

# Reader's reactions

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## **Imaging the Word: An Arts and Lectionary Resource**

**United Church Press**

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Imaging the Word is a series of three books, one for each cycle of the Lectionary.

Each book is filled with images, poetry, reflections and music to encourage all involved in worship to approach the text in a new way.

The images come from a wide range of sources, classical and contemporary, spanning many cultures. They are rarely interpreted in the book but, rather, simply offered to stimulate.

In preparing worship, I love to weave things together, gleaning material from many different sources that allow me to get to the heart of the text and then hopefully, present the text in different ways in worship.



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The snippets of poetry, commentary, song and drama in this book suggest lots of different ways of considering the text and offer many jumping off points.

I discovered this series a few years after ordination to word and sacrament just as I was seeking to make my experience and practice of worship less of an academic exercise and more of a craft.

These books helped to nurture my creative voice in preaching the word and encouraged me to find my own artistic expression in response to the environment in which I live and work.

The challenge, for me, was to narrow down the choice for worship and preaching so that the thread running through the service was not too disparate.

For those of us with butterfly brains, always flitting off onto the next thing, this book is a gift. It is also a great source of procrastination - there are always images and artists and authors and poets demanding further investigation. It is a series that is useful for individual study and for groups considering the Lectionary together.

*Please note that the views expressed in these materials are those of the individual writer and not necessarily the official view of the Church of Scotland, which can be laid down only by the General Assembly.*



## Additional Resources

### Resourcing Mission



[www.resourcingmission.org.uk](http://www.resourcingmission.org.uk) is host to Starters for Sunday as well as key mission resources from the Church of Scotland, for download and purchase, and has an online booking facility for Mission & Discipleship events (eg National Youth Assembly). Please check back regularly, as new items are being added all the time. We welcome all feedback so if there is something you'd like to see on this new site that isn't already there, please use the 'Website Feedback' option on the 'Contact Us' page.

### Prayer Resources

These materials are designed to be a starting point for what you might look for in Prayers. You may also be interested in looking at our publication **Pray Now 2013**. Please click [here](#).



### Music Resources

The hymns mentioned in this material are ideas of specific hymns you might choose for this week's themes. However, for some excellent articles on church music and ideas for new music resources, please check out our online music magazine **Different Voices** which can be found [here](#).

### Preaching Resources



These materials are designed to be a starting point for **what** you might preach this Sunday. If you would be interested in looking at our free materials on **how** you might preach, please click [here](#) to see our [Preachers Perspectives](#) web page where we have asked twelve preachers to share the insights they have gathered through their experiences of writing and delivering sermons regularly.

