

Journey with Jesus

Praying through the Gospel of Mark

Station 1 - The Baptism of Jesus



Waterfall

The lake lies still
Within the folded hills.
Myriad streams in
Ceaseless movement
Empty into one silence

Where - beyond sight -
The valley opens up its arms
There is release:

The ecstasy of
Breaking,
Falling,
Tumbling,
On the shining rock

The power
Shuddering and shaking
The mist hung air.



Waterfall by Andrew Hawes from
Collected Poems 1970-2014
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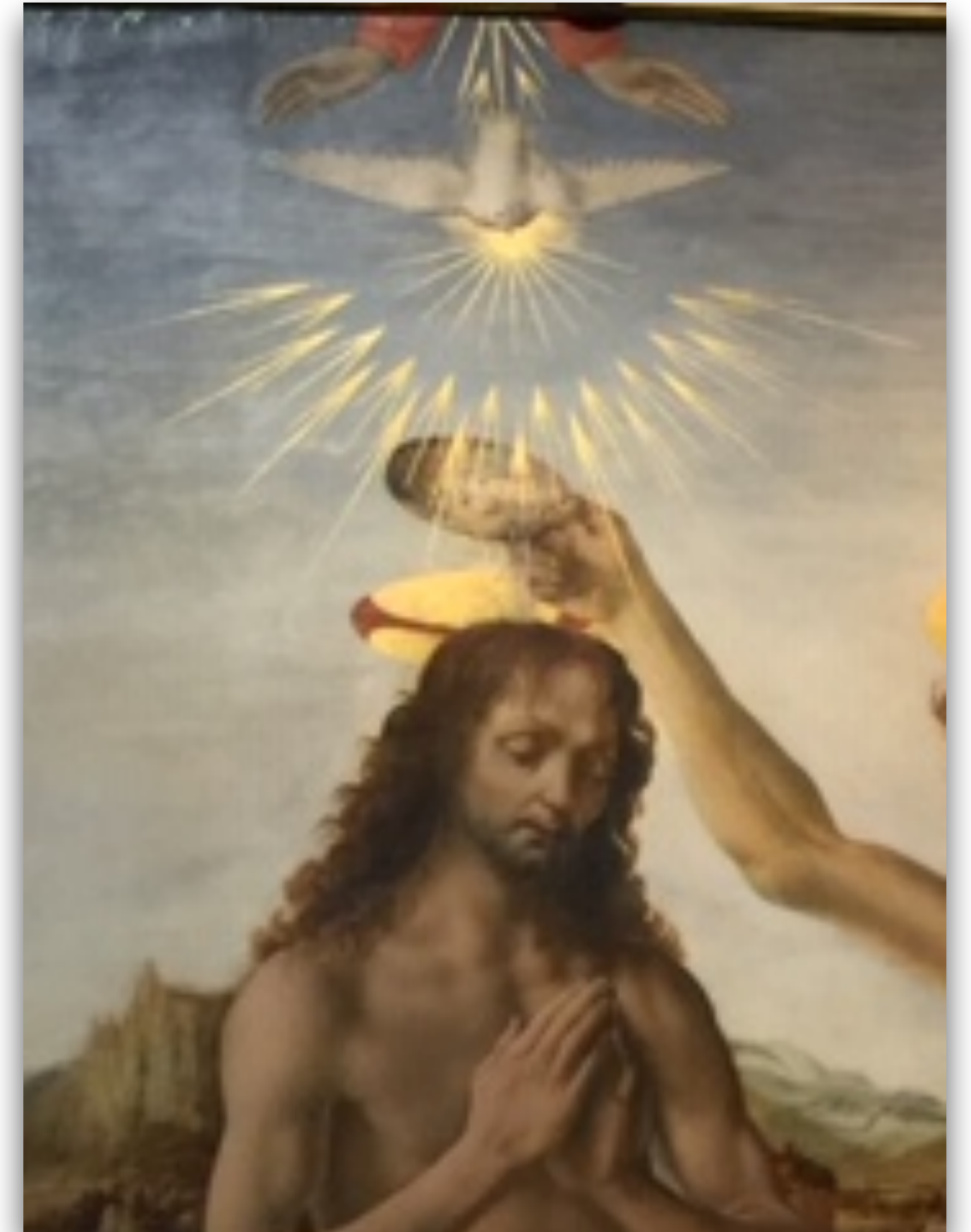
- Find a place to sit quietly
- You may like to light a candle
- Be aware of God's loving eyes watching over you
- As we Journey with Jesus ask God for the grace, rooted in the Song of Songs:
 - **Give me the desire to desire you**
- You may like to listen to this modern worship song, Oceans, [here](#). It includes these words:
 - **My soul will rest in your embrace, for I am yours and you are mine.**



Read this passage from Mark chapter 1. What words or phrases strike you?

“After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptise you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.”

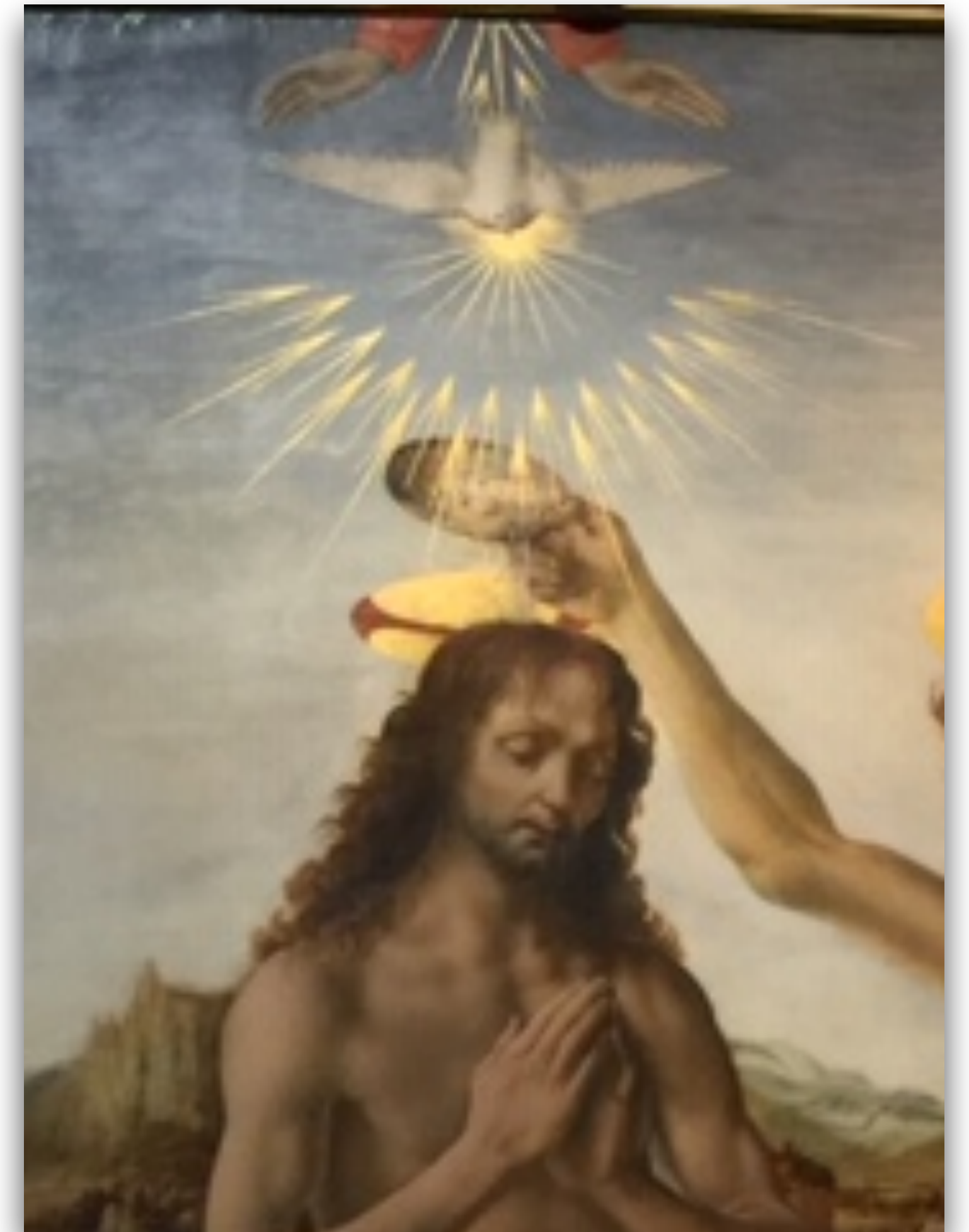
At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”



Read these words from Mark chapter 1 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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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?

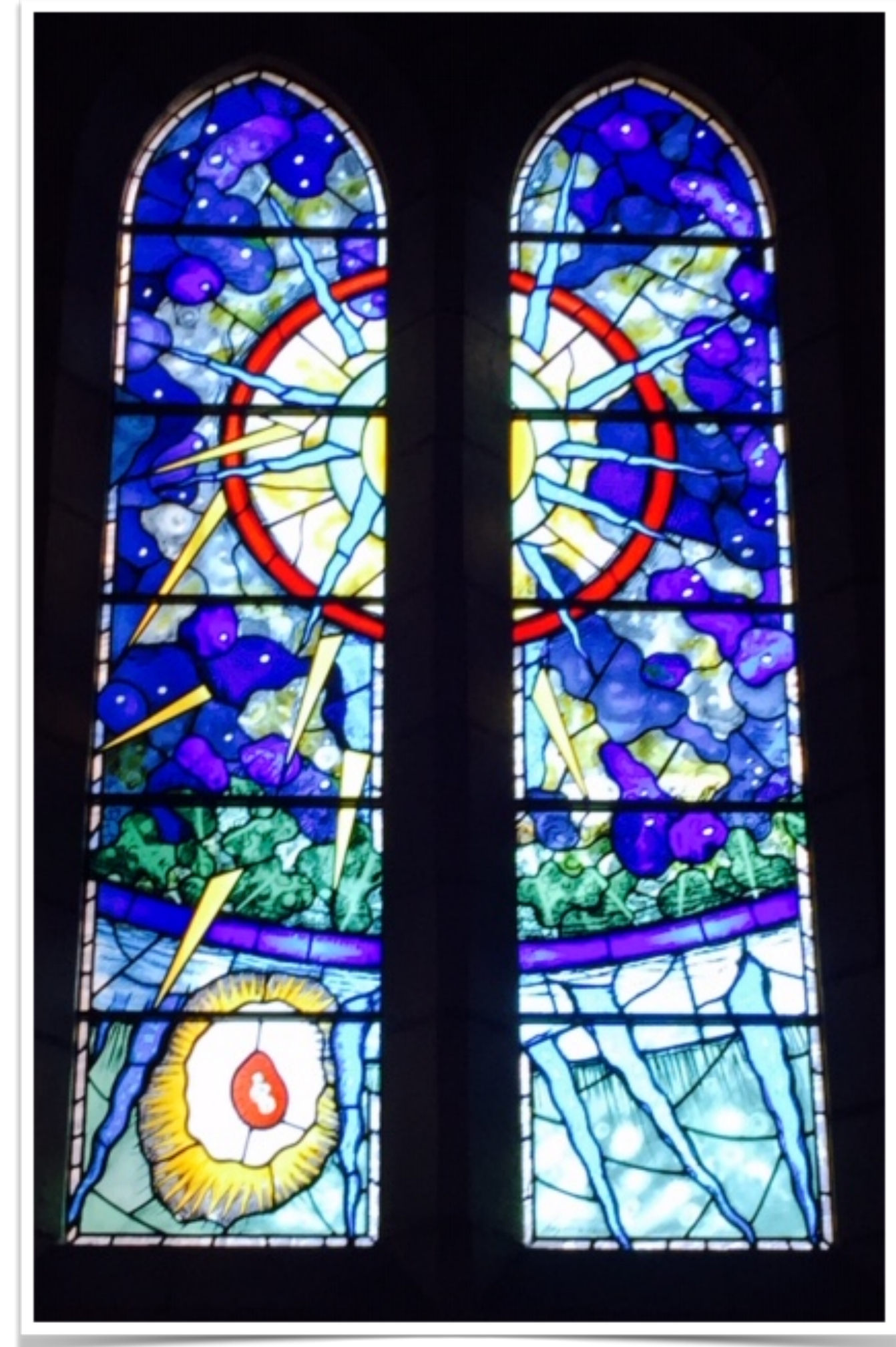
What has been your own personal experience of baptism?

What is God's invitation to you now, at this time?

Maybe you would like to note down what God has shown you in this time.

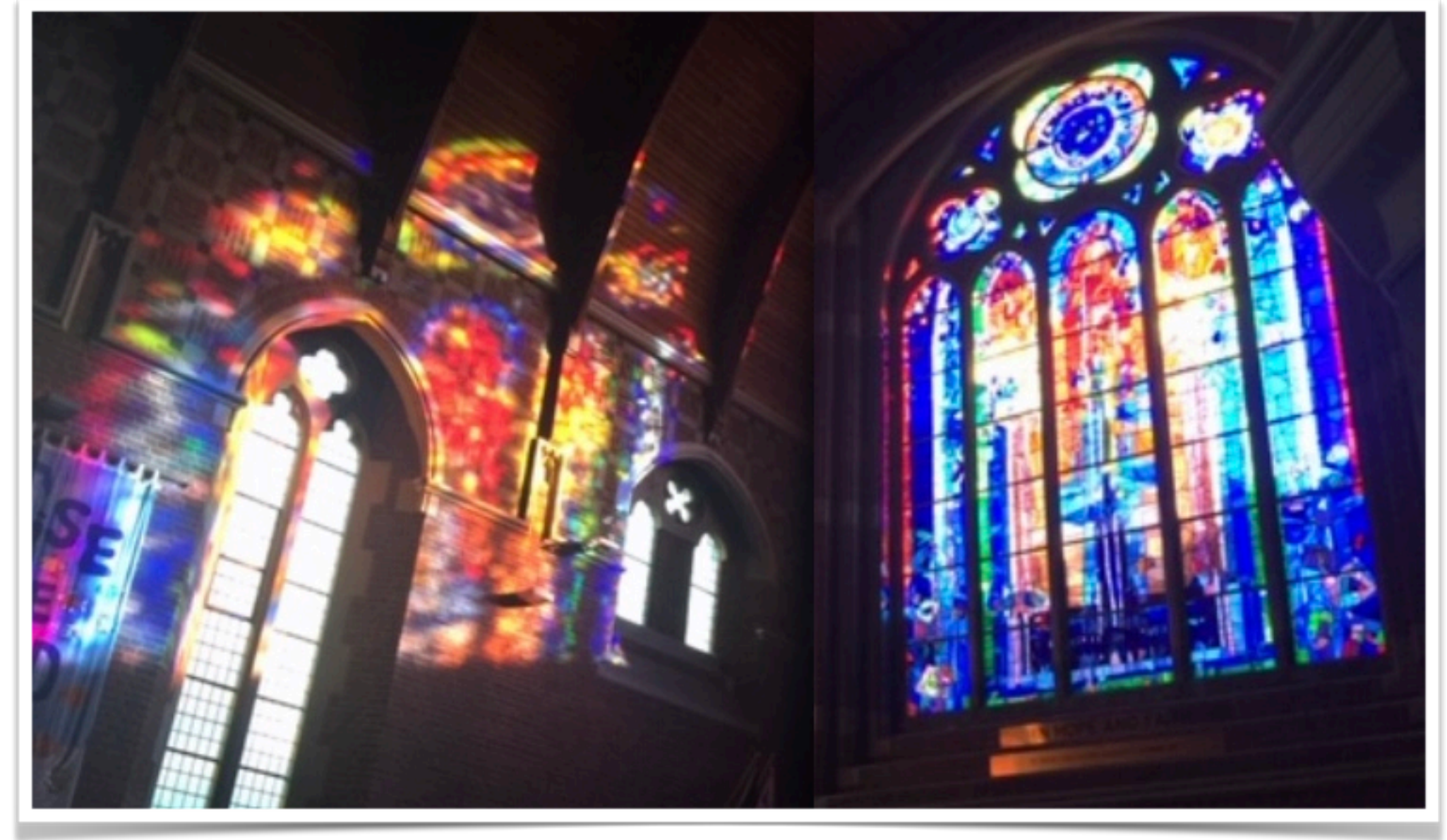
Give thanks.

As you do you might like to listen to this piece of music by Einaudi, taken from his album Seven Days Walking // Day 1.



Peter replied, “Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 2:38



New Fire

Fire.

Light

Of Christ

Floods

Over all.

Catching

Each by name

Together

We are

Fire.



New Fire by Andrew Hawes from
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Creative activity

- You might like to get a bowl of water.
 - Sit down with it in front of you.
 - Place your hands in it and feel it run over and drip.
 - Reflect on your prayer time today.
- Now, or when you take your next shower or bath and feel the water wash over you, you might like to pray a prayer of renewal of your baptismal vows.
- An example of such a prayer is this:

Gracious God, through water and the Spirit you claimed me as your own servant
and priest to bring the world to you.

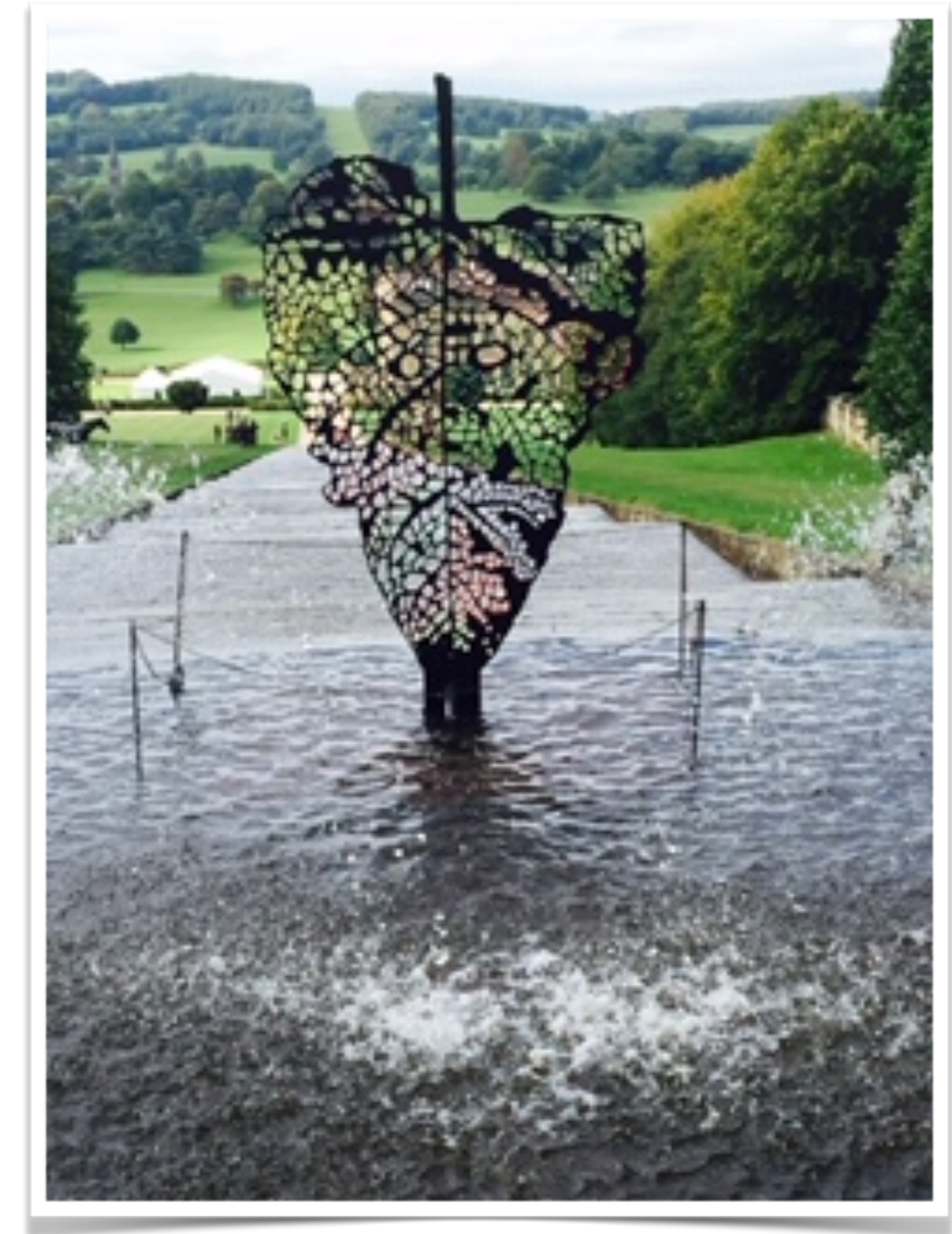
Deliver me, O God from the way of sin and death. Cleanse me from sin and give
me new life. Open my heart to grace and truth and bind me to your service.

Renew me in the covenant you made with me in baptism. Keep me in the faith
and communion of your church. Fill me with the power of your Holy Spirit. Send
me into my daily tasks to be a witness to your love.

Empower me to strive for peace and justice in all the earth. Enable me to serve
you with joy, and bring me at last to your kingdom beyond the final river.

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptised into the death of Jesus Christ the Son
may live in the power of his resurrection, and look for him to come in glory, who
lives and reigns, now and forever. Amen.

<https://bit.ly/2V3cYk9>



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A series of prayer stations
based on the gospel of Mark.



Thanks to Andrew Hawes for the poetry taken from Collected Poems 1970-2014
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Thanks to Adrian Chatfield for the photograph of The Way of Life taken at Ely Cathedral.