

### Praying the Way 3 - Maggie Marshall

During Lockdown John and I started using a book by Revd Terry Hinks called 'Praying the Way'.

'Through raw and authentic prayers, Terry Hinks leads us into the heart of the gospels to see more clearly the needs and joys of today's world. This highly original book helps us to pray out of, and with, the words of Jesus and to discover the joy of prayer as a two – way conversation – listening as much as speaking to God.'

The book consists of 40 prayers to go with readings in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. We are currently on number 22 in Luke and have yet to read the 40 in John, which should bring us nicely to the start of Advent.

I have chosen 5 prayers which go with readings:

#### **Praying with Mark: New in the Kingdom of God**

***'Truly I tell you, I will never again drink the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the Kingdom of God.'* Mark14:25**

God beyond time, beyond space,  
we thank you for that moment in history,  
in a room hidden in Jerusalem,  
when Jesus took the bread that friends had prepared.

We thank you for the hands,  
tense with all that was to come,  
lifting the bread, holding it there before them.

We thank you for the words he spoke,  
forgetting the betrayal around him,  
focusing all his soul in blessing you,  
thanking you for all you gave and give.

We thank you for the breaking,  
hands tearing the loaf apart,  
crumbs flying, eyes watching,  
caught up in the drama of pain and sacrifice.

We thank you for the giving  
to each of those frail disciples;  
the insistent words he used:  
'Take it, this is my body.'

We thank you for the cup,  
the words of thanks again,  
the offering for all,  
his blood poured out not for a few but for many,  
the taste of the kingdom to come.

We thank you for that fleeting moment  
grounded in time,  
held in the confines of a crowded room,  
yet resounding down the centuries to touch our lives today,  
to feed and refresh us,  
to show us your kingdom.

Help us to take what Christ has given,  
to bless and thank you,  
as he did long ago.

**Reading: Mark 14: 12 – 25**

**Song: Broken for me, broken for you**

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