

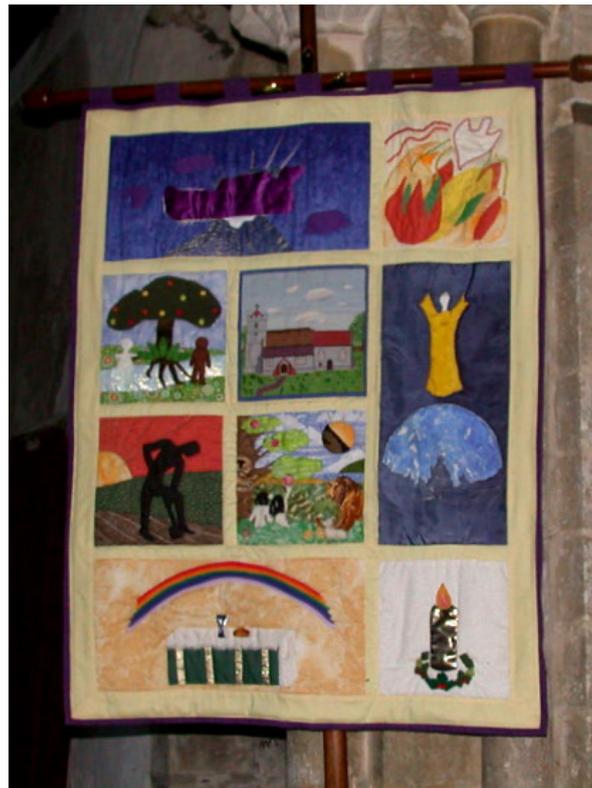


## Words for the Way

An online Lent Course for the Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney

### Second Sunday of Lent

5 March 2023



For God so Loved the World..., from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55676> [retrieved March 4, 2023]. Original source: [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Rampton\\_Parish\\_Church\\_Millennium\\_Banner\\_-\\_geograph.org.uk\\_-\\_680465.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Rampton_Parish_Church_Millennium_Banner_-_geograph.org.uk_-_680465.jpg).

#### John 3:1-17

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

*To reflect and looking forward*

What word or words has been most meaningful to you this week?

Has there been a scripture or prayer that has affected you the most? That you keep on revisiting?

What is one thing you might wish to commit to doing this coming week – prayer, reading, faith in action, silence...?

*To listen*

Lamb of God, from the St Anne’s Mass by James MacMillan

By Faith by Keith and Kirsten Getty

*These can be found on a playlist at*

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/72omFXFljUHKiHcvk9OYv4?si=0b356c51045b422b>

*"No act of virtue can be great if it is not followed by advantage for others. So, no matter how much time you spend fasting, no matter how much you sleep on a hard floor and eat ashes and sigh continually, if you do no good to others, you do nothing great."*

*John Chrysostom (c. 347 – 407)*



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The word for each day is taken from Trevor Hudson’s *40 words for 40 days Pauses for Lent*.