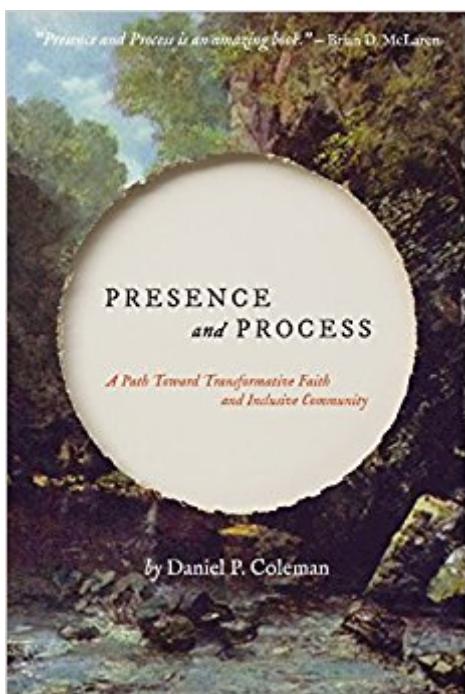


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Presence And Process: A Path Toward Transformative Faith And Inclusive Community



Synopsis

The North American Christian church of the early twenty-first century finds itself in a period of decline. A growing percentage of young adults are not entering the front doors of churches while at the same time older and previously dedicated Christians are leaving. Coinciding with the deflation of the Western church is the explosion in popular culture of the mindfulness movement, which emphasizes meditation practices derived from Buddhism. These concurrent phenomena—“the decline of Christendom in North America and the rise of a Westernized form of Buddhism and various secularized applications of Buddhist meditative practices”—form an interesting juxtaposition that warrants exploration.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“In Presence and Process, Daniel Coleman has created a unique and useful synthesis—showing how a convergence of perennialism, process theology, and mysticism (Christian, Buddhist, and Quaker) could have a profound role in fostering spiritual formation in this postmodern, post-Christendom age. This is a pioneering work of practical theology.” - Richard Rohr, author of Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life
Presence and Process is an amazing book. It provides the best, most compact introduction I've come across to key concepts like mysticism, contemplation, and process theology. It explores the productive ferment that is taking place at the intersection of Christianity and Buddhism. And it invites practitioners to imagine a new kind of church for the journey before us. I highly

recommendÂ Presence and Process.â • - Brian D. McLaren, author ofÂ The Great Spiritual Migrationâ œAfter three decades in Quaker ministry, Iâ™ve noticed how religious traditions I once believed to be separate pursuits now merge as one. Truth, as it turns out, is happy to share the road with others.Â Daniel Colemanâ™s helpful book,Â Presence and Process, marries Christianity and Buddhism for contemporary seekers. Both traditions are honored, both enriched, and both made better by Colemanâ™s thoughtful union.â • - Philip Gulley, author ofÂ Living the Quaker Way: Discover the Hidden Happiness in the Simple Lifeâ œDaniel Colemanâ™s book points the way to a global spirituality, joining East and West, and theology and philosophy. Intellectually solid and spiritually insightful, Colemanâ™s text captures the heart of the Buddhist and Christian mystical traditions in ways that respond to the needs of spiritual seekers of our time.Â Presence and ProcessÂ is an excellent invitation to the growing global mysticism of our time in which spiritual pilgrims creatively integrate practices from diverse religious traditions and in so doing not only experience spiritual insight but transform these traditions themselves. In a time when religious institutions are struggling to survive, Coleman provides a pathway to institutional and spiritual transformation through lively global and earth-affirming spirituality.â • - Bruce Epperly, author ofÂ Becoming Fire: Spiritual Practices for Global Christians and The Gospel According to Winnie the Poohâ œColeman works from a fertile field of thinkers in order to unpackâ "as much as such a thing is possibleâ "the experiential core of Christian and Buddhist practices. His account of contemplation is a much-needed corrective to the empty moralism afflicting many religious communities. The resulting synthesis of Vipassana and apophysis has as much to offer the lay practitioner as the professional theologian.â • - J. R. Hustwit, author ofÂ Interreligious Hermeneutics and the Pursuit of Truthâ œIf Karl Rahner predicted that the survival of Christianity will depend on Christians becoming mystics, Daniel Coleman shows why that is the case and how Rahnerâ™s hopes might be realized. His review and comparison of Christian and Buddhist contemplative practices will speak to both those who are struggling with, as well as those who are looking beyond, organized religion. The bookâ™s brevity belies its engaging richness.â • - Paul F. Knitter, author ofÂ Without Buddha I Could Not Be a Christian

Daniel P. Coleman holds an M.A. in Religion from the Earlham School of Religion and describes himself as a progressive Christian Quaker theologian with Buddhist leanings. His work touches on contemplative spirituality, process theology, interfaith dialogue, Quakerism, and biblical studies. Daniel and his wife, Carla, live in Seattle, Washington.

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