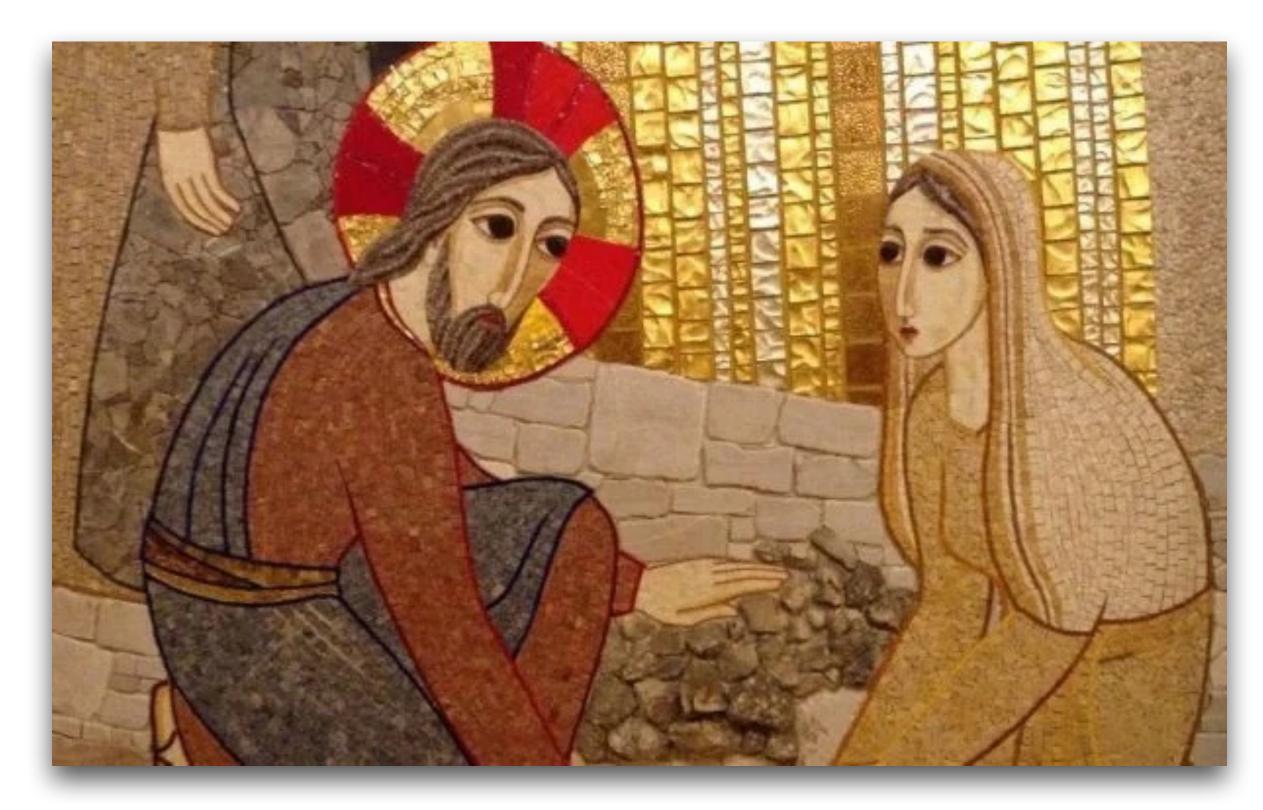
# Journey with Jesus

Praying through the Gospel of John

Week 9

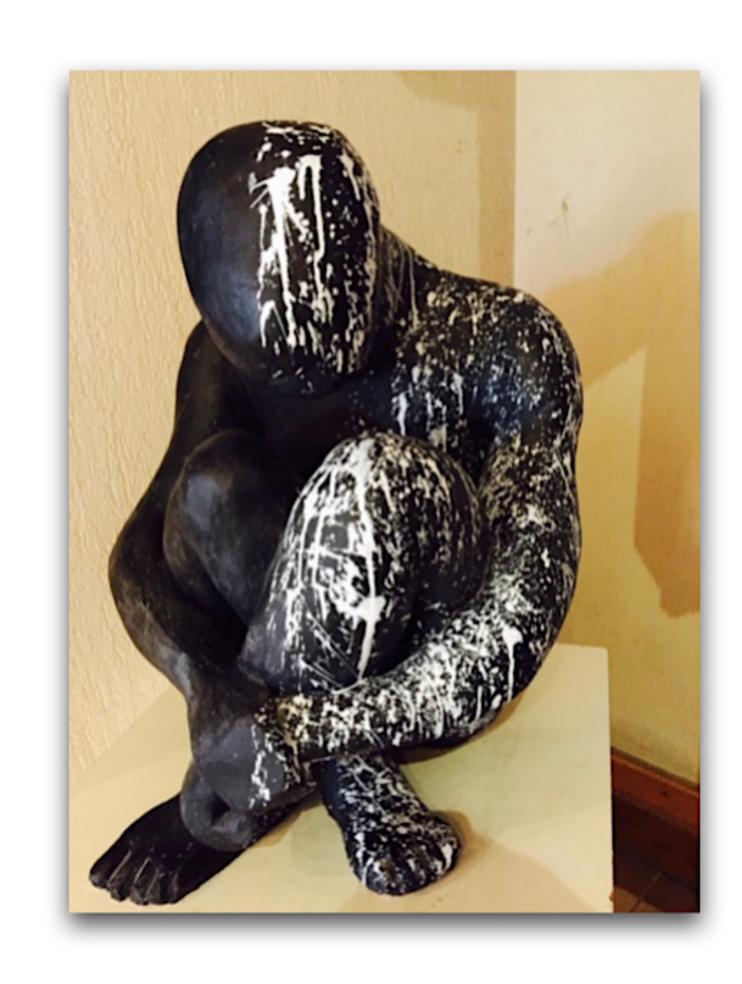


- Find a place to sit quietly.
- Sit in a relaxed position and close your eyes.
- Breathe normally and become aware the presence of God.
- Jesus says 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'
  - Spend some time praying with these words of Jesus.
  - What does it mean to you for Jesus to be the light of the world?
  - Give thanks for this light.
- You might like to listen to Patrick Rundbladh's <u>Woman</u>
   <u>Caught in Adultery</u>.
- You might like to listen to Lauren Daigle sing <u>Light of</u> the <u>World</u> or to this choral version of <u>The Lord's</u> <u>Prayer</u>.



The forgiveness of the adulterous woman, a mosaic in the crypt of the lower church of San Pio da Pietralcina. Fair Use

- > You might like to listen to:
  - Day I: King of Kings sung by Jonathan Veira then click here.
  - Day 2: Galilee sung by Gable Price and friends then click here.
  - Day 3: Forgiving eyes sung by Michael Card then click here.
  - Day 4: Come let us bow down by Steffany Gretsinger click here.
  - Day 5: You Say sung by Lauren Daigle then click here.
  - Day 6: You are the light sung by Lucy Bunce then click here.
  - Day 7: Mighty to save sung by David Wesley then click here.



#### Day 1: <u>John 7:40-44</u>

On hearing his words, some of the people said, "Surely this man is the Prophet." Others said, "He is the Messiah." Still others asked, "How can the Messiah come from Galilee? Does not Scripture say that the Messiah will come from David's descendants and from Bethlehem, the town where David lived?" Thus the people were divided because of Jesus. Some wanted to seize him, but no one laid a hand on him.

- Read this passage from John 7.
  - 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.



# Day 2: John 7:45-52

Finally the temple guards went back to the chief priests and the Pharisees, who asked them, "Why didn't you bring him in?" "No one ever spoke the way this man does," the guards replied. "You mean he has deceived you also?" the Pharisees retorted. "Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed in him? No! But this mob that knows nothing of the law—there is a curse on them." Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus earlier and who was one of their own number, asked, "Does our law condemn a man without first hearing him to find out what he has been doing?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee, too? Look into it, and you will find that a prophet does not come out of Galilee."

- > Read this passage from John 7.
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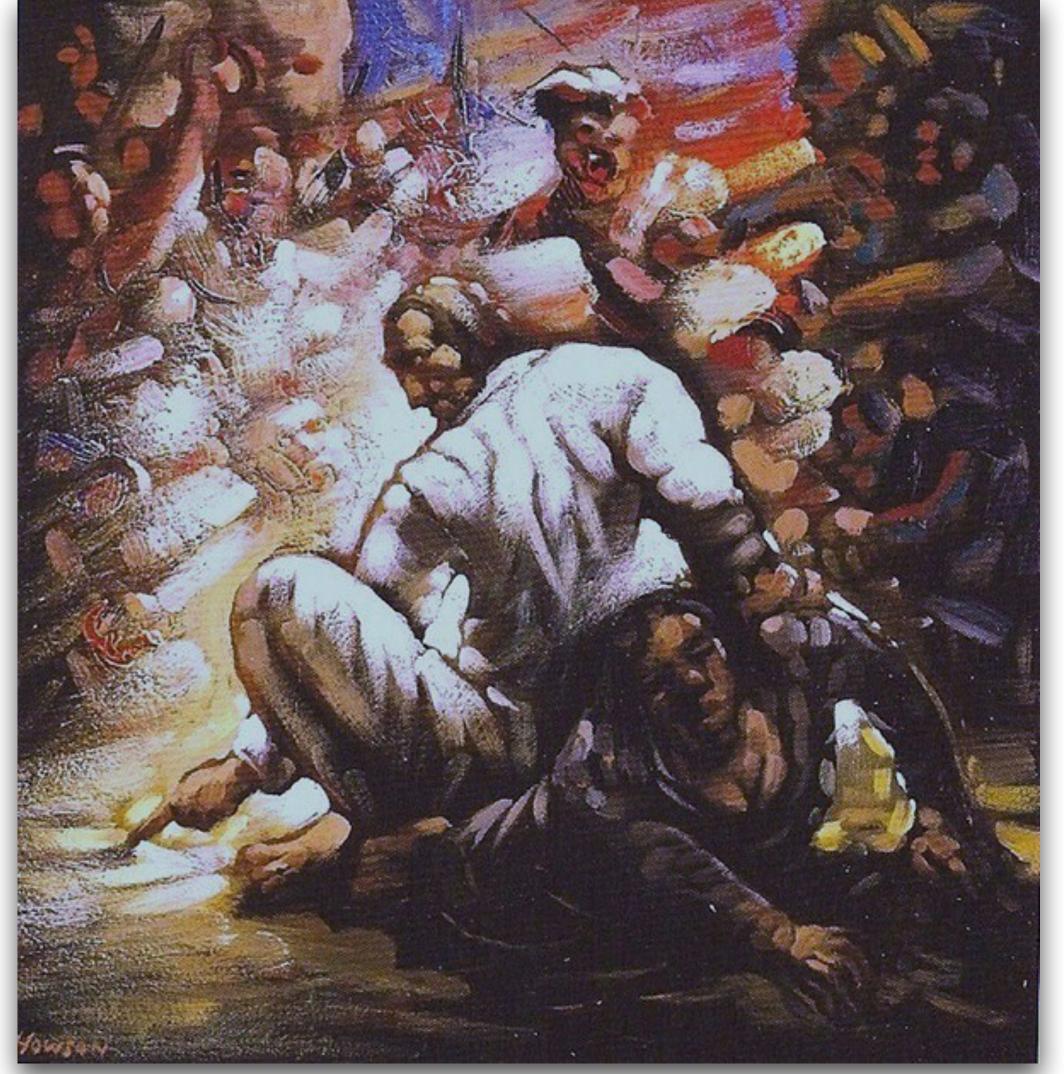


Sunrise over Galilee

#### Day 3: <u>John 8:1-8</u>

At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

- > Read this passage from John 8.
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Noman caught in adultery by Peter Howson Christos Aneste painting series (Fair Use

# Day 4: <u>John 8:9-11</u>

At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."



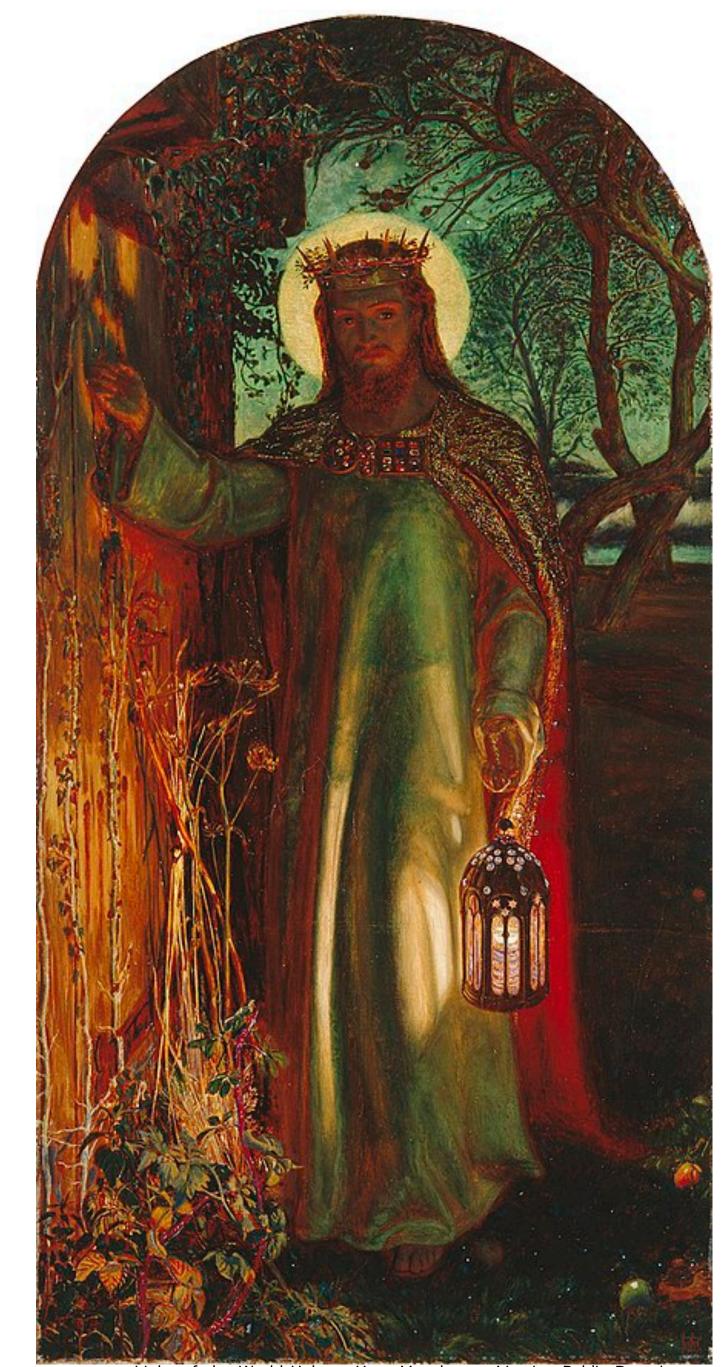
Woman Caught in Adultery, John Martin Borg, (Fair Use)

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# Day 5: <u>John 8:12-18</u>

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." The Pharisees challenged him, "Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid." Jesus answered, "Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going. You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me."

- > Read this passage from John 8.
  - What words or phrases strike you?
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Light of the World Holman Hunt Manchester Version Public Domai

# Day 6: <u>John 8:19-20</u>

Then they asked him, "Where is your father?"

"You do not know me or my Father," Jesus replied. "If you knew me, you would know my Father also."

He spoke these words while teaching in the temple courts near the place where the offerings were put. Yet no one seized him, because his hour had not yet come.

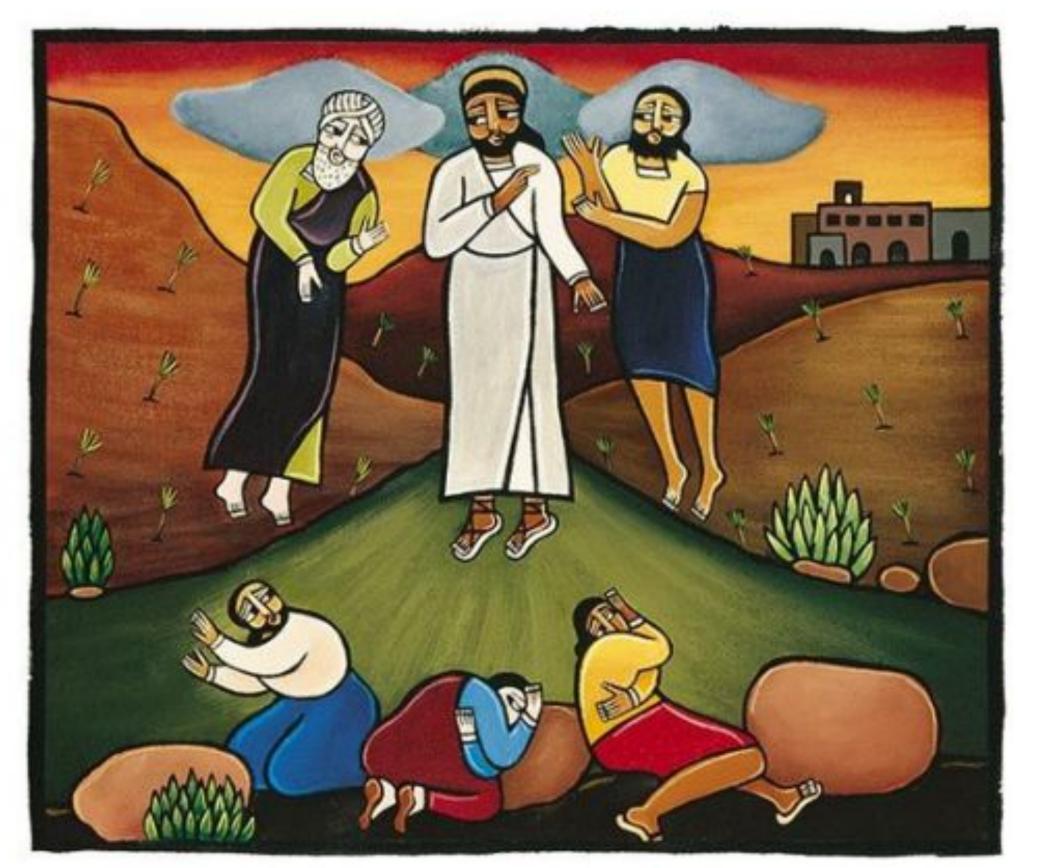
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# Day 7: <u>John 8:21-25</u>

Once more Jesus said to them, "I am going away, and you will look for me, and you will die in your sin. Where I go, you cannot come." This made the Jews ask, "Will he kill himself? Is that why he says, 'Where I go, you cannot come'?" But he continued, "You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am he, you will indeed die in your sins." "Who are you?" they asked. "Just what I have been telling you from the beginning," Jesus replied. "I have much to say in judgment of you. But he who sent me is trustworthy, and what I have heard from him I tell the world."

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The Transfiguration by Laura James (Fair Use) https://www.laurajamesart.com

- > You might listen to these pieces of music composed by Ola Djeilo
  - Day 1: Spring
  - Day 2: Summer
  - Day 3: Autumn
  - Day 4: Winter
  - Day 5: The Lake Isle
  - Day 6: Sienna
  - Day 7: Northern Lights



#### Creative prayer

Find a comfortable place to pray.

Settle, slow your breathing, centre your heart.

Begin to look at this image.

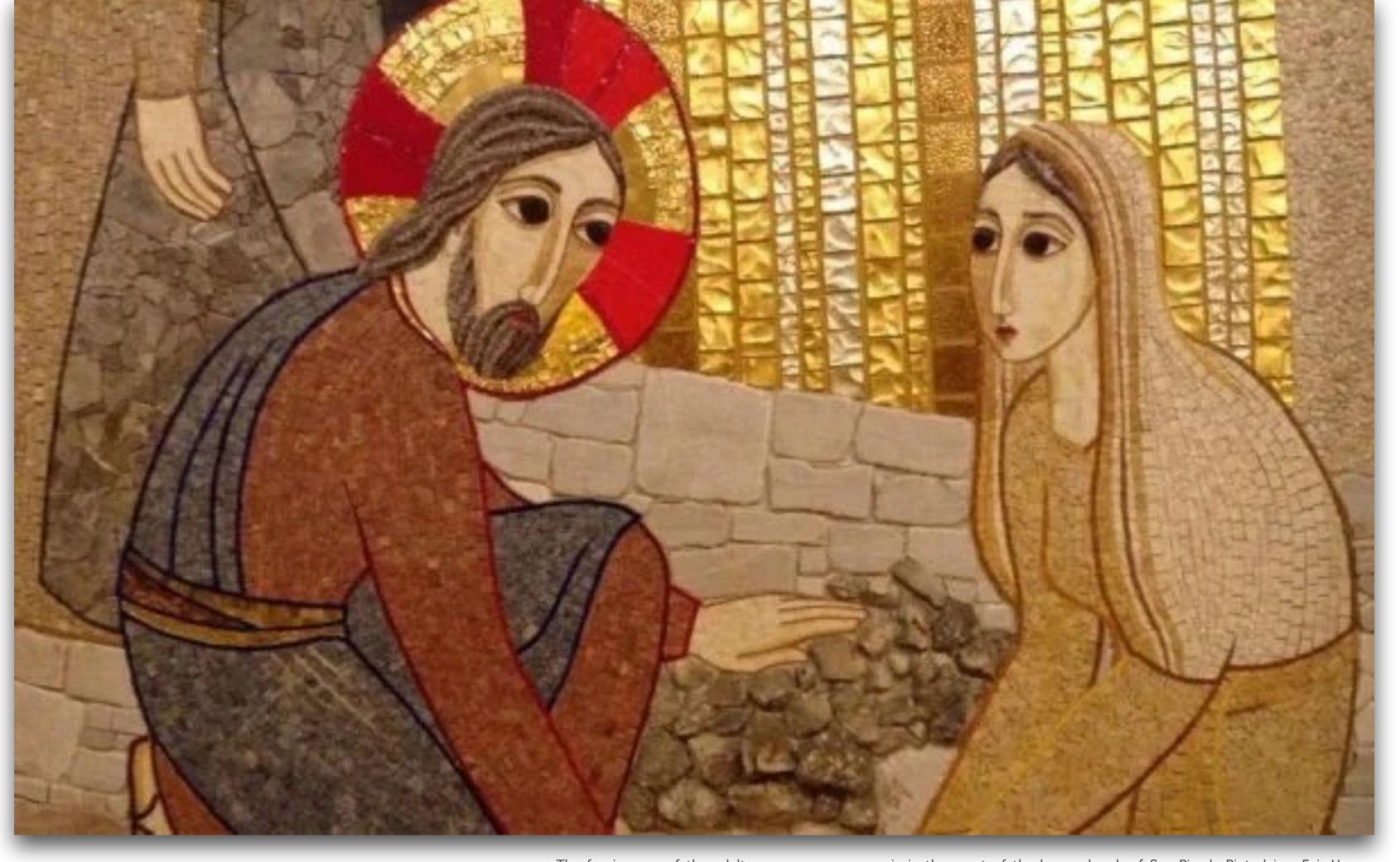
Look through the eyes of the woman and pause in the silence.

What feelings and longings arise in you?

Look through the eyes of Jesus and pause in the silence.

What do you notice? How do you respond?

Express all that is in your heart to God. Close your time of prayer with thanks.



The forgiveness of the adulterous woman, a mosaic in the crypt of the lower church of San Pio da Pietralcina. Fair Use

#### I am the light of the world

l see your world in light that shines behind me, Lit by a sun whose rays I cannot see, The smallest gleam of light still seems to find me Or find the child who's hiding deep inside me. I see your light reflected in the water, Or kindled suddenly in someone's eyes, It shimmers through the living leaves of summer, Or spills from silver veins in leaden skies, It gathers in the candles at our vespers It concentrates in tiny drops of dew At times it sings for joy, at times it whispers, But all the time it calls me back to you. I follow you upstream through this dark night My saviour, source, and spring, my life and light.

Malcolm Guite - used with the poet's permission Click on the title of this sonnet to listen to the author read these words.



Textile art by Jane Allan. Used with permission.

#### Journey with Jesus

Praying through the Gospel of John

#### Week 9

