

Three musical meditations on Christ

With music written by Rachel Chaplin

Spoken word by Rev. Lucy Winkett,

Vocalist Alison Beck

St James's Piccadilly, Wednesday 16th April 2025

6:30pm

The concert will be approximately one hour in duration. The texts for the songs are printed below and there will be additional instrumental music and spoken word items in the programme. The concert will run as a continuous whole; please reserve applause for the end.

- First meditation -

'He withdrew to a quiet place'

Our Father

Our father in heaven, our father unseen, our father creator, holy is your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

Forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us,

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kingdom and yours is the power and yours is the glory,

Now and forever more.

Cleanse Me

Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love.

According to your great compassion, blot out my transgressions.

Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions and my sin is always before me.

Cleanse me with hyssop and I shall be clean.

Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Create in me a pure heart, O God

And renew a right spirit within me.

In the Secret Place

Psalm 91

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High

Shall abide under the shadow of his wings.

He shall cover thee with his wings.

- Second meditation -

'She has done a beautiful thing'

In Bethany

In Bethany she came to him; no more time for words to say 'I love you'.
Soul to soul, deep to deep; how to reach his heart to say 'I love you'?

In Bethany she held her love tight inside her alabaster jar.
Time is now, death is nigh; she breaks her precious jar to say 'I love you'.

Is it a waste, or is it a beautiful thing?
Is it for fools, or is it the wisdom of kings?

In Bethany she cradled him, poured her love for everyone to breathe.
Shame to shame, eye to eye: see the cost for her to say 'I love you'.

Is it a waste, or is it a beautiful thing?
Is it for fools, or is it the wisdom of kings?
Will you draw back or can you breathe it in?

Give me your love before I die,
Give me your tears before I cry,
Give me your jar of life
Before the shadows cover me.

- Second meditation continued -

See Him

Mary's song

See him in the manger, swaddled in a cloth.
Angel's words, grown in flesh, brought him to the Earth.

See him in the temple, making Earth his home.
Wisdom's child seated, learning as he grows.

See him at the wedding, heaven's gifts at hand.
John cleans with water; He will heal with wine.

See him on a donkey, riding as a King.
To the man of wisdom palms and stones will sing.

See him on the hillside, swaddled in a cloth
Angel's words, piercing flesh, take him from the Earth.

Oh my heart, oh my soul, tell how can this be?
Oh my heart, oh my Christ, come again to me!

See him in the garden, tending to the same.
Though he's hid from our eyes, yet he calls my name.

- Third meditation -

'I am the good shepherd'

The Lord is my shepherd

The Lord is my shepherd I shall not be in want
He makes me lie down in pastures green.

He Leads Me

He leads me beside quiet waters.

He Restores my Soul
(Instrumental)

In the Valley

Though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death
I will fear no evil
For you are with me.

Vocalist: Alison Beck
Pianist/ director/ composer: Rachel Chaplin
Violins: Anna Curzon, Rebecca Harris
Viola: Oliver Wilson
Cello: Rebecca Truscott
Bass: Jan Zahourek
Trumpet/ flugal horn: Sam Chaplin
Original lyrics (See Him, In Bethany) by Rachel Chaplin

Northumbrian-born, London-based musician **Alison Beck** is a jazz / gospel / session vocalist, songwriter, arranger, improviser and workshop leader. She sings regularly in church services at St James's Piccadilly and has performed with artists including Madonna, Justin Timberlake and the Heritage Orchestra.

On 25th April, Alison is releasing a single called 'Perfect Love' - an immersive gospel meditation based on Psalm 23. You can listen to the single now (and buy it for £1) on Bandcamp: alisonbeck.bandcamp.com

Rachel Chaplin is an British oboist and composer. She is principal oboist of English Baroque Soloists and Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique and released an album of her own music last year, a collection of Psalms & sacred songs called *Music from an Inner Space*.

For more info and to purchase Rachel's music digitally or on CD or vinyl, and to explore the associated merchandise including her album contemplation packs, please visit rachelchaplinmusic/album or find her on Bandcamp at rachelchaplinmusic.bandcamp.com

The musicians would like to acknowledge, with gratitude, the support of the Christian Arts Trust (www.christianartstrust.org), as well as the individual sponsors who have donated generously to this concert. For more information and to make a gift to the Christian Arts Trust for similar future artistic projects please scan the QR code below.



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