

Journey with Jesus

Praying through the Gospel of John

Week 17



- Find a place to sit quietly.
- Sit in a relaxed position and close your eyes.
- Breathe in and out slowly and become aware of the presence of God.
- ‘I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last’.
- Spend some time praying with these words.
- What does it mean for you to go and bear fruit?
- What lasting fruit have you seen and experienced in the lives of others?
- You might like to listen to King of my heart sung by Vineyard Worship.



Untitled by Gordon Lamb. Used with permission.

➤ You might like to listen to:

➤ Day 1: You say sung by Lauren Diagle then click [here](#).

➤ Day 2: You have overcome sung by Hillsong then click [here](#).

➤ Day 3: Come Holy Ghost our Souls Inspire sung by Harpa Dei then click [here](#).

➤ Day 4: Holy Spirit you are welcome here sung by Kari Jobe then click [here](#).

➤ Day 5: Psalms 126 then click [here](#).

➤ Day 6: The Joy of the Lord sung by Rend Collective then click [here](#).

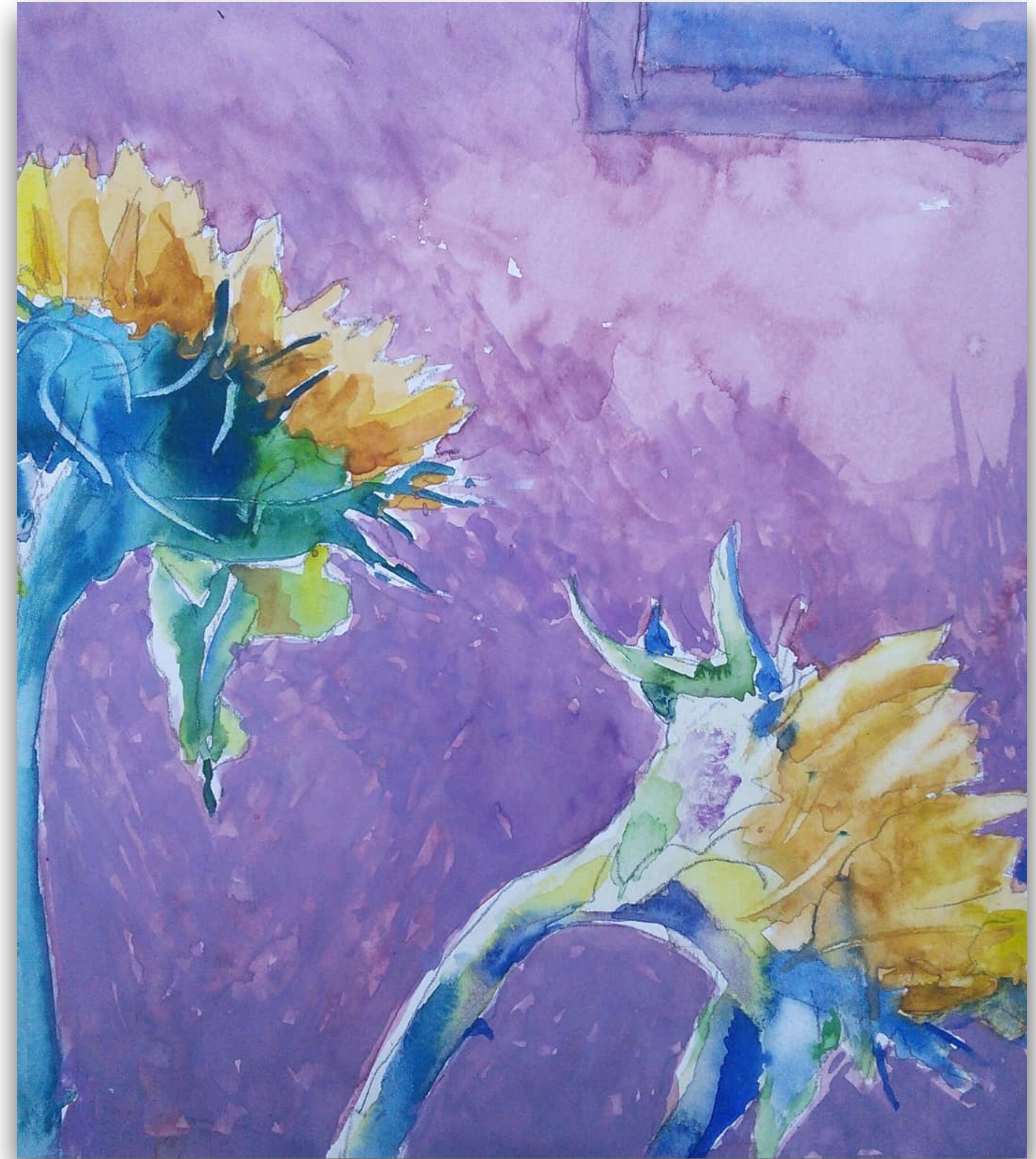
➤ Day 7: Giants Fall sung by Francesca Battistelli then click [here](#).



Day 1: John 15:9-17

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.”

- Read this passage from John 15.
 - What words or phrases strike you?
- Read these words again slowly.
 - Stay with one of the words or phrases that catches you and hold it in the stillness before God.
- What thoughts, feelings and images have emerged in this time of prayer?
- How has the Spirit been at work in your heart as you have prayed?
- You might like to note these down in your journal.
- When you have finished click [here](#) to continue.



Sunflowers by Gordon Lamb Used with permission

Day 2: John 15:18-25

“If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. Remember what I told you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the one who sent me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin. Whoever hates me hates my Father as well. If I had not done among them the works no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. As it is, they have seen, and yet they have hated both me and my Father. But this is to fulfil what is written in their Law: ‘They hated me without reason.’”

- Read this passage from John 15.
 - What words or phrases strike you?
- Read these words again slowly.
 - Stay with one of the words or phrases that catches you and hold it in the stillness before God.
- What thoughts, feelings and images have emerged in this time of prayer?
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The scourging of Jesus by Gordon Lamb. Used with permission.

Day 3: John 15:26-16:11

“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will testify about me. And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning. All this I have told you so that you will not fall away. They will put you out of the synagogue; in fact, the time is coming when anyone who kills you will think they are offering a service to God. They will do such things because they have not known the Father or me. I have told you this, so that when their time comes you will remember that I warned you about them. I did not tell you this from the beginning because I was with you, but now I am going to him who sent me. None of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ Rather, you are filled with grief because I have said these things. But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because people do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.”

- Read this passage from John 15 and 16.
 - What words or phrases strike you?
- Read these words again slowly.
 - Stay with one of the words or phrases that catches you and hold it in the stillness before God.
- What thoughts, feelings and images have emerged in this time of prayer?
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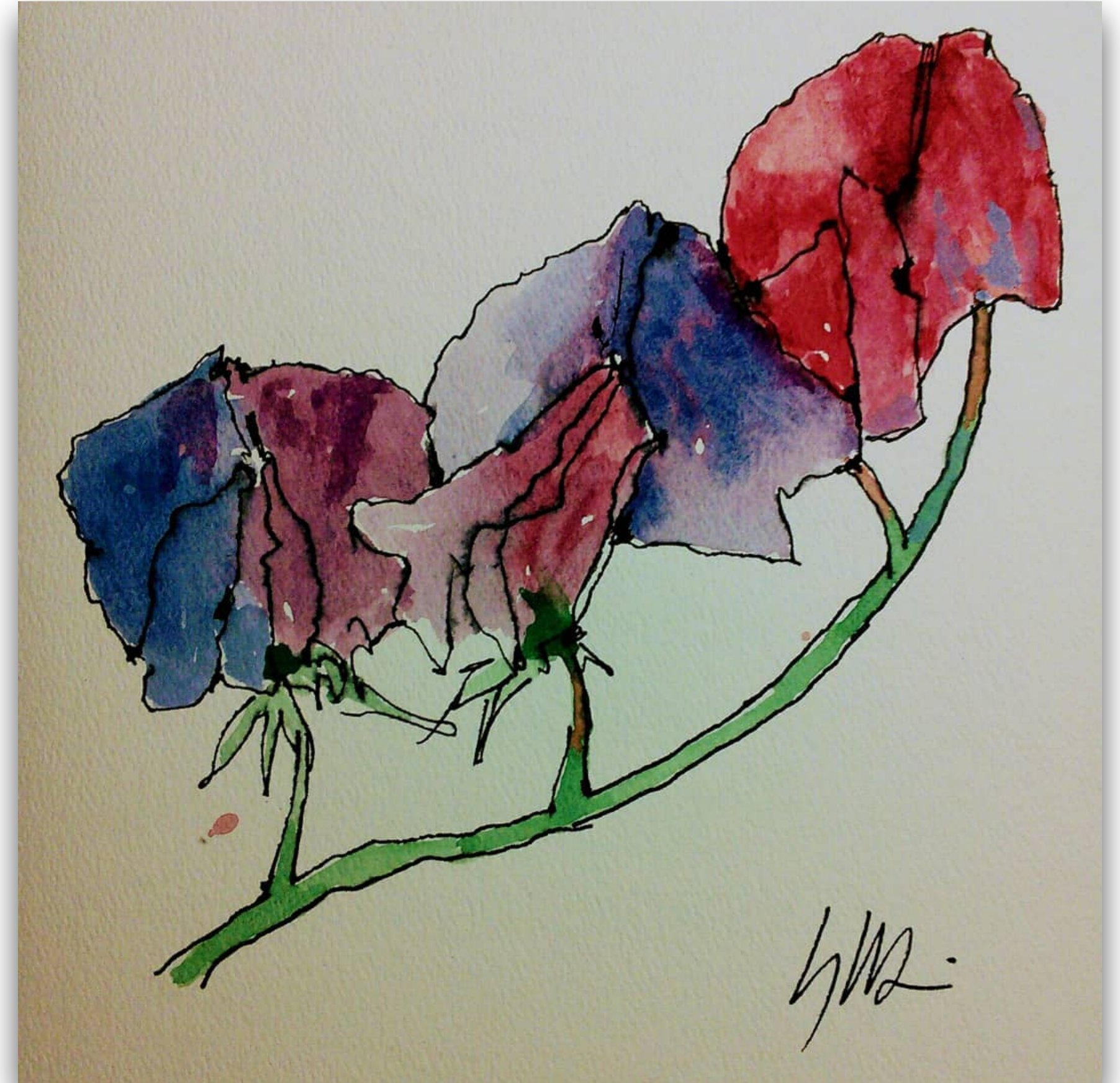


The Crucifixion of Jesus by Gordon Lamb. Used with permission.

Day 4: John 16:12-15

“I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.”

- Read this passage from John 16.
 - What words or phrases strike you?
- Read these words again slowly.
 - Stay with one of the words or phrases that catches you and hold it in the stillness before God.
- What thoughts, feelings and images have emerged in this time of prayer?
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Sweet Peas by Gordon Lamb. Used with permission.

Day 5: John 16:16-20

Jesus went on to say, “In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me.” At this, some of his disciples said to one another, “What does he mean by saying, ‘In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me,’ and ‘Because I am going to the Father’?” They kept asking, “What does he mean by ‘a little while’? We don’t understand what he is saying.” Jesus saw that they wanted to ask him about this, so he said to them, “Are you asking one another what I meant when I said, ‘In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me’? Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy.”

- Read this passage from John 16.
 - What words or phrases strike you?
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Easter Greetings by Gordon Lamb. Used with permission.

Day 6: John 16:21-24

“A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. In that day you will no longer ask me anything. Very truly I tell you, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.”

- Read this passage from John 16.
 - What words or phrases strike you?
- Read these words again slowly.
 - Stay with one of the words or phrases that catches you and hold it in the stillness before God.
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Three nails, three words, three days by Gordon Lamb. Used with permission.

Day 7: John 16:25-33

“Though I have been speaking figuratively, a time is coming when I will no longer use this kind of language but will tell you plainly about my Father. In that day you will ask in my name. I am not saying that I will ask the Father on your behalf. No, the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. I came from the Father and entered the world; now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father.” Then Jesus’ disciples said, “Now you are speaking clearly and without figures of speech. Now we can see that you know all things and that you do not even need to have anyone ask you questions. This makes us believe that you came from God.” “Do you now believe?” Jesus replied. “A time is coming and in fact has come when you will be scattered, each to your own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me. I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

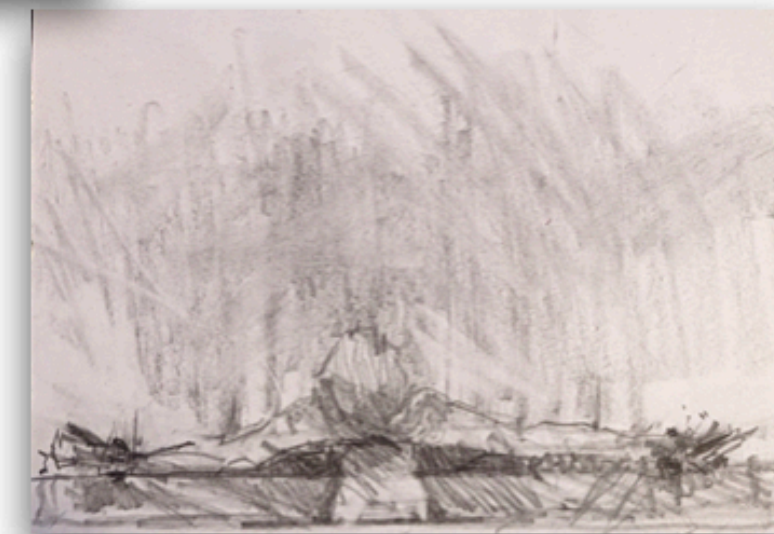
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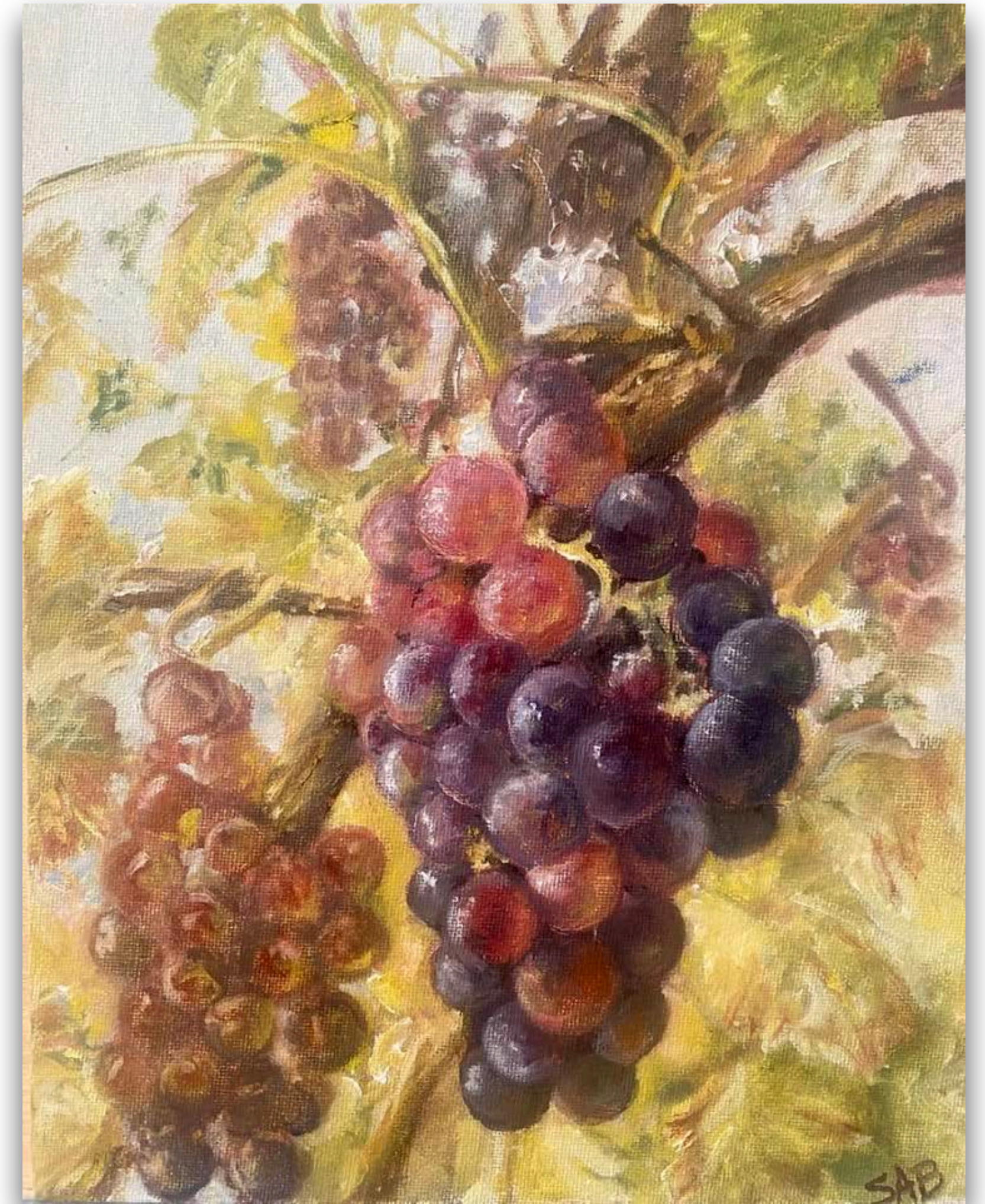
Jesus in the garden after the resurrection by Gordon Lamb. Used with permission.

Over the week you might like to listen to this music based on the words and images we have prayed with this week.

- Day 1: Before the throne of God above
- Day 2: The Scourging of Jesus
- Day 3: The Crucifixion of Jesus
- Day 4: Veni Sancte Spiritus
- Day 5: Hallelujah
- Day 6: Three nails, three words, three days
- Day 7: Jesus in the garden after the resurrection



- Lasting fruit.
- You might like to get some grapes and some raisins or sultanas.
- Look at the fruit. What do you notice?
- Taste and savour one of the grapes. What do you notice?
- Taste and savour some of the dried fruit. What do you notice?
- What does it mean to you to be part of the vine?
- What does it mean to you to bear fruit that will last?
- What is God's invitation to you?
- What help or gift of grace of God do you want to ask to help you respond to this invitation?



I am the vine

How might it feel to be part of the vine?
Not just to see the vineyard from afar
Or even pluck the clusters, press the wine,
But to be grafted in, to feel the stir
Of inward sap that rises from our root,
Himself deep planted in the ground of Love,
To feel a leaf unfold a tender shoot,
As tendrils curled unfurl, as branches give
A little to the swelling of the grape,
In gradual perfection, round and full,
To bear within oneself the joy and hope
Of God's good vintage, till it's ripe and whole.
What might it mean to bide and to abide
In such rich love as makes the poor heart glad?

Malcolm Guite - used with the poet's permission

Click on the title of this sonnet to listen to the author read these words.



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Week 17

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