



Christ of Saint John of the Cross

This unique crucifixion piece was painted in 1951 by the famous Spanish artist Salvador Dalí. Known mostly for his more dramatically surrealist artwork, he alleged to have seen many of the aesthetic principles in this piece in a dream.

I wanted to focus on a more uplifting piece this week. Here Dalí offers a triumphant depiction of the crucifixion. Shown without nails, thorns, or blood Christ rests on the cross in a void over creation. He looks down upon a group of fishermen, minuscule compared to Him, but still Christ takes interest in them. Below the void, rays of light illuminate the clouds turning them golden, and the water of the sea is clean and pure.

We are the fishermen, minute compared to the whole of creation, and yet Christ loves us all the same. He loves us enough to have given Himself as ransom for our own failings.

According to Salvador Dalí this piece came to him in a profound dream one night in 1950. He saw the atom as a microcosm of the universe and Christ as the nucleus of all that is, was, and will be.