



Good Friday Liturgy

All Hallows Church

29 March 2024

A warm welcome to our worship this morning. Whether you are here for the first time or a more regular worshipper, we are delighted to have you with us, and we hope that you will enjoy the service.

The choir enter in silence. The ministers follow and pause at the High Altar for a time of silent prayer.

COLLECT

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray' or a more specific bidding. The Collect is said:

Almighty Father,
look with mercy on this your family
for which our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed
and given up into the hands of sinners
and to suffer death upon the cross;
who is alive and glorified with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 52.13 - 53.12

See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. Just as there were many who were astonished at him – so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals – so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account. Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the

iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the LORD shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Silence is kept.

Remain seated while the choir sing the psalm.

PSALM 22.1-21

- 1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me,
and are so far from my salvation, from the words of my distress?
- 2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer;
and by night also, but I find no rest.
- 3 Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
- 4 Our forebears trusted in you; they trusted, and you delivered them.
- 5 They cried out to you and were delivered;
they put their trust in you and were not confounded.
- 6 But as for me, I am a worm and no man,
scorned by all and despised by the people.
- 7 All who see me laugh me to scorn; they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying
- 8 'He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him;
let him deliver him, if he delights in him.'
- 9 But it is you that took me out of the womb
and laid me safe upon my mother's breast.

- 10 On you was I cast ever since I was born;
you are my God even from my mother's womb.
- 11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near at hand and there is none to help.
- 12 Mighty oxen come around me; fat bulls of Bashan close me in on every side.
- 13 They gape upon me with their mouths, as it were a ramping and a roaring lion.
- 14 I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint;
my heart has become like wax melting in the depths of my body.
- 15 My mouth is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue cleaves to my gums;
you have laid me in the dust of death.
- 16 For the hounds are all about me; the pack of evildoers close in on me;
they pierce my hands and my feet.
- 17 I can count all my bones; they stand staring and looking upon me.
- 18 They divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing.
- 19 Be not far from me, O Lord; you are my strength; hasten to help me.
- 20 Deliver my soul from the sword, my poor life from the power of the dog.
- 21 Save me from the lion's mouth, from the horns of wild oxen.
You have answered me!

Silence is kept.

SECOND READING Hebrews 10.16-25

The Holy Spirit testifies to us, for after saying, 'This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds'. He also adds, 'I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.' Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Silence is kept.

HYMN

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| 1 There is a green hill far away,
without a city wall,
where the dear Lord was crucified,
who died to save us all. | 4 There was no other good enough
to pay the price of sin;
he only could unlock the gate
of heaven, and let us in. |
| 2 We may not know, we cannot tell,
what pains he had to bear,
but we believe it was for us
he hung and suffered there. | 5 O dearly, dearly has he loved,
and we must love him too,
and trust in his redeeming blood,
and try his works to do. |
| 3 He died that we might be forgiven,
he died to make us good,
that we might go at last to heaven,
saved by his precious blood. | |

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818–1895)

PASSION READING John 18.1 – 19.42

Reader Hear the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

No response is made. The Passion is read.

At the end the reader says:

This is the Passion of the Lord.

No response is made. The congregation sit in silence.

ADDRESS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world,
but that the world might be saved through him.
Therefore we pray to our heavenly Father
for people everywhere according to their needs.

A minister continues with these biddings, the president saying the Collect at the end of each section.

Minister Let us pray for the Church of God throughout the world:
for unity in faith, in witness and in service,
for bishops and other ministers, and those whom they serve,
for *N* our bishop, and the people of this diocese,
for all Christians in this place, for those to be baptised,
for those who are mocked and persecuted for their faith,

that God will confirm his Church in faith,
increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

President Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

Minister Let us pray for the nations of the world and their leaders:
for Charles our king and the Parliaments of this land,
for those who administer the law and all who serve in public office,
for all who strive for justice and reconciliation,
that by God's help the world may live in peace and freedom.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

President Most gracious God and Father, in whose will is our peace,
turn our hearts and the hearts of all to yourself,
that by the power of your Spirit
the peace which is founded on justice
may be established throughout the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Minister Let us pray for God's ancient people, the Jews, the first to hear his word:
for greater understanding between Christian and Jew,
for the removal of our blindness and bitterness of heart,
that God will grant us grace to be faithful to his covenant
and to grow in the love of his name.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

President Lord God of Abraham,
bless the children of your covenant, both Jew and Christian;
take from us all blindness and bitterness of heart,

and hasten the coming of your kingdom,
when the Gentiles shall be gathered in, all Israel shall be saved,
and we shall dwell together in mutual love and peace
under the one God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

Minister Let us pray for those who do not believe the gospel of Christ:
for those who have not heard the message of salvation,
for all who have lost faith,
for the contemptuous and scornful,
for those who are enemies of Christ
and persecute those who follow him,
for all who deny the faith of Christ crucified,
that God will open their hearts to the truth
and lead them to faith and obedience.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

President Merciful God, creator of all the people of the earth,
have compassion on all who do not know you,
and by the preaching of your gospel with grace and power,
gather them into the one fold of the one Shepherd;
Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Minister Let us pray for all those who suffer:
for those who are deprived and oppressed, for all who are sick,
for those in darkness, in doubt and in despair, in loneliness and in fear,
for prisoners, captives and refugees,
for the victims of false accusations and violence,
for all at the point of death and those who watch beside them,
that God in his mercy will sustain them with the knowledge of his love.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

President Almighty and everlasting God,
the comfort of the sad, the strength of those who suffer:
hear the prayers of your children who cry out of any trouble,
and to every distressed soul grant mercy, relief and refreshment,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Minister Let us commend ourselves and all God's children to his unfailing love,
and pray for the grace of a holy life,
that, with all who have died in the peace of Christ,
we may come to the fullness of eternal life
and the joy of the resurrection.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

President O God of unchangeable power and eternal light,
look favourably on your whole Church,
that wonderful and sacred mystery,
and by the tranquil operation of your perpetual providence
carry out the work of our salvation:
and let the whole world feel and see
that things which were cast down are being raised up
and things which had grown old are being made new
and that all things are returning to perfection
through him from whom they took their origin,
even Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE CROSS

Minister This is the wood of the cross on which hung the Saviour of the world.

All Come, let us worship.

HYMN

- 1 When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.
- 2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the cross of Christ my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.
- 3 See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown!
- 4 His dying crimson, like a robe,
spreads o'er his body on the tree:
then am I dead to all the globe,
and all the globe is dead to me.
- 5 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Isaac Watts (1674–1748)

Silence is kept. The congregation have the opportunity to come, touch, stand or kneel to pray at the foot of the cross if they wish.

The choir sing verses from "Were you there when they crucified my Lord", after which silence is kept.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Minister Standing at the foot of the cross,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

All Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.

CONCLUSION

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

The service concludes and the ministers and congregation leave in silence.

There is the opportunity to remain in church in silence until 3pm, traditionally marked as the hour of Jesus' death.

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