



Whitsun and Ascension: An Introductory Reader (Pocket Library of Spiritual Wisdom)

By Rudolf Steiner

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Matthew Barton collects excerpts from Steiner's many talks and writings on the festival of Whitsun ("White Sunday"). Known in America as Pentecost, the forty-ninth day following Easter Sunday commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples. The book also includes Steiner's discussions of the Ascension of Jesus Christ forty days after his Resurrection.

Whitsun and Ascension: An Introductory Reader features Barton's editorial introduction, afterword, commentary, and notes.

Chapters:

1. Rising to the Clouds, Tethered to Earth
2. Suffering's Open Door
3. All One to Alone to One in All
4. Human Freedom and the Word

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Rudolf Steiner (1861–1925) was born in the small village of Kraljevec, Austro-Hungarian Empire (now in Croatia), where he grew up. As a young man, he lived in Weimar and Berlin, where he became a well-published scientific, literary, and philosophical scholar, known especially for his work with Goethe's scientific writings. At the beginning of the twentieth century, he began to develop his early philosophical principles into an approach to systematic research into psychological and spiritual phenomena. Formally beginning his spiritual teaching career under the auspices of the Theosophical Society, Steiner came to use the term Anthroposophy (and spiritual science) for his philosophy, spiritual research, and findings. The influence of Steiner's multifaceted genius has led to innovative and holistic approaches in medicine, various therapies, philosophy, religious renewal, Waldorf education, education for special needs, threefold economics, biodynamic agriculture, Goethean science, architecture, and the arts of drama, speech, and eurythmy. In 1924, Rudolf Steiner founded the General Anthroposophical Society, which today has branches throughout the world. He died in Dornach, Switzerland.

Matthew Barton is a translator, editor, teacher, and poet, and taught kindergarten for many years at the Bristol Waldorf School. His first collection of poems was *Learning To Row* (1999). He has won numerous prizes for his work, including an Arts Council Writer's Award and a Hawthornden Fellowship.

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