

Worship. The book thus seeks to describe Christian worship in categories that can be found across Christian denominations and to challenge planners and leaders of worship to consider new approaches to invigorate the worship practices of their communities.

Written in a friendly first-person plural, which guides the reader through increasingly challenging material, the book moves from a consideration of the current state of worship across denominations in the United States, though a discussion of the Bible as source for worship, to increasingly complex theological questions about baptismal identity; the paschal mystery; full, conscious, and active participation; and the relationship between worship and justice. The final chapters offer the most constructive theological arguments. While offering succinct summaries of historical and theological developments, the text relies primarily on Scripture and Vatican II's *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* as sources. Given the author's Roman Catholic perspective as well as her ecumenical audience, this is a prudent choice and a significant strength of the volume; interested readers, however, will need to look elsewhere for bibliography on the historical sources for worship and liturgy.

Punctuated by thought-provoking discussion questions and parenthetical definitions, the book would be very suitable for serious-minded liturgy committees, or worship leadership teams. Focused on process rather than on historical or theological instruction, it could also provide a useful exercise for ministry and seminary students preparing to lead or plan worship. The text clearly and astutely addresses current challenges that arise in worship planning and practice. Most importantly, it offers creative (and nonpolemical) approaches for deeper development.

Rhodora Beaton  
St. Catherine University, St. Paul, MN

*Thomas Berry: Selected Writings on the Earth Community.* Selected and edited by Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim. Modern Spiritual Masters Series. Maryknoll: New York: Orbis, 2014. Pp. xii + 200. \$22.

With the publication of Pope Francis's encyclical on climate change, *Laudato si'*, considerable public attention will be directed to the sphere of religious environmental ethics. What an opportune time to have this collection appear, as it provides a valuable port of entry to one of the most distinctive figures in contemporary Christian environmentalism. Thomas Berry was renowned for his staunch resistance to the traditional stewardship paradigm, the cosmology of which generated a strong anthropocentrism and an accompanying ethic that Berry was convinced was bringing ruin to planet Earth and ushering in an age of death and destruction. Berry spent the greater part of three decades constructing a new cosmology, or a new creation story, as he liked to call it, which placed the good of the universe as the highest goal sought and insisted on a robust biocentric egalitarianism that considered all beings as subjects, not objects, in ethical deliberation. Suffice it to say that Berry's project was ambitious and broad-ranging, and that it often conflicted directly with the theological tenets of the traditional

stewardship paradigm that has dominated Christian environmental ethics since the 1960s.

This volume nicely captures the essential elements of Berry's thought, ranging from his cosmology, to the contribution of world religions, to Christian environmental thought, to specific challenges issued to Christianity by environmental destruction, to more personal reflections on Berry's life and his experiences. There is something valuable here for anyone interested in studying Berry's thought, as it covers all the major relevant themes in Berry's environmental writings and provides a springboard for those wishing to sink their teeth into his primary texts. Berry's theological agenda will become more important as worldwide environmental degradation becomes more pronounced this century, and this volume is an excellent place to begin to understand the salient elements of his thought.

Mark Graham  
Villanova University, PA

*Poetry and the Religious Imagination: The Power of the Word.* Edited by Francesca Bugliani Knox and David Lonsdale. Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2015. Pp. xii + 268. \$109.95.

This collection of essays on theology and literature addresses questions emerging in the past 30 years in the growing European dialogue between these two disciplines. What is the religious imagination? How can secular and religious literature interact? What is the role of spiritual experience in poetry? Michael Kirwan, S.J., of Heythrop College in London, begins the volume with an overview of the religion–literature dialogue since 1987, when the journal *Theology and Literature* began and the *Oxford Handbook of Literature and Theology* appeared. Kirwan reviews the century-old tension between Matthew Arnold's prediction that poetry would replace religion, and T. S. Eliot and F. R. Leavis's replies on behalf of a religion–literature dialogue. K. then notes the rise of major theological literary critics such as Nathan Scott, Jr., William Lynch, Thomas Altizer, John Coulson, Terence Wright, and currently Terry Eagleton, David Jasper, and Robert Derweiler. K. also emphasizes Northrop Frye's role in using biblical patterns in criticism, Frank Kermode's exploration of quasi-biblical themes, and George Steiner's anti-deconstructive defense of literature "underwritten by the assumption of God's presence." K. favors a more sacramental theory of criticism and a more playful conversation between the disciplines. In contrast, German critic Georg Langenhorst reviews the continental approaches of Romano Guardini, Hans Urs von Balthasar, Paul Tillich, and Karl Josef Kuschel, with special praise for Kuschel's method of "dialogue by concentrating on mutual questioning and challenging." Neither essay mentions recent work by David Jeffries or Mark Knight.

After this overview of literary criticism, Michael Paul Gallagher, S.J. introduces five essays on "the religious imagination" in Aquinas, Dante, Shakespeare, and Wallace