



# The Touch

Justin

On the night he was betrayed he  
came to table with his friends to  
celebrate the freedom of your  
people. This is his story. This is  
our song.





In the time of Jesus dining arrangements were different to ours. Three low couches were typically set around a table and people would recline with one person's head being in line with the chest of the person on his left. At the last supper:

- John was to the right of Jesus 'leaning against Jesus' bosom.
- It is thought that Jesus was to the right of Judas, and that Jesus dipped bread into the common pot and leant back to give it to Judas.
  - In Jewish culture this was a sign of affection, honouring and reconciliation.
- Peter was probably on one of the side couches. He gestured to John to ask Jesus who the betrayer was to be.

Today we will be praying with the account of the last supper...

# Be still

You might like to listen [here](#) to this modern song of worship that reminds us that it is because of the Cross that we have the Table.

There is always more at the Table of the Lord.



- Find a place to sit quietly
- Give thanks to God for who He is
- Be aware of God's loving eyes watching over you
- Ask God for the grace of being aware of His touch within your life and upon the world as you journey with Him through this Holy Week



**The Everlasting Arms**  
Kate Austin

Read the passage from John 13 slowly - and as you do, what words or phrases strike you?

After he had said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, "Very truly I tell you, one of you is going to betray me." His disciples stared at one another, at a loss to know which of them he meant. One of them, the disciple whom Jesus loved, was reclining next to him. Simon Peter motioned to this disciple and said, "Ask him which one he means."

Leaning back against Jesus, he asked him, "Lord, who is it?"

Jesus answered, "It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish." Then, dipping the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot.



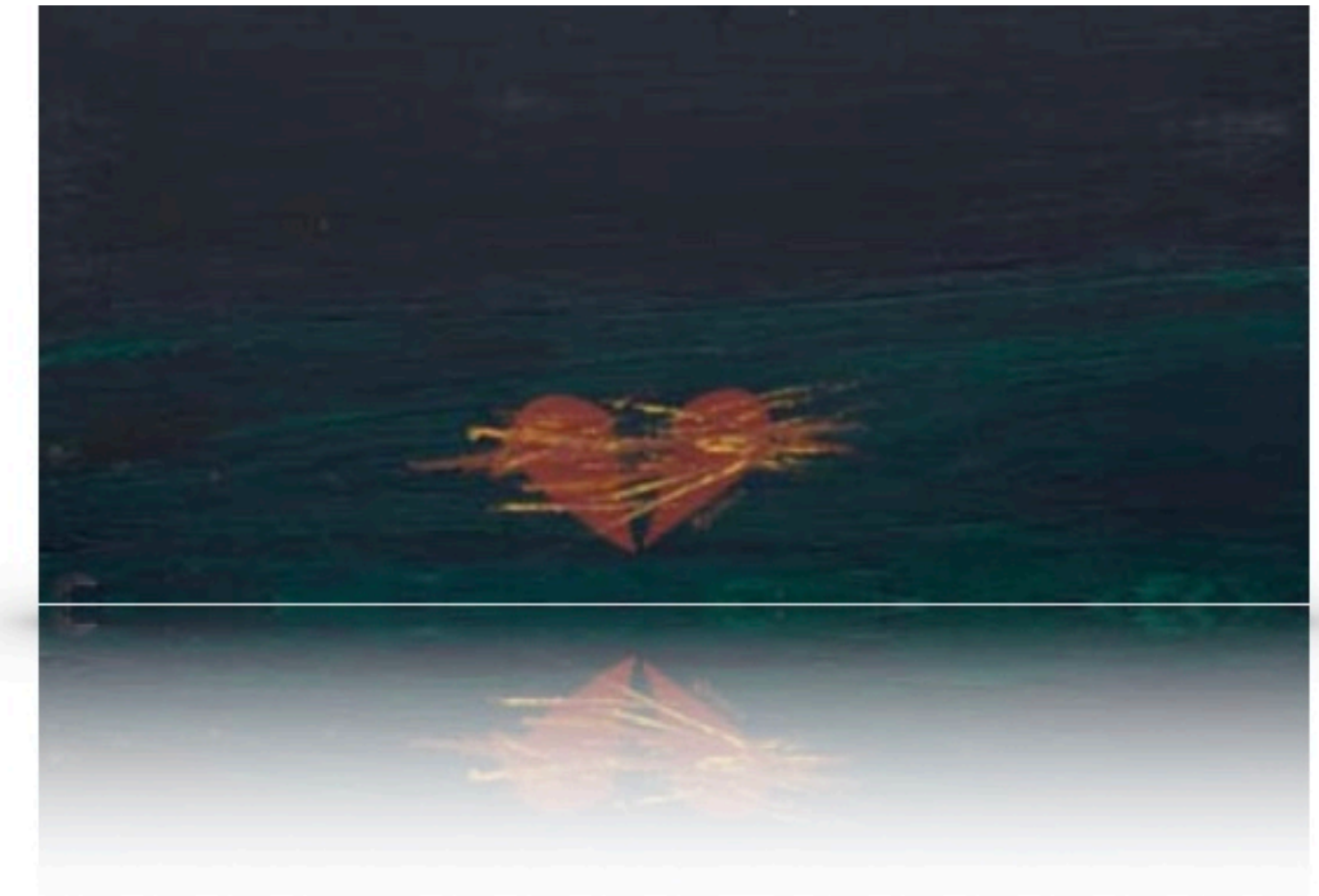
**Into the Darkness**  
**Kate Austin**

Read the passage from John 13 again slowly and where one of the words or phrases catches you stay with it and hold it in the stillness before God

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Now close your eyes and imagine yourself at the evening meal

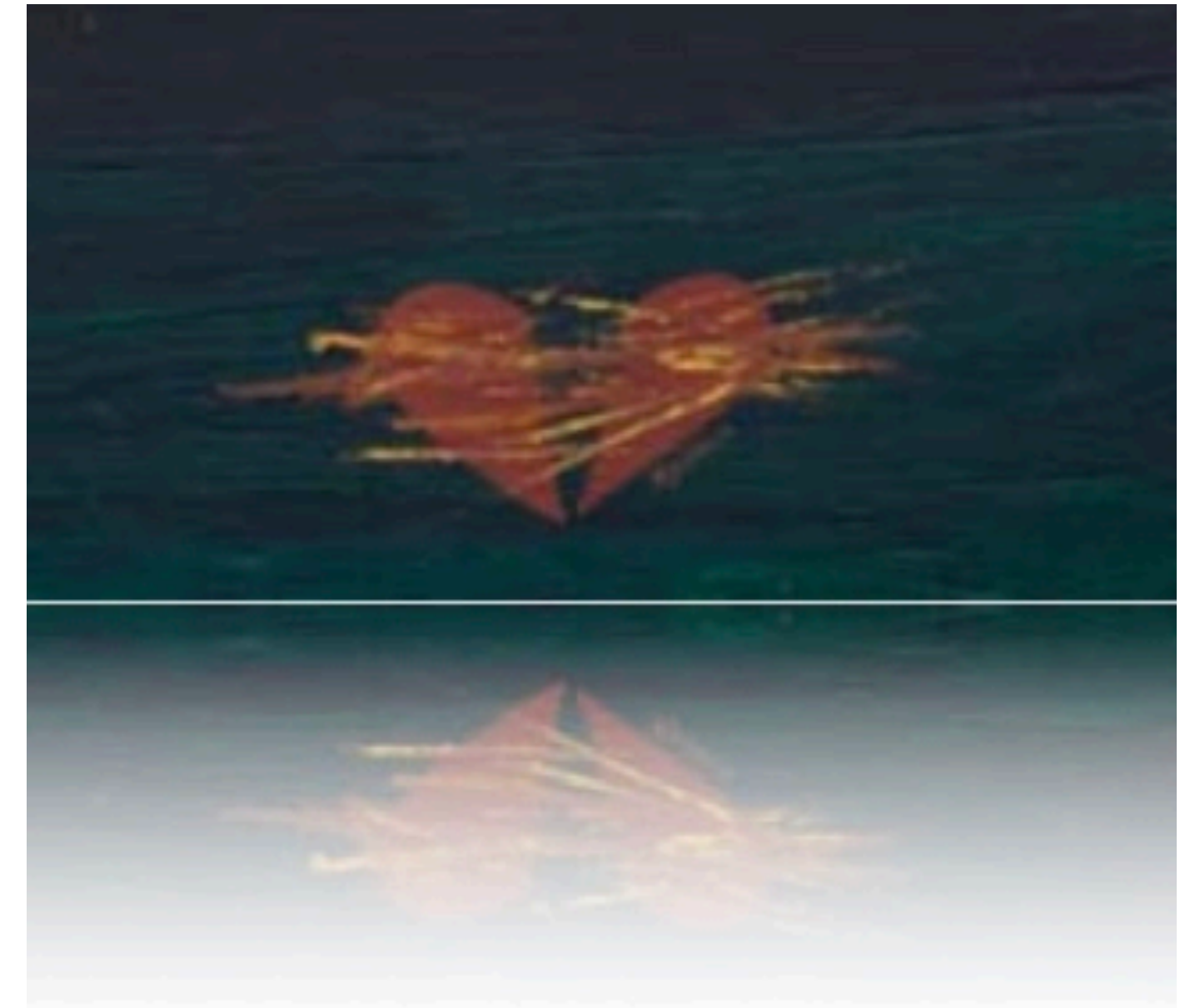
- You might like to watch from the edge.
- You might like to sit at the table
- You might like to imagine yourself as John, as Peter or as Judas.

Slowly let the scene unfold.

- What do you notice?
- What do you feel?
- What do you think?
- How does Jesus touch you?
- How do you touch Jesus?

How do you respond to the actions of Jesus?

- What do you say to Him?
- Let those words become a prayer.





How has the Spirit been at work in your heart as you have prayed?

In what ways have you become more aware of your sin and God's abundant love, grace and forgiveness?

What have Jesus's words been to you?

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

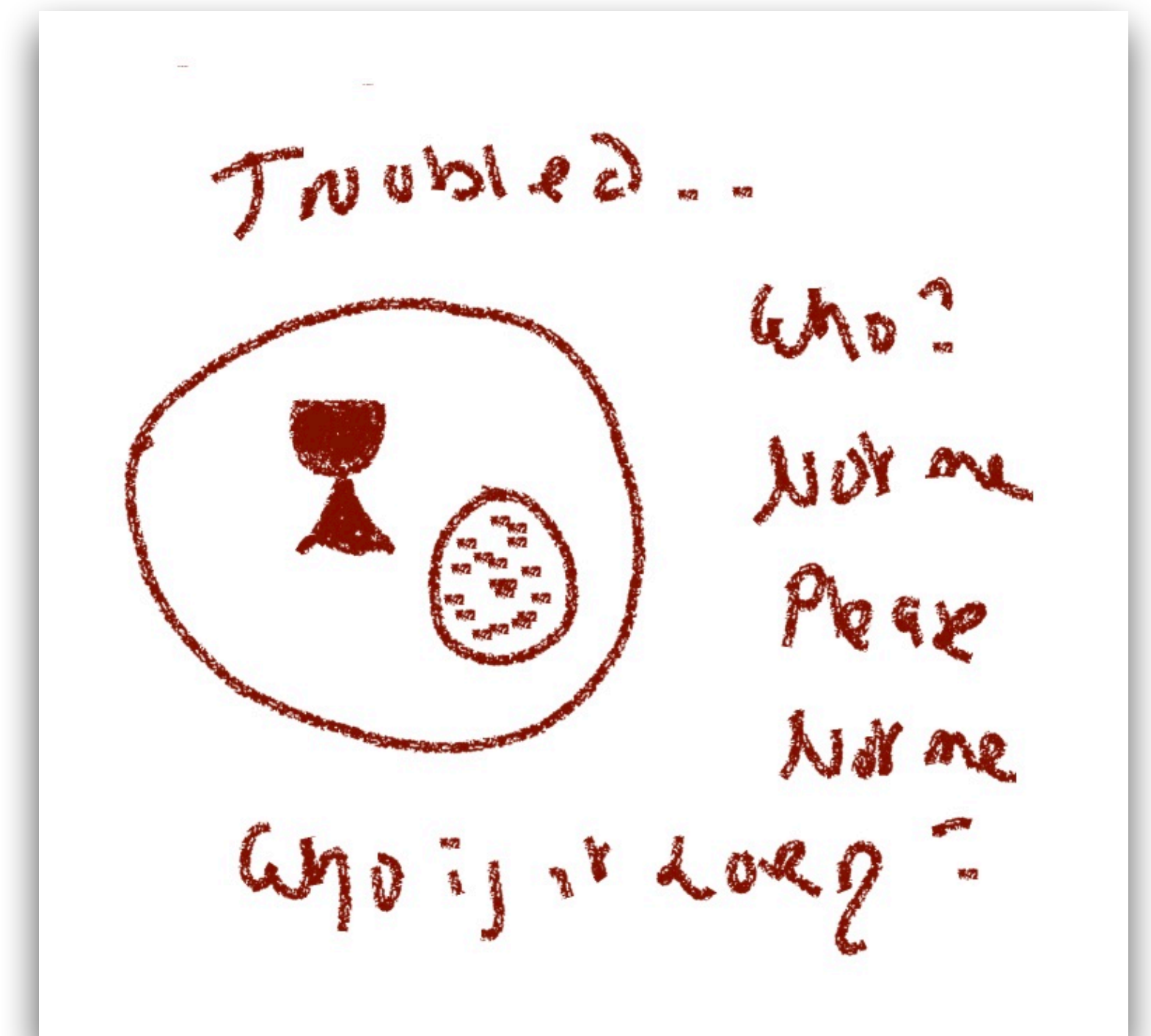
As you pray you might like to listen to this gospel version of Blessed Assurance by Guy Penrod [here](#)



# Creative prayer

This is his story. This is our song.

- You might like to take some time today to write about the account of the bible reading today in your own words
- You might like to do this in prose
- You might like to do this in spoken verse or poetry
- You might like to make a 'Twittiurgy' - a liturgy that can be Tweeted





This picture is entitled "Footsteps".  
All artwork in this prayer station is by Kate  
Austin and can be found at [http://  
www.christart.co.uk/](http://www.christart.co.uk/)

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*Kate Austin*