

## The Modern Christian Mystic: Finding the Unitive Presence of God

Albert J. LaChance



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In this new work, Albert LaChance presents a complete reframing of Christianity as an experiential rather than dogmatic approach to the presence of Christ. It emphasizes the idea of Christ as the source and sustainer of the cosmos, the Earth, the life community, and global culture. As such, it takes a "unitive" approach, with Christianity understood as being in mystical union with global culture, and with the ecological realities of the Earth. In the author's view, Christianity thus joins hands with Buddhism, Hinduism, and Taoism in a unitive oneness with all that is.

Consisting of twenty-eight short chapters, *The Modern Christian Mystic* focuses on the presence of God permeating and organizing the beginning of existence, in the form of consciousness giving birth to energy, and then the material reality of the universe. The author argues that just as St. Augustine introduced the "pagan" Plato to Christianity, and a millennium later St. Thomas Aquinas revitalized his faith with the "pagan" philosophy of Aristotle, so in the modern age the "non-theism" of Buddhism, Taoism, and Hinduism holds the key to a revivified mystical practice. *The Modern Christian Mystic* posits a nurturing new world based on commonality rather than conflict in the world of spirit.

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