



With Thursday of Week 6 we celebrate remembrance of Ascension, when Christ showed His connection to the spiritual Sun forces, and renewed the etheric bodies of all human beings.

For Christ to enter Jesus at the Baptism, His I Am had to replace the ego of Jesus. But Christ brought a mighty change to human evolution and now the Christ impulse can live within mankind *without* replacing human ego-consciousness. In order for this change to happen Christ had to Ascend, joining earth and heaven.

May you experience the beauty and love of this special week.

Rudolf Steiner's Calendar of the Soul Verse 6 - The Truth of My Own Image

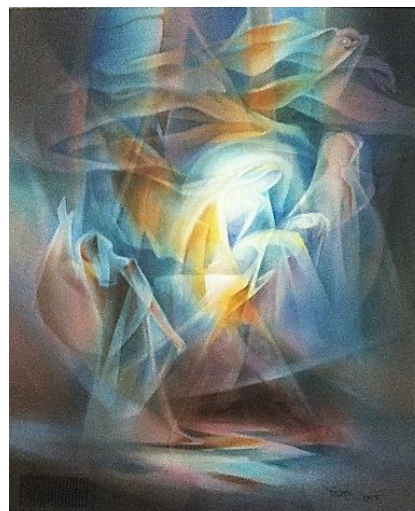
Eloise Krivosheia

This "Life Spirit" verse is connected to **Condition 6**, "Feel gratitude for everything that falls to your lot." Meditation on the ideas within may bring the following concepts to life for you.

What is Life Spirit? Of our body, soul and spirit members, the etheric body, transformed by the I, becomes Life Spirit. As of now, most of us have transformed only the slightest part and can scarcely imagine this very high Life Spirit state of Christ Consciousness, our sixth member, to be fully attained not until far-off Venus. In meditation you may sense a glimmer, a glistening, of this high spirit state to come.

Es ist erstanden aus der
Eigenheit
Mein Selbst und findet sich
Als Weltoffenbarung
In Zeit- und Raumeskräften;
Die Welt, sie zeigt mir überall
Als göttlich Urbild
Des eignen Abbilds Wahrheit.

original German by Rudolf Steiner.



'The truth of my own image' Parsifal by Leszek Forczek

My True Self has arisen from
its separation with the All,
and finds itself to be a manifestation
in time and space
of the creative power of the Cosmos.
The world as Godly archetype
everywhere reveals to me that
I am an image of the Truth. (of God)

tr. by Dennis Klocek.

Leszek Forczek's painting shows man with his human ego suddenly aware that nature's members have no likeness to the human I —nature's members seen in earth (the ground), trees (redwood branches upper area) animal (owl upper right), and etheric life body "holding" the physical —like a pieta— with nearby astral.

Continuing the "resurrection from narrow selfhood" of Verse 5, in Verse 6 we now experience the Self, "Mein Selbst," expanded into the Cosmic All, as cosmic revelation. My Self, can refer to our Higher Self or perhaps our newly beginning *spirit* member, our *Spirit Self*. Contemplating the world as Godly archetype, our Consciousness Soul and our Self are capable of intuiting this truth that the human being is an image of God.

An implicit gratitude is felt in this verse for the understanding that rising beyond our ego self-interest can lead to this cosmic revelation.

"In pulse of time and space" —meaning now and in this earthly realm this truth is there for me to see. And further that I am not only a creation of God, I am a reflection of the Creator's archetypal idea of what the human being shall be. As human, I am made in God's image, which now though imperfect, will gradually be attained by my efforts with the help and nourishment of the hierarchies and of Christ Himself.



There has arisen from my
narrowness
My Self, and finds itself
As cosmic revelation
In pulse of time and space;
The world shows everywhere to me
As godly archetype
The truth of my own image.

tr. by Daisy Alden



There is inspiring, living power in the thought that my higher self and the Macrocosmic "I Am" are of like essence. My gratitude is profound as I take these understandings deep within my soul. I reflect, too, on the loving gratitude demonstrated by the Christ to his disciples at the 'washing of the feet' on Maunday Thursday. I begin to understand the sacrificial essence of Christ in Life Spirit, His Light, Love and Life.

This Life Spirit verse offers even a further heightened consciousness. In remembering that in Verse 5, a "Light Verse", the Earth passed through where the Sun had been in its lemniscate movement, enabling humanity to take in new forces of the Christ's Spiritual Being, we recognize now in Verse 6 a cosmic gift *behind* the first tremendously profound revelation, a truth capable of leading us further.

For through this archetypal experience we feel urged to become ever more conscious of our Creative Spirit. The great etheric force in this verse carries a calmness, a wisdom, perhaps an understanding of time, and the growth that comes with patient meditation. As our I gains in spirit knowledge we feel also a radiance coming to us, a streaming bringing greater intimacy to our Creator gods, to the cosmos.

There has arisen from its narrow
limits
My self and finds itself
As revelation of all worlds
Within the sway of time and
space;
The world, as archetype divine,
Displays to me at every turn
The truth of my own likeness.

tr. by Ruth and Hans Pusch



Liane Collet d'Herbois

There has arisen from its self-
confinement
My Self and finds itself
As cosmic revelation
Within the sway of time and space;
And far and wide the world displays
to me
As archetype divine
The truth of my own image.

tr. by Brigitte Knaack

Spring and Summer see nature expanding in its growing and blossoming. Our soul, too, breathes outward at this time of year and we more easily see ourselves as part of the universe than we do in Autumn and Winter. We may feel imaginatively that we are as a true drop in the great ocean of Spirit. We may discover that the more our "drop" can humbly and responsibly recognize itself as part of the larger universe, the seeming larger and more real our small drop can feel.

Our soul members, Sentient Soul and Intellectual or Mind Soul, working only in the external world, are unable to recognize the coming into being of the higher self. But the *Calendar of the Soul* as we have learned is an initiatory path of the Consciousness Soul through the year with Christ and Nature.

Although our soul is always changing, always in the process of developing, we know it not intellectually—but rather through the heart forces of the Spiritual, the Consciousness Soul. In both art and parable we can discover ourselves. Emil Bock in his *The Three Years* reveals so much personal truth contained in biblical parables.

Deep wisdom comes to us through all of Rudolf Steiner. Often he told:

“To truly know the world, look deeply within your own being;
to truly know yourself, take real interest in the world.”



Irene Olid Gonzalez

In this Ascension Week verse we may strongly sense a new force for the Good coming toward us and on Ascension Thursday rejoice in the Christ's heightened etheric forces throughout the world.



Through meditating the *Calendar*, we reach a level of higher consciousness each year.