

The Middle Path in a Threefold World

How can we look at Threefolding with contemporary eyes, understand it as a framework for social development and, hopefully transformation? Where and how does justice show up? Where and how can we move between the verticality and individuality of spirit and the horizontal and social world of soul experience?

Threefolding was Rudolf Steiner's response and remedy in 1919 for a European world torn apart by war, poverty, rampant inflation, class struggles, and a rising materialist concept of the world. Many, but not all, of the challenges we face today: such as a tragically distorted economic system—the search for power and control over natural resources, labor and capital, gender equity, mechanization of thinking, and anti-democratic political forms, were already present in seed form in the early 20th century. Today we face climate crisis, pollution of culture, a search for true identities and new community, and a need for the rediscovery of the meaning of vocation. Threefolding is not a solution. It is not an end. Rather, it is a framework with untapped potential to understand where we are, how we can meet what is coming toward us with equanimity—all as a middle path that is neither a rendering of judgment that breeds polarities, nor a theory that is nice but impossible to apply.

We will have time for problem solving in conversation, small group work, contemplation and reflection, and developing some practical take-aways to meet participants needs out the work of the participants.

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