Voiceover [00:00:02] This podcast is brought to you by the University of Aberdeen.

Rev David Hutchison [00:00:11] I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word, I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning. (Psalm 130:5-6)

Welcome to this short Lenten meditation. My name is David Hutchinson, one of the Chaplains here at the University of Aberdeen. The music sung is pre-recorded at the University's King's College Chapel. Our cantors today are Evie Davidson and Liam Dyker. The organ is played by Stuart Muir, our Director of Chapel Music, and we're grateful to guitarist Matthew McAllister for permission to use the recording at the end of the service. We hope these podcasts will help you to join us as we travel toward the Cross.

Let us pray. God of all seasons in your pattern of things, there is a time for keeping and the time for losing. A time for building up and a time for pulling down. In this holy season of Lent, as we journey with our Lord to the cross, help us to discern in our lives what we must lay down and what we must take up; what we must end and what we must begin. Give us grace to lead a disciplined life, in glad obedience and with the joy which comes from a closer walk with Christ. Amen.

[00:02:44] Sung Psalm
Psalm 23 – setting: Michel Guimont (b1950)  Cantor: Evie Davidson

Rev Marylee Anderson [00:05:26] Our reading today comes from John Chapter 12, verses 20 to 33. Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, he was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Phillip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say – ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have a glorified it and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. Amen.

[00:08:24] Music for Reflection
My eyes for beauty pine – Herbert Howells (1892-1983)  Cantor: Liam Dyker

Rev David Hutchison [00:10:18] Let us pray. God of righteousness, here us now as we pray for the life of our country. Bless the Queen and her family, especially during these days of seeming disharmony. Bless, all those in positions of authority here at Holyrood and at Westminster. Bless, the people: rule their hearts and encourage their endeavours for
good. Help us all to seek service before privilege, public prosperity before private gain, and the honour of your name before the popularity of our own. Faithful and loving God, bless all those in pain and grief today, those who are homeless and those who are lost, lonely or neglected. Give us grace to help them when we can, and give them faith to see beyond their troubles to you, their Saviour and unfailing friend. And that in time, they will take up the threads of life again and go on their way with fresh courage and renewed hope; and all this we pray, in Christ name. Amen.

And together, we say the words of the Grace. And now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all, evermore. Amen.

CONCLUDING MUSIC
Largo from Concerto in D major for lute – Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)
Guitar: Matthew McAllister (Organ: Stuart Muir)

Voiceover [00:18:23] This podcast is brought to you by the University of Aberdeen.