## **WELCOME LECTIO 4th Lenten Sunday, 2021**

Good morning, good afternoon and good evening to all of you who are joining us for our Lectio.

In this Sunday's Gospel passage from John we hear one of the most cited New Testament texts:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life...

In Malcolm Guite's sonnet for John the Evangelist we will find the following words:

This is the gospel of all inner meaning,

The heart of heaven opened to the earth...

No need to search the heavens high above,

Come close with John, and feel the pulse of Love.

**Let us pray**: Compassionate God, our world more than ever is in need of feeling the pulse of love. May we do our part in keeping alight faith, hope and love, and may our works of mercy during this Lenten season bring light to one another and to all of God's creation. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

## John by Malcolm Guite

This is the gospel of the primal light,

The first beginning, and the fruitful end,

The soaring glory of an eagle's flight,

The quiet touch of a beloved friend.

This is the gospel of our transformation,

Water to wine and grain to living bread,

Blindness to sight and sorrow to elation,

And Lazarus himself back from the dead!

This is the gospel of all inner meaning,

The heart of heaven opened to the earth,

A gentle friend on Jesus' bosom leaning,

And Nicodemus offered a new birth.

No need to search the heavens high above,

Come close with John, and feel the pulse of Love.