

Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney's Lent Course 2024

# THE WAY TO THE CROSS

WEDNESDAY 21 FEBRUARY



## RESOURCES FROM THE ARTS REFLECTING ON GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

Today you're invited to reflect on music and art. You may have hymns, pieces of music or art that come to mind as you reflect this week. However, these are offered for places to start.

For pieces of music with words, listen to the words (or look them up), do these resonate with you and what do they make you think of in relation to this Lent and your faith journey?

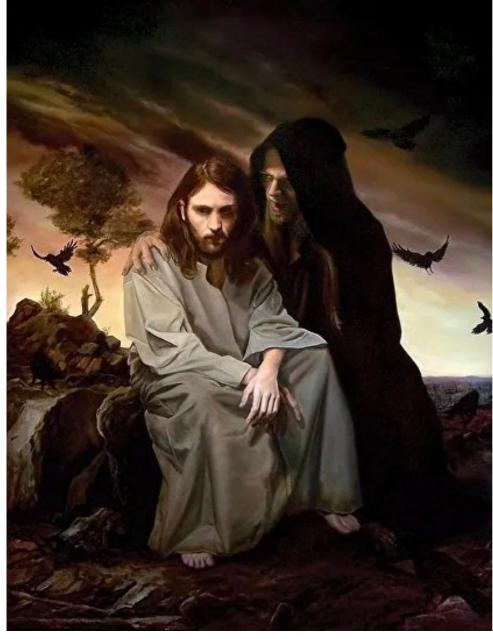
There is a playlist of music suggestions offered in the course (and more) that can be found on <u>Spotify</u> [https://open.spotify.com/playlist/2sFIFKVbBpfAG5cn1obsRD? si=12ff8c21172e4bec]

### Music for the First Week of Lent

- Gottes Zeit ist die allerbeste Zeit, BWV 106 by J.S. Bach, one version is by the Bach Ensemble
- Down to the River to Pray, one version is by Alison Krauss. How does this connect to the account of Jesus' baptism in the Gospel of Mark?
- Every Promise of Your Word by Getty/Townend, this speaks of God's promises
- The hymn 'Forty days and forty nights' by George Smyttan and Francis Pott

#### Collect for First Sunday of Lent

Almighty God, whose Son fasted forty days in the wilderness. and was tempted as we are but did not sin, give us grace to discipline ourselves in submission to your Spirit, that as you know our weakness so we may know your power to save; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God. now and for ever. Amen.



The Temptation of Christ, Painting by Eric Armusik (born 1973), Painted in 2011, Oil on birch © Eric Armusik, all rights reserved (via christian.art)

This painting portrays Jesus in the wilderness being tempted by Satan (Mark 1.9–15).

What does this painting make you feel? It seems dark with Satan sidling up to Jesus. Jesus is barefoot so can not escape anywhere fast. The birds in the image are dark, perhaps wild beasts but very different to the doves evoked in Jesus baptism narratives and thinking about the rainbow and Noah. The Gospel of Mark tells us that Jesus resisted Satan in the wilderness and returned to the people of God and proclaimed good news.

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Mark 1.15

#### Usual Weekly Pattern

Sunday RCL Eucharist Readings and Collect

Monday
Delving Deeper into
the Readings

Tuesday Words from Others (sacred & secular)

Wednesday Resources from the Arts

Thursday Contemplative Acts

Friday
Personal Reflection
- what this means to
me

Saturday Acts & Deeds