*Malcolm Guite is an English poet, singer-songwriter and academic. He is also an Anglican priest – Revd. Dr. Ayodeji Malcolm Guite, born in Ibadan, Nigeria in 1957.*

*As a boy he went to the same school as a close university friend of ours, who was best man at our wedding! His parents were British: his father was a Methodist Local Preacher!*

Prayer

She lights a candle, deepens into prayer;

The unprayed images of day receive

Complete attention as she opens them

With love, letting the Spirit search the depths

Of those dark things she glimpses through the day;

She brings them to the wounds of one who heals.

Desire is a wound that never heals

It seems to her. And she begins her prayer

With that glimpse in the station, a grey day,

A brief encounter. May that man receive

Protection in his dangers and his depths,

He and his friend, Oh Christ remember them.

That child with the Police, remember them.

Is Heaven deaf? Where is the Love that heals

A girl glimpsed through the rain? Who knows the depths

Of that bewildered gaze? She cries in prayer,

Cries with the crying child; may she receive

Protection, comfort, sleep, at close of day.