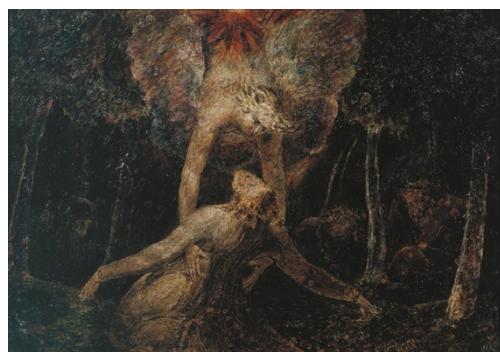


Hinsley Zoom - Handout – Saturday 27th March 2021

Visio / Lectio Divina

*His state was divine yet he did not cling to his equality with God
But annihilated himself to assume the condition of a slave
And became as all humans are; and, being as all humans are,
He humbled himself further embracing death,
Even death by crucifixion as a criminal.*

Visio: Agony in the Garden by William Blake (Tate Modern)



Lectio: Luke 29: 39-46

He then left to make his way as usual to the Mount of Olives, with the disciples following. When he reached the place he said to them, 'Pray not to be put to the test.' Then he withdrew from them, about a stone's throw away, and knelt down and prayed. 'Father,' he said, 'if you are willing, take this cup away from me. Nevertheless, let your will be done, not mine.' Then an angel appeared to him, coming from heaven to give him strength. In his anguish he prayed even more earnestly, and his sweat fell to the ground like great drops of blood. When he rose from prayer he went to the disciples and found them sleeping for sheer grief. And he said to them, 'Why are you asleep? Get up and pray not to be put to the test.'"

Poem: extract from: 'Agony in the Garden' by John O'Donohue

Through scragged bush the moon discovers his face,
Dazed inside the sound of Gethsemane,
Subsiding under the weight of silence
That entombs the cry of his terrified prayer.

What light could endure the dark he entered?
The void that turns the mind into a ruin
Haunted by the tattered screeching of birds
Who nest deep in hunger that mocks all care.

Still he somehow stands in that nothingness;
Raising the chalice of kindness to bless.

Prayer: Brenda Kay Farber

We must pray each day for strength
To accept God's holy plan
And put our agonies of life's garden
Into our Lord's loving hands.

Unity Prayer

May God heal all divisions -- those within my own mind, heart, soul and body, and those between all people and groups -- that we may be one Body in Christ, unified in every way and on every level, and thus manifest the Living Christ by our very lives. Amen."

United in Prayer 2020 (Contemplative Outreach)