

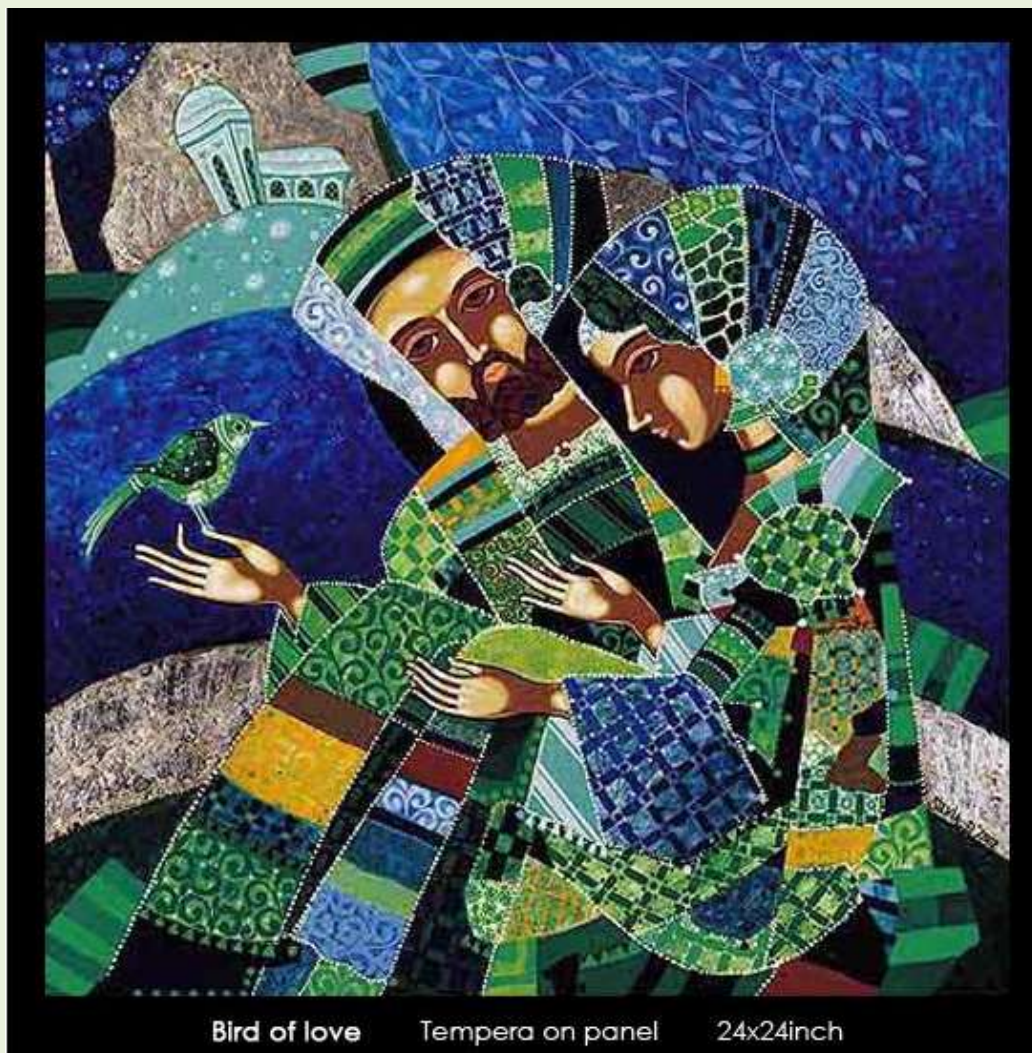
## The Song of Solomon

The Song of Solomon, also known as the Song of Songs is a beautiful love poem found in the Hebrew Scriptures (the Old Testament).

It is one of the 'books' of the Bible. You can find it the Old Testament section after the books of Psalms and Proverbs and before the book of Isaiah.

The poem speaks in the voices of two lovers, who praise each other, who long for each other, and who look forward to being together in both physical and spiritual intimacy. They pour out their love and passionate desire and reflect on their feelings for one another.

The poem has also been understood by some readers as a way of imagining how much God loves human beings or how Christ loves his 'bride' the Church.



*Bird of Love* by Silvia Dimitrova.

Find out more about Silvia's work in the Explore/See section.

**From: the Song of Solomon**

**Chapter 8, verses 6-7**

**Set me as a seal upon your heart,  
as a seal upon your arm;  
for love is strong as death,  
passion fierce as the grave.  
Its flashes are flashes of fire,  
a raging flame.**

**Many waters cannot quench love,  
neither can floods drown it.  
If one offered for love  
all the wealth of one's house,  
it would be utterly scorned.**

This part of the poem has been set to music by various composers. One of the best known is by English composer William Walton. You can hear it performed by the choir of St John's College, Cambridge here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMfOyrrWYds>