

# Sonnet-Prayer

## Sonnet-Prayer by Malcolm Guite for the second year of the Diocesan Vision: Transformed by Christ: **Pastoral**

**The sonnet-prayer below is based upon the following passage from John's gospel:**

*When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"*

*He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you."*

*Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs."*

*A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"*

*He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you."*

*Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep."*

*He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"*

*Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?"*

*And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you."*

*Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."*

John 21:15-17

### Sonnet-Prayer

I stand like Peter, Lord, amazed by grace,  
That I, who have betrayed, am called to love,  
That in the church you love I find a place  
Restored in you, with nothing left to prove.  
More than a place! I am assigned a task:  
To share again the care that I've been given  
To meet another's needs before they ask  
And nudge your flock towards the gates of heaven.

So nurture me that I may nurture others  
And pastor me that I may pastor them.  
Let me not scatter, but be one who gathers  
And brings to you all those who touch your hem.  
Help me to help them, simply as I am  
Like you, the Shepherd who is still the Lamb.

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November 2021