

# *In the beginning was the Word...*

*An Advent & Christmas Course from the Diocese of Aberdeen & Orkney*



## First Week of Advent

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December to Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023



*Millereau, George. God's Shining Face, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56319> [retrieved December 8, 2023]. Original source: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Vitrail\\_Basilique\\_Saint-Nicolas\\_080208\\_05.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Vitrail_Basilique_Saint-Nicolas_080208_05.jpg).*

The words for reflection this week have been:

Wind                      Hidden Presence                      Peace  
Grace                      Watch                      Awake

They were drawn from the readings for the First Sunday of Advent: Isaiah 64:1-9, Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 and Mark 13:24-37.

*Some points to ponder:*

- What word has made you think the most, why?
- Has there been a word that has surprised you and if so, in what way?
- As you've travelled through this first week of Advent, how has the course shaped your journey?
- Is there a word you'd like to find out more about, reflect on or return to, this is an invitation to do to.

*A Prayer for Advent*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility: that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end Amen.

*To listen*

There is a playlist of most of the pieces of music suggested in the reflections, it can be found at <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/77jSmkIGBiKvz0ggnKV7gW?si=d1f483c6bf4646d8>

*The word for each day (3-25 December is taken from Advent Word 2023 #adventword).*

*...and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*