

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

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



## Third Week of Advent

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December to Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2023



*Plummer, Lauren. Advent Candle, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-image/link.pl?RC=57132> [retrieved December 21, 2023]. Original source: Lauren Plummer, <https://www.linkedin.com/in/lauren-plummer-mts-ma-006738129/>.*

The words for reflection this week have been:

Spirit          Repair          Give          Dream          Laughter          Quench          Ponder

They were drawn from the readings for the Third Sunday of Advent: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126 or Canticle: Luke 1:47-55; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 and John 1:6-8, 19-28

*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 (by Henri Nouwen)*

Lord Jesus, Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. We who have so much to do and seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day, We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us. We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom. We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence. We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light. To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!" 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/77jSmklGBiKvz0gggKv7gW?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.*