

.Seven

Bewildered : Surrender at sunset

Awaken me to your presence
Alert me to your love,
Affirm me in your peace.

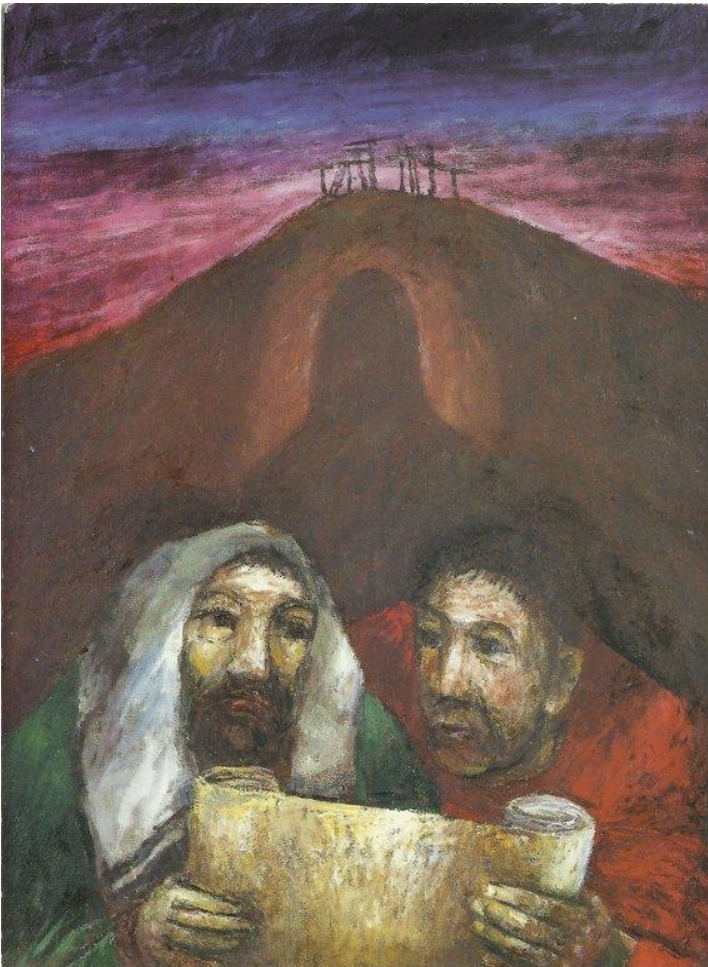
Open to me your way
Reveal to me your joy,
Enfold me in your warmth.

For my heart is ready,
Holy One, my heart is ready.

.. silence ...

Loving God, you invite us to unite our journey with yours. Help me to make sense of some of my life through yours. Let this image become a step towards our mutual sharing of love. Lord Jesus, show me the way. **AMEN**

at sunset :: Luke 24.13-33



The sacred gaze

With the image before you, allow yourself to be drawn into the picture, open yourself to the characters and the story. Do not analyse, just gaze.

Be present within it. How does it feel to be afraid and angry and sad and exhausted and very let down?

What mystery or confusion or despair in your life does this image touch?

In what ways might the hidden Christ be accompanying you?

What Jesus said:

What ARE you discussing together (with your close friends) as you walk along ?

What things? (Tell me how you see what is happening in your life)

How foolish you are and so slow to trust!

How would you answer Jesus speaking these words to you - right now in your life.

From Ps 107

⁴Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town;

⁵hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

⁶Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress;

⁷he led them by a straight way,
until they reached an inhabited town.

⁸Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind.

⁹For he satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry he fills with good things.

a GLOBAL issue:

Internationally, what is it we are constantly discussing together?

Our fear of the global power of oil and pharmaceutical corporations ...
racism in education, entertainment, employment ... the best holiday
destinations ... a downturn in a stock exchange ... our best wisdom
around global warming ... corruption in sport... disease in Africa
threatening our children ... genetic modification of human embryos ...
(add your own headlines)

How on Earth can we see the big picture?

Where in the World might I recognise Love Divine?

Reflection – personal

What are the questions that I struggle with? Where am I confused?

What has begun to be known? What has become visible? What do I need to revisit?

What is stirring in me as I pray? Am I consoled, troubled, left cold?

Reflection - global

What are the questions my nation struggles with?

How might Jesus' view 'warm our hearts'?

What might we begin to realise? What do we need to reconsider?

What about this: <http://www.leunig.com.au/ideas/spirituality-art-innocence>

Response

Make a note to yourself to listen to or read today's news headlines - and to imagine Jesus himself alongside, and hear his ponderings.

A Leunig prayer

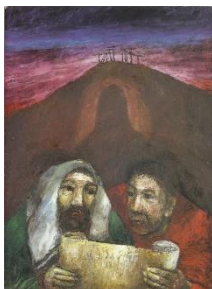
God, bless the lost, the confused, the unsure, the bewildered, the puzzled,
the mystified, the baffled, the perplexed. AMEN

Rest

Rest in the presence of the One who loves you.

Do not worry that you may appear to be doing 'nothing'. Trust that the Holy Spirit is at work in the depths of your spirit, deepening your faith.

Let the image and its message move from your head to your heart to dwell there in peace-full silence.



...

May the gentleness and strength of the Holy One
The delight and vulnerability of thy Way of Christ
And the graceful mystery of the life-giving Spirit
Be with our world now and always. AMEN