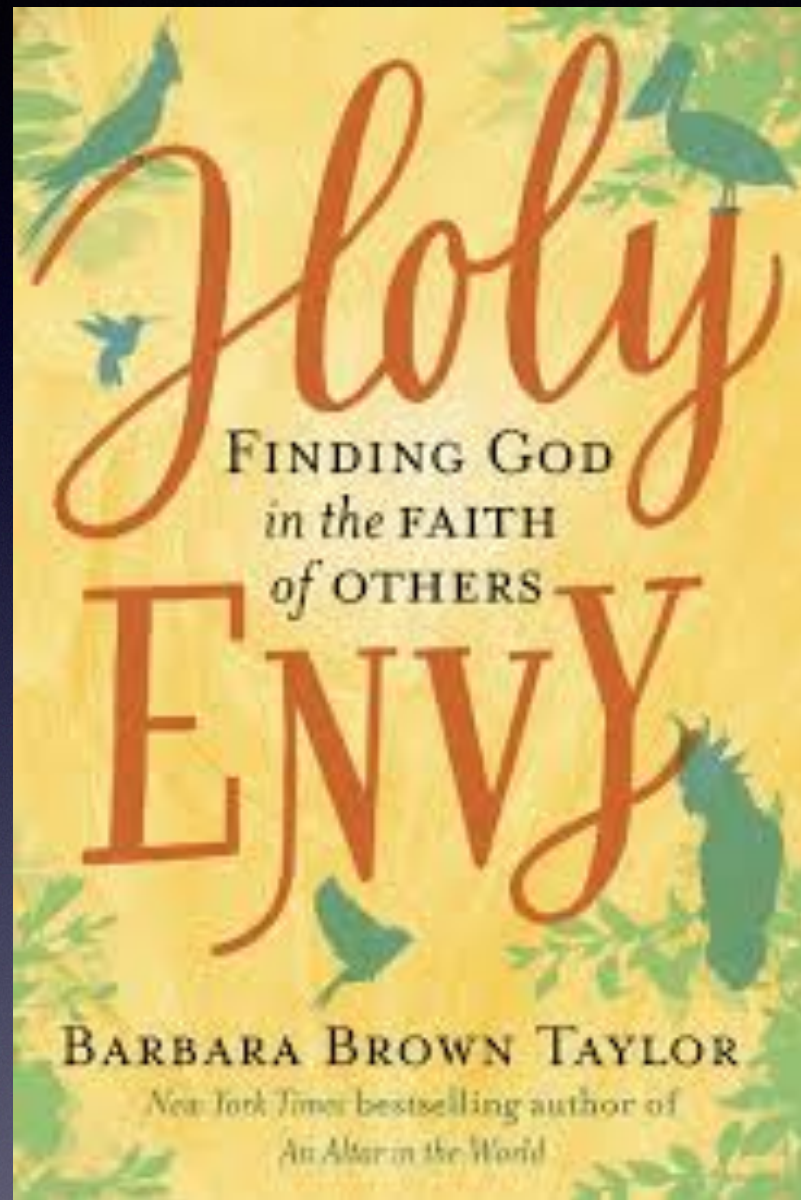
1 - Introduction: The Smaller Picture

2 - Ch 1: Religion 101



Introductory Theme

This is a book about being a teacher of a class that experienced the high cost of seeing the divine mystery through other people's eyes.
(p. 9)



Focus of the chapter

I seek meaning in my small place that recognizes and explains a much larger, complex world out there.

The universal is found in the particular.



A Family Wedding

Waynes Personal Image to Reflect the Theme:

- Living a contemporary experience of cultural and spiritual diversity.
- Some discoveries and lessons learned



A Family Wedding

Some People in My Family Wedding Drama

- TK and Christine
- Fr. Chris
- Mike and Lynda (parents of the bride)
- John and Faides (parents of the groom)



Some Insights from the Introductory chapter

Barbara Brown Taylor

her experience of vocation and ministry

- her experience of vocation and ministry,
- how her vocation evolved for her,
 - from **church** professional to human sojourner and
 - from priest to professor and spiritual meaning-seeker.
- reflect on your own spiritual and vocational transformation during your lifetime.
- **Discuss.**



Some Insights from the
Introductory chapter

Barbara Brown Taylor

Taylor articulates the concerns of many
today when they declare -

“What is happening to our faith tradition?”



Some Insights from the
Introductory chapter

Barbara Brown Taylor
says:

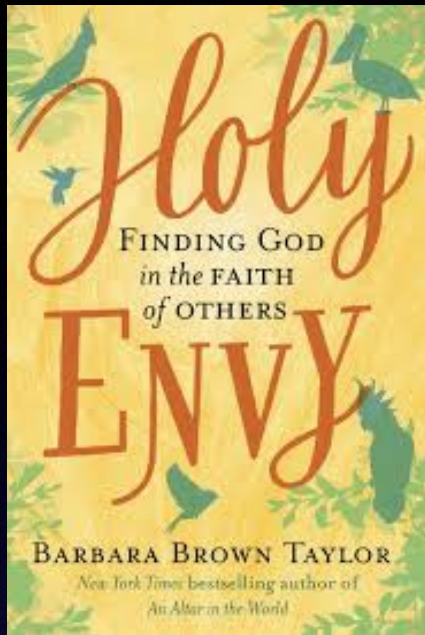
- *“I lost faith in the church but didn't stop wanting meaning for my life” (p. 7)*
- *I moved from teaching faith facts to encountering faith meanings (p. 7)*
- *I could not just see other faiths from a Christian perspective I had to enter fully into the life of that faith. (p. 8)*



Some Insights from the
Introductory chapter

Barbara Brown Taylor
says:

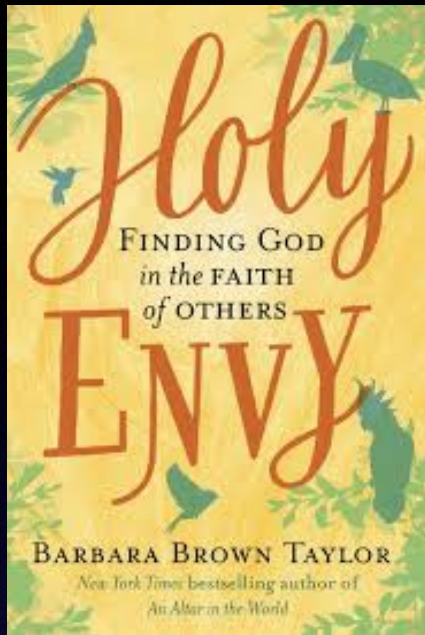
- *My story is about how all this affected me and 30 students as we encountered the good and not-so-good of other faiths.*
- *We progressed from our founding faith understandings, to what other faiths could teach us,*
- *To how our original faith was transformed into something much more meaningful.*
- **Discuss**



Ch. 2 Religion 101

A Personal Takeaway from This Chapter.

- Wayne moved from a church to a university ministry but during that time he had the good fortune to be grounded in the St. Davids faith community.
- This helped him to retain a centre for his spiritual life even as he functioned in a new situational environment.



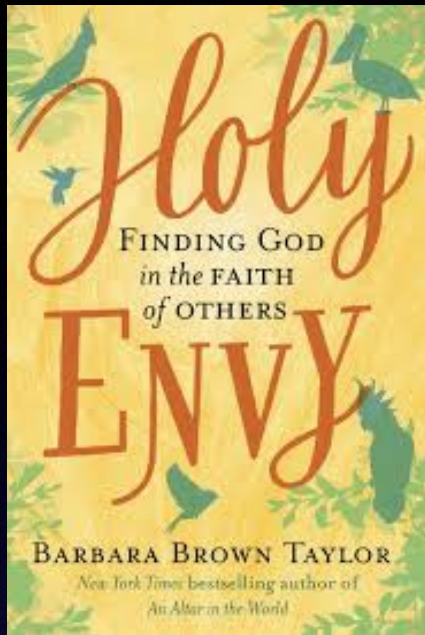
Ch. 2 Religion 101

A Canadian Example

Discovering Other Faith Communities Around Us

Wayne explains the book and story of

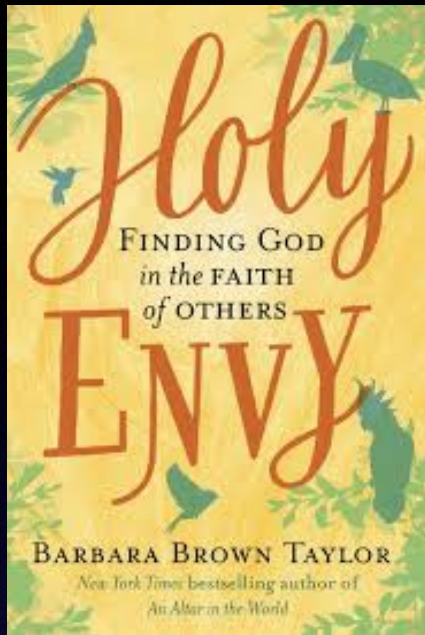
The Al Rashid Mosque of Edmonton
by Earle H. Waugh



Ch. 2 Religion 101

Other Faith Communities

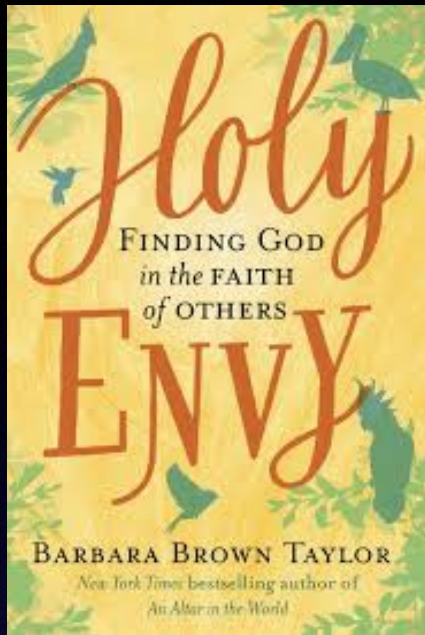
- As Taylor began teaching and visiting other faith communities with her class, she was astonished by the number and size of these communities in her own region (Georgia) of the USA.
- This would be similar to many parts of Canada as well.



Ch. 2 Religion 101

Other Faith Communities

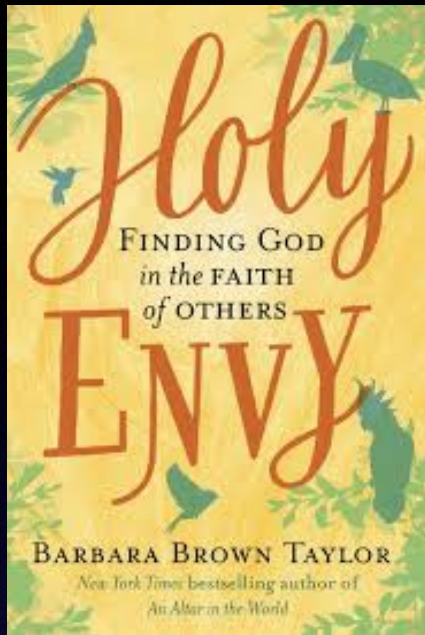
- Taylor calls awareness of the existence of these other faith communities in our midst - religious literacy.
- We need religious literacy to function more realistically and authentically in today's world.



Ch. 2 Religion 101

Taylor is Visited by a Student (pp 18-19)

- **Compare** religious studies in university with faith studies at church - true believers versus students and teachers of religion.
- **Discuss** the experience Taylor had with the student who asked her if she was a Christian and why she would want to teach about other faiths.



Ch. 2 Religion 101

Religion helps us ask the big questions of life (p. 25)

- Where do we come from?
- Why do bad things happen to good people?
- Who is my Neighbour?
- Where do we go from here?

Living in a faith community can provide us with ways to respond to these questions.

BREAK





Time now. Please return.



Taylor looks out to other religions, not to convert them to Christianity, but to share and appreciate their different understandings of the holy and the good. Follows:

- From a TED Ed talk, an excellent and quick review of the same 5 religions she studied.
- In the spirit of Larry Fisk, who felt the questions were as important as the answers, a short video “What questions did you ask today?”
- A poem I wrote when the Higg’s Particle or “God Particle” was discovered. For it was then I learned of Guanyin, the feminine embodiment of compassion in Mahayana Buddhism. And Taylor also chose her to represent the East.



The five major world religions
TED Ed - John Bellaimey

11m

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMwX0UzQkGmLVnkTBUUp8IdA>

A cartoon character with a large nose, wide eyes, and a red shirt is looking up at a large speech bubble. The speech bubble is white with a black outline and contains the text "WHAT QUESTIONS DID YOU ASK TODAY?".

WHAT
QUESTIONS
DID YOU ASK
TODAY?

What Questions Did You Ask Today?

Edited clip. 2m

Open Grounds. U of Virginia

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O6ZnJldgc1A>

musings

the cern large hadron collider team has now seen the higgs boson - the last in the physics pantheon of 17 sub-atomic particles. it is the particle that assigns the property of mass to the energy that fills space-time. the "god particle". and i wondered what if the creator also took a long time to see the need for this last particle? first to conceive the world of beautiful mathematics, then to create matter so convoluted and messy that compassion and mercy would be not only necessary but the most interesting part of the whole dream.



they finally found the higgs boson

**long time sometime, kwan-yin woke from her dreaming
she had dreamed a dream of energy universes
a silent dancing of beautiful equations
incredible invisible breathing ideas**

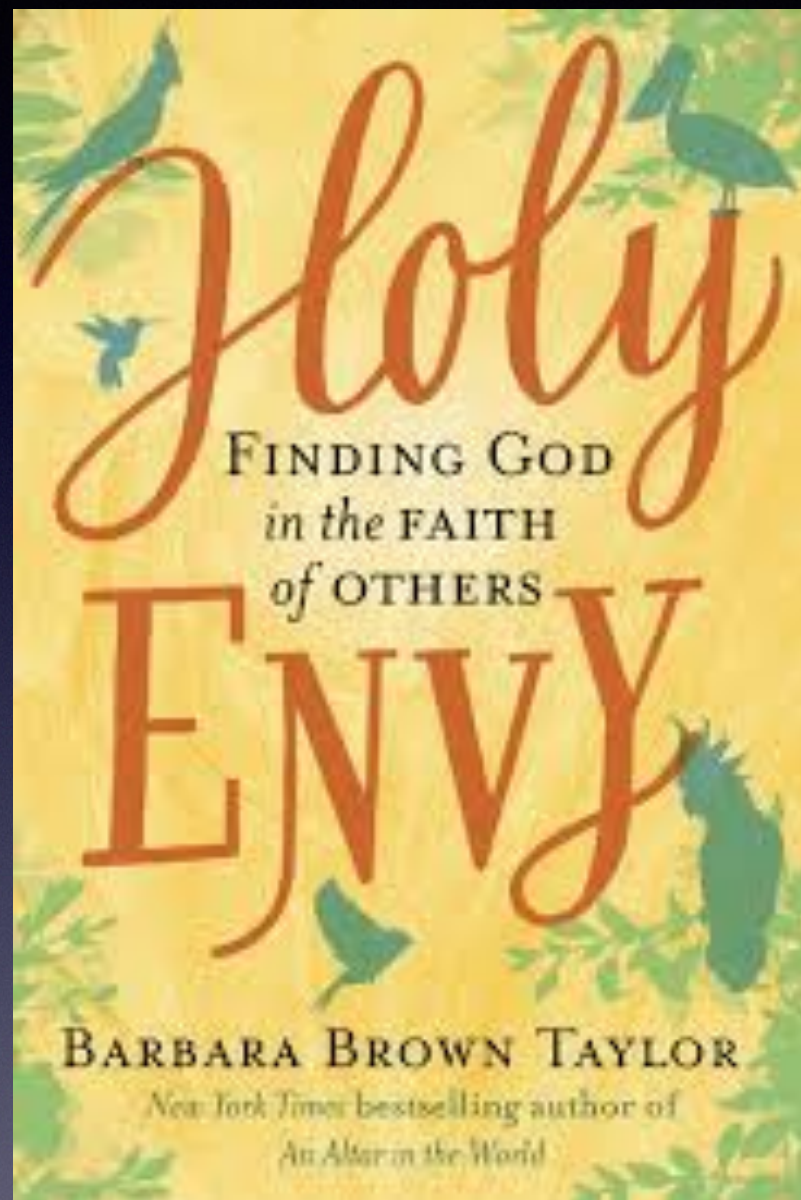
**but without mass in space-time
truth was all alone in the heavens**

**long time sometime, kwan-yin paused in her yearning
and brought forth beauty with its arrow of time
to light the passions and reward the spirit
with impossibly many flavours**

**but without souls struggling to understand
truth and beauty were without perspective**

**long time sometime, kwan-yin felt compassion
and life began to see, to hear - and to feel kindness**





Discussions

Next Readings

Session 3 - 30 Sep 2017

Ch 2: Vishnu's Almonds

Ch 3: Wave Not Ocean

Study Website

sduc.ca



Closing Meditation