

There are a number of biblical passages which have been used to assert the superiority and/or the exclusivity of the Christian tradition. Generally speaking, let me suggest that many of the passages asserting such a position can be explained by some deeper consideration of translation, culture, context, intent, and even psychology. Some deep, spiritual discernment helps as well!

In short, we at Unity in Lynnwood celebrate the suggestion that truly enlightened beings don't seek to assert their superiority and exclusivity (although those who follow truly enlightened beings often do). This shift is mirrored in Jesus' dictate, not to worship, but to follow him.

Unity is wildly inclusive because Unity believes that all traditions, at their very core, are in the waking up business, and that all traditions have unique value to bring to that goal. So, Unity in Lynnwood offers Christianity as but one authentic spiritual path which, at its very core, invites us to wake up; and we offer Jesus as one of history's enlightened way-showers, beckoning humanity to grasp higher possibilities for self and community and to emulate his strategies for realizing those higher possibilities on earth. You'll hear it said that we hold Jesus as a great example, not a great exception!

We understand the Bible to be a collection of history and prophecy and teaching and poetry and song and prayer and resistance literature and more, written over some 1,000 years and assembled in various configurations in the early years of the church. Its teachings offer layers of wisdom from the most concrete to the wildly metaphysical. That biblical students must seek to understand context in any meaningful attempt to extract meaning is understood.

Unity in Lynnwood has long produced an Interfaith at UIL program under the leadership of Rabbi Ted Falcon (Judaism for Dummies, et al), featuring teachers from Sufism, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity and beyond. This program has given rise to other programs such as “I’m with Them” and “Dinner with Others,” both of which have garnered national attention.

So yes, you might hear us suggest that a Buddhist practice could enrich your journey! You might hear us suggest that a Sufi workshop could enrich your journey! You might hear us suggest that a nature retreat could enrich your journey! And, at times, you might even hear us suggest that an entirely new community could be best suited to your needs! In the end, we want you to have the right and perfect support for your waking up journey.

Given this, Unity in Lynnwood is considered home by Catholics, protestants, Buddhist monks, Taoist students, mystical metaphysicians, and by agnostics and atheists alike! Practical spirituality and welcoming community are the words of UIL’s Mission Statement and they remain alive at UIL.