
Pro Rege

Volume 46
Number 2 *Fine Arts Issue 2017*

Article 6

December 2017

Chronos and Kairos

John Zinkand
Dordt College

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/pro_rege



Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Zinkand, John (2017) "Chronos and Kairos," *Pro Rege*: Vol. 46: No. 2, 7.
Available at: https://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/pro_rege/vol46/iss2/6

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the University Publications at Dordt Digital Collections. It has been accepted for inclusion in Pro Rege by an authorized administrator of Dordt Digital Collections. For more information, please contact ingrid.mulder@dordt.edu.

Chronos and Kairos

John Miller Zinkand – 1999

John Miller Zinkand (1927–2015), Professor of Classical Languages at Dordt College for 25 years.

Two Greek words for “time”
yet different.
We know chronos:
chronic, chronometer,
chronicle, chronology,
anachronism.
Clocks, calendars, birthdays,
history books and Hallmark cards—
all play their respects to chronos.
Kairos is bereft
Of English heirs.
Ours, the loss.
Kairos is pregnant, rich:
Right time, fitting moment,
Opportunity, the “now”
whose foil is “never.”
When Kairos comes,
chronos goes.
Kairos is der Tag,
the Geist-filled Zeit.
Prepare for Kairos,
enjoy it, use it.
There’s always time
for chronos.