

# Where's Your Chair?

Mark 14 32-43



I love the Lord, for he has heard the voice of my supplication;  
because he inclined his ear to me on the day I called to him.  
The snares of death encompassed me; the pains of hell took hold of me;  
by grief and sorrow was I held. Psalm 116:1-2

## **Praising:**

There in the garden of tears, my heavy load, he chose to bear; his heart with sorrow was torn, 'Yet not my will but yours', he said.

This is our God, the Servant King, he calls us now to follow him, to bring our lives as a daily offering of worship to the Servant King.

## **Reading:**

Mark 14:32-43  
Gethsemane

If we had thought Jesus was dealing with his imminent fate very bravely, Gethsemane is where he falters. As the evening hours tick round and darkness falls, the garden is where the fear and terror welling up inside Christ come to the surface. He wants his friends and he wants his

Father. Flawed and feckless as they were so often, the disciples were still his companions and comrades and he needed them to be there. But he also needed the reassurance of his Father's presence. If the plan could be altered at the eleventh hour, all to the good. But even if it couldn't, it was enough for Jesus to know that the Father was with him. Up until now Jesus' divinity has been to the forefront. It's his humanity we will see from this point on.

## **Listening:**

## **Praying:**

We think today of those who live in fear

- captives and prisoners for whom violence or even death never feels far away
- services and security personnel who serve as our first line of protection and defence
- people on the edge of society or living under threat, for whom every new day is uncertain

Father: I only wish I could have been there, to wait, to pray, to be looking when he turns around. And yet I wonder: if I had been there, would I have fallen asleep like the rest of them? Amen

## **Doing:**

Monday, 21 December 2015