



Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney's Lent Course 2024

THE WAY TO THE CROSS

TUESDAY 12 MARCH



WORDS FROM OTHERS GOD'S FAITHFULNESS IN DRAWING US CLOSER

Today you're invited to reflect on words from others.

For the poetry what images does it evoke for you? Does it chime with specific parts of the readings from Sunday? How does it speak to you and your journey of faith.

The words from others include quotes about sin, living the light and reflections on John 3.14-21. What do these say to you about what living a Christian life asks of you? Do they resonate with you?

"it is the Bible in miniature."
Martin Luther on John 3.16,

"Biblically speaking, the singular, straightforward issues of ethics—and ... of politics—is how to live humanly during the Fall, "Any viable ethic ... any ethics which manifest and verify hope—is both individual and social. It must deal with human decision and action in relation to the other creatures, notably the principalities and powers in the very midst of the conflict, distortion, alienation, disorientation, chaos, decadence of the Fall."

William Stringfellow from 'An Ethic For Christians and Other Aliens in a Strange Land'

Collect for Fourth Sunday of Lent

Gracious Father,
whose blessed Son
Jesus Christ came
from heaven to be
the true bread which
gives life to the
world, evermore give
us this bread, that he
may live in us, and
we in him, who lives
and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and
for ever.
Amen.

“With these words [John 3:16] the scales fell from my eyes and the light came flooding in. My sense of inferiority, my fear of handicaps, dropped away. “Whosoever,” it said. No Jew nor Gentile, no Catholic nor Protestant, no black nor white; just “whosoever.” It means that I, a humble Negro girl, had just as much chance as anybody in the sight and love of God. These words stored up a battery of faith and confidence and determination in my heart, which has not failed me to this day.”
Mary MacLeod Bethune (1875–1955), quoted by Allen Dwight Callahan who describes her as “educator, activist, and presidential advisor.”

Living Flame of Love by St. John of the Cross

1. O living flame of love
That tenderly wounds my soul
In its deepest center! Since
Now you are not oppressive,
Now consummate! if it be your will:
Tear through the veil of this sweet encounter!
2. O sweet cautery,
O delightful wound!
O gentle hand! O delicate touch
That tastes of eternal life
And pays every debt!
In killing you changed death to life.
3. O lamps of fire!
in whose splendors
The deep caverns of feeling,
Once obscure and blind,
Now give forth, so rarely, so exquisitely,
Both warmth and light to their Beloved.
4. How gently and lovingly
You wake in my heart,
Where in secret you dwell alone;
And in your sweet breathing,
Filled with good and glory,
How tenderly You swell my heart with love.

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.

John 3.16

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