

Day 43– Wednesday of Holy Week

Scripture for Prayer

Stilling: Take a few minutes to become still.

God is Present: God is with you. Ask God to inspire your imagination.

Ask for what you desire. What gift, what grace do you want right now?

Read the passage through.

Identify with a character: Choose one of the people in the story and imagine the scene from their point of view.

Set the Scene: Fill in the details to make the story real for you. Imagine the scenery, the weather, the people. Be aware of how you feel.

John 18:1-19 (NRSVA)

Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, 'For whom are you looking?' They answered, 'Jesus of Nazareth.' Jesus replied, 'I am he.' Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, 'I am he', they stepped back and fell to the ground. Again he asked them, 'For whom are you looking?' And they said, 'Jesus of Nazareth.' Jesus answered, 'I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go.' This was to fulfil the word that he had spoken, 'I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me.' Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter, 'Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?'

12 So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people.

Conversation: When you come towards the end of your time of prayer, talk to Jesus, or Martha about what has come up for you. Imagine how they might reply.

Prayer: End with a formal prayer, such as the Lord's Prayer/Our Father

Review of Prayer

Notice how you reacted and felt.

Is this saying anything about you, about the way you see others or God?

Did anything surprise you?

Is there anything you need to pray about in future?

Today's Meditation

Surrender

Into Your Hands, Lord,
This solitude,
Into Your Hands, Lord,
This emptiness.
Into Your Hands, Lord,
This loneliness,
Into Your Hands -
This all.
Into Your Hands, O Lord,
This grief,
Into Your Hands
This sleeping fear.
Into Your Hands, O Lord -
What is left,
What is left
Of me.

Edwina Gateley