

The Touch



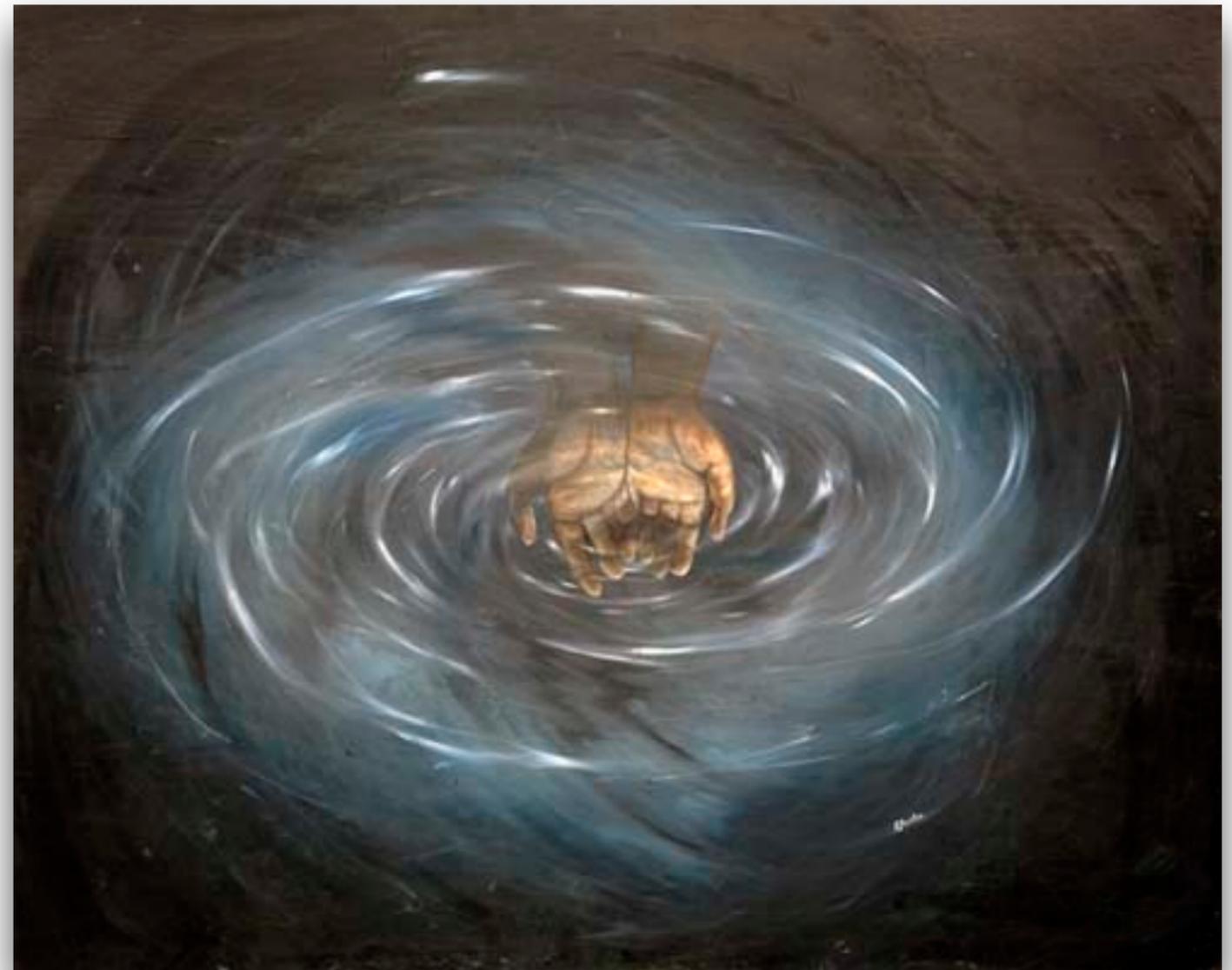
Over the last five days we have prayed with five passages where Jesus has touched or been touched by others.

In this prayer station today we will look back at these passages.

For each day the image and the passage will be shown on one slide.

A piece of music from that day's station will then be linked on the next slide.

As you go through the readings and look at the images and listen to the music, remember the gifts God has given you as you have journeyed with Jesus so far this Holy Week.



The Everlasting Arms
Kate Austin

The first touch

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honour. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

"Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."



The Anointing
Kate Austin

As you prayed with the story of Mary
anointing the feet of Jesus you listened to
this piece of instrumental of Celtic harp
music by Nadia Birkenstock

The Anointing
Kate Austin



The second touch

After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

Jesus replied, "You do not realise now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

"No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

"Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

Jesus answered, "Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean.

When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place.



As you prayed with this passage of Jesus washing the disciples feet, you listened to this song, by Sarah Hart, Infinite Grace.



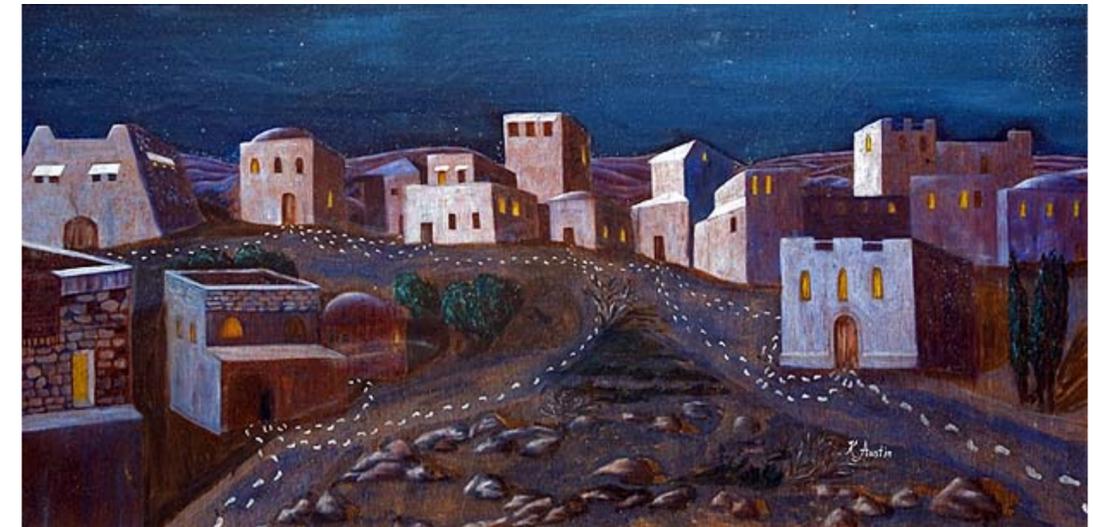
Part of The Anointing
Kate Austin

The third touch

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.”

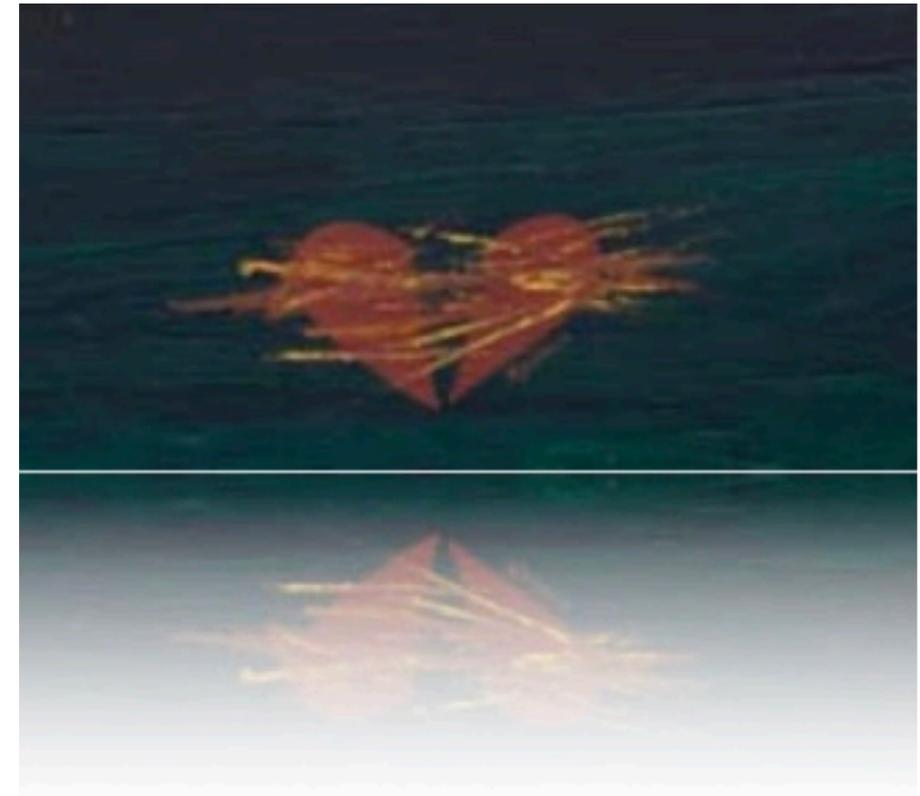
Leaning back against Jesus, he asked him, “Lord, who is it?”

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

As you prayed with this account of John leaning against the breast of Jesus at the last supper you listened to this modern worship song The Table of the Lord.



**Part of Rebirth
Kate Austin**

The fourth touch

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him." Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. Jesus replied, "Do what you came for, friend."



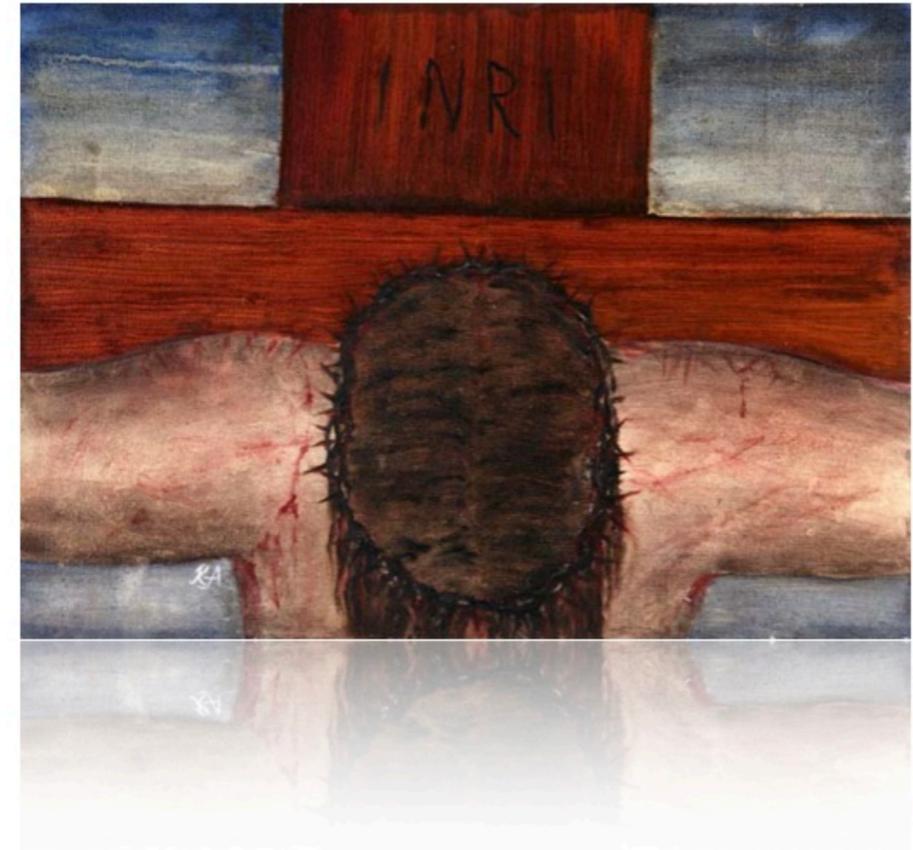
As you prayed with the story of the kiss in the garden you listened to this version of Pulchra es, amica mea (you are beautiful, my love) by Ola Djeilo.



Sin's Defeat
Kate Austin

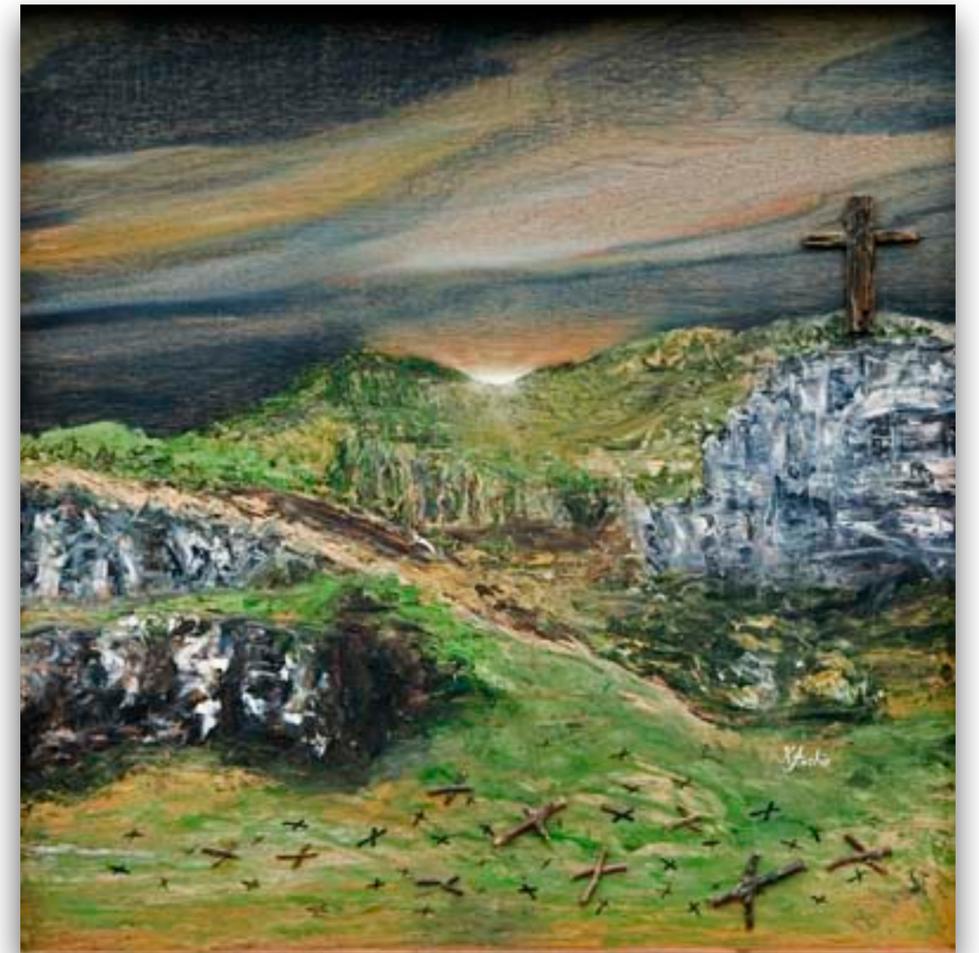
The fifth touch

Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jewish leaders. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away. He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes about seventy-five pounds. Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.



Sacrificial King
Kate Austin

As you prayed creatively you listened to this powerful adaptation of Leonard Cohen's famous song, done with his permission, Hallelujah.



The Tree of Death
Kate Austin

The sixth touch

“This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. 1 Corinthians 11:24



In the shadow and light of the cross

As you reflect on the different prayer stations from this week

How has God touched you?

How do you want to respond?

You might like to listen to this [piece of music](#) from Songs from a Secret Garden

May the dark night watch over you
As we wait until morning.



Creative Prayer

Each time you eat and drink today you might like to proclaim the Lord's death until He comes....



The Touch



*All artwork in this prayer station is by Kate Austin
and can be found at <http://www.christart.co.uk/>*