

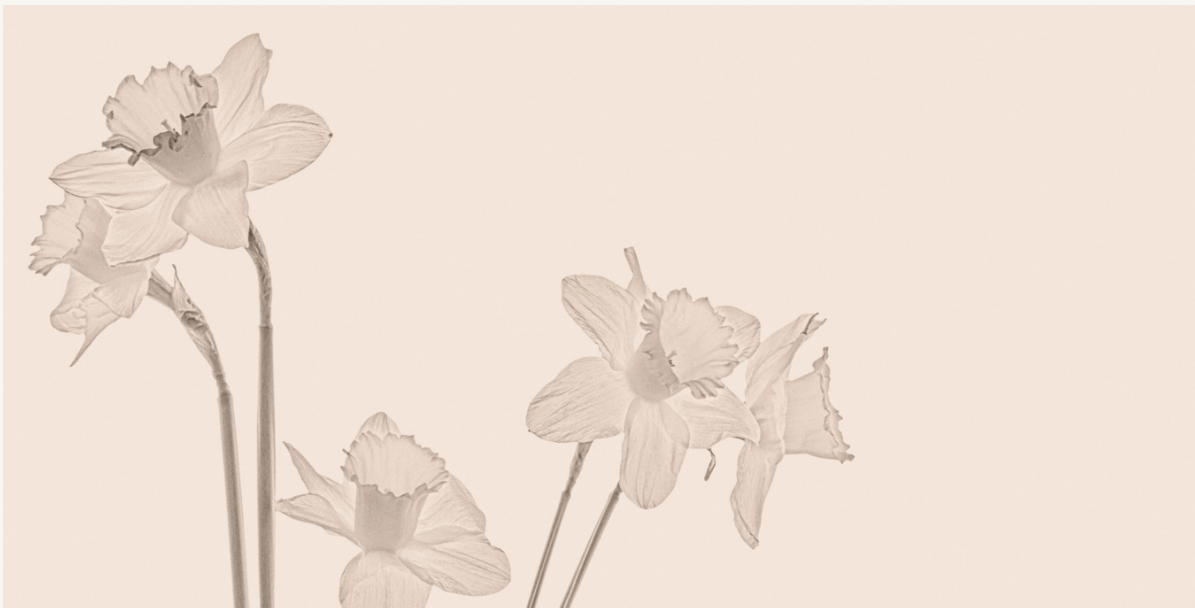
PRESBYTERIANS

READ

A 40-DAY

Journal





Introduction

"

*"All shall be well, and all shall be well,
and all manner of thing shall be well."*

Dame Julian of Norwich

Archbishop Rowan Williams said that Julian of Norwich's writing is "what may be the most important work of Christian Reflection in the English Language." *40-Day Journey with Julian of Norwich* is an opportunity to spend time being spiritually nurtured and inspired by one of the great Christian mystics. Her writings, sometimes called *Showings or Revelations of Divine Love*, are the earliest surviving works we have known to be written in English by a woman.

While Julian lived in the distant past (born around 1342 and died after 1416), her time was not entirely different from ours: she lived and wrote in a time that experienced the rise and fall of political and religious movements and the trauma and aftermath of war and pandemic. These similarities, much like our own time, explain in part a renewed interest in Julian's writing.

For 40 days, the reader is provided with excerpts from Scripture, Julian's writing, thoughts, prayers, and questions to meditate upon and journal about each day in Lent.

In Lisa E. Dunhill's introduction to *40 Day Journey with Julian of Norwich*, she writes that Julia's theology:

- "Takes seriously biblical truths and doctrinal heritage..."
- "Opens the encompassing, radical nature of God's grace in mercy in ways that prefigure the Reformation..."
- "Invites readers into an encounter with Jesus ..."
- "Takes seriously the reality of sin and evil..."
- "Is saturated on every page with hope, delight and the love and mercy of God..." (p. 9).

Christ's church has been enriched for centuries by Julian's vivid and passionate writing, her experience of Christ and her emphasis on redemption; let us be next to be transformed by spending time with her and those we study her work with this Lent.

DAY 1

*In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ,
Galatians 3:26-27*

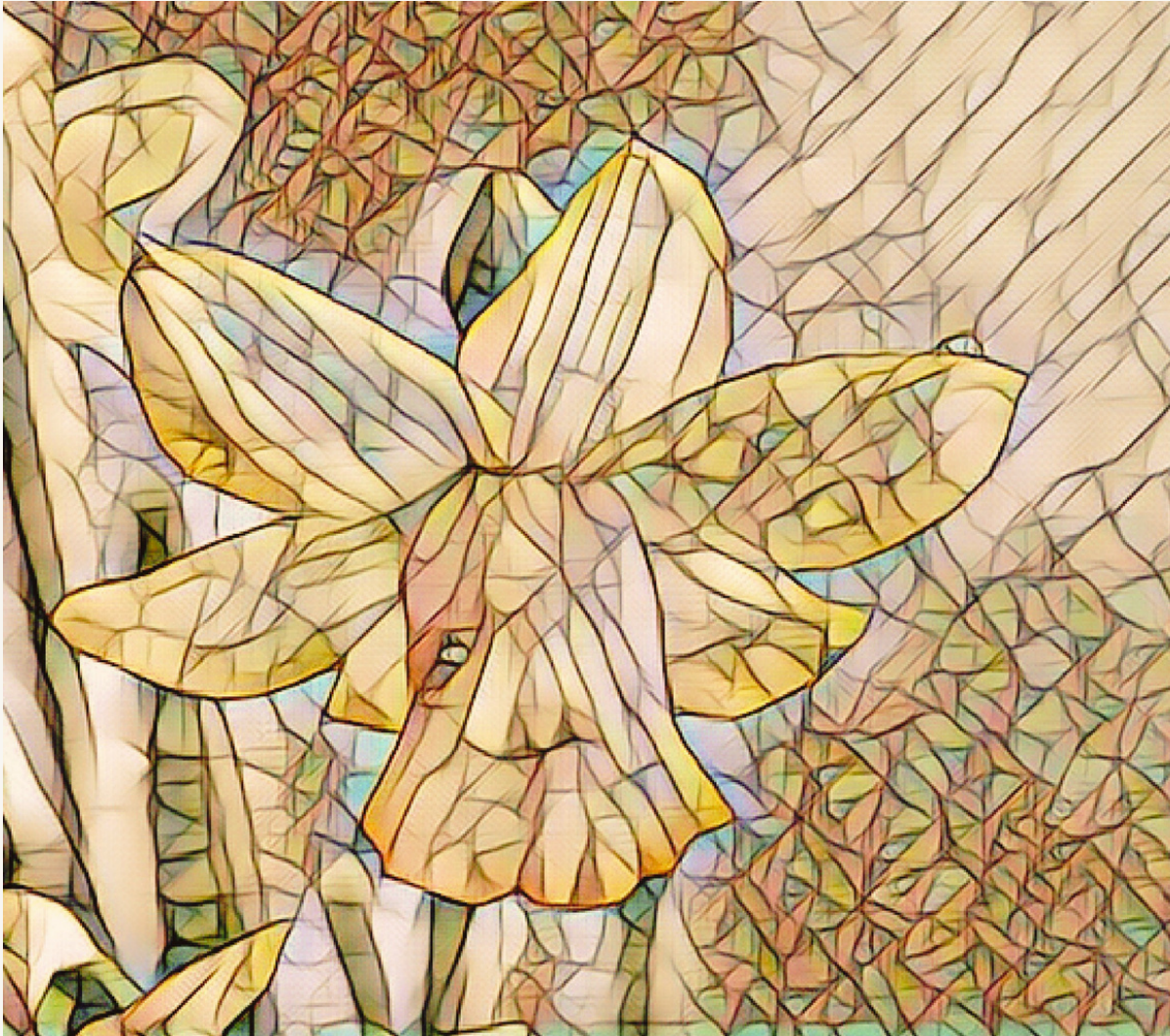
Lined writing area with 20 horizontal lines.

DAY 22

For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:21-22

Lined writing area consisting of 22 horizontal lines.



Presbyterians Read: Faith Seeking Understanding

Presbyterians Read was conceived to provide resources for individuals, groups and congregations that would

- nurture faith,
- encourage Christian spiritual practices,
- meditate on seasonal or emergent themes in church and society and
- deepen understanding of aspects of the church's broad contemporary and historic expressions of Christian faith.

Presbyterians Read also aspires to draw the church together. By reading a book together, people associated with the Presbyterian Church at opposite ends of the country (and far outside the country) have a shared experience to talk about and exchange insights upon.

Two to three studies are produced each year. However, past resources are archived on the PCC website to be used or revisited at any time.



50 Wynford Drive,
Toronto, ON, M3C 1J7