

Living within the Heart of Love



DEEPENING CIRCLE

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Acatamiento~ is an antiquated Spanish social word that Ignatius of Loyola filled with mystical meaning and made the foundation of his prayer and every aspect of his life.

In the 16th c. *acatamiento* carried the sense of someone standing before a person of overwhelming greatness knowing that they are completely welcomed, trusted and loved. Ignatius experienced *acatamiento* as the grace of mutual intimacy, affectionate awe and receptive availability in his relationship with the Trinity. For Jesus, *acatamiento* may have had the felt sense of abiding in the Beloved, a mutual indwelling, a sense of communion with God.

And for us perhaps it like this: “I live continually turned toward the Trinity in intimate trust while discovering that the Trinity is continually turned toward me in self-outpoured love.” This is relational communion—a contemplative openness toward Love.



Joseph Bracken, SJ, a process theologian, reimagines the Trinity as three overlapping, interpenetrating fields of divine activity. Each Person is a distinct relational pattern, fully itself, yet open, porous, and mutually indwelling. This is perichoresis translated into energetic and relational language.

And our Triune God (‘God is love’) is the circulation of Love itself—dynamic, relational and self-outpouring. Love is the field in which the Trinity and the world already co-exist. Love is the deepest structure of Reality; and we are embedded in that Love.

So ... we could say that the Trinity is the foundation of “total double union:” a profound love of God and every dear neighbor. Union with God and union with neighbor are not separate tracks; they occur within the very same relational field of Trinitarian love.

To enter into deep relationship with God, another person or with creation is already to participate in the Trinitarian field of Love.

And our response ...

Acatamiento by Liz Sweeney, SSJ
with help from AI

Each time I turn toward You, O Love,
Your Love’s already turning toward me.
Your breath awakening mine.
Each time I open my heart to You,
Your heart’s already Welcoming me.

Your Love becomes my morning light.
I wake within your sight.
Beheld in the silence of Your love,
The morning opens bright.

Refrain
**Love outpoured, Love received,
Love forever flowing.**

**Here I abide with open heart,
Quietly held in one communion.**

**Abba, Love outpouring.
Christ, Love returning.
Spirit, Love overflowing
—one endless communion
Holding all I am. HOLDING ALL WE ARE**

I rest within this outpoured Love
And Love rests here in me. Your
presence fills the air I breathe,
I behold you everywhere You are
the breath my spirit breathes

The bright day, the silent night.
Each whispered word, each quiet
pause, each grateful, listening
heart finds it has never been
alone—We’ve never been apart.
Refrain

I live within the heart of Love—
And Love lives here In me. Only
this holy turning toward the One
Who is always turning toward me.
Refrain

Your breath becomes our own Your
silence wraps our stories. In reverent
awe, we abide in You intimately
welcomed Into Love’s own home.

Your joy has become ours.
Dwelling within Your endless Love,
And You... within us. Holding all we are.

Forever ... holding all we are. Here we
abide... **Love outpoured, Love received,
Love forever flowing.** Here we abide
intimately held ... forever.