

Good Friday, April 2021

Welcome to our Good Friday service – those gathering together, others who are watching at other times, members of All Saints or those joining with us as visitor. Our songs and hymns and bible readings all tell and reflect upon the important and awe inspiring events of Good Friday. We hope through the coming minutes you will be drawn in love to the cross, and will know deeper the Lord's sacrificial death for you and the great love he has for you.

There will be a short pause after each reading before the song or hymn begins. For some, that may not be enough time... However, as this is a recorded service, it gives you the opportunity to pause the playback if you would like, to give yourself more silence, more time to reflect on what you have heard or even have sung. Or to sing the song again. In that way I encourage you to interact with this service – pause and playing as it helpful – let it be a tool to help you worship and connect with this Day of Days...

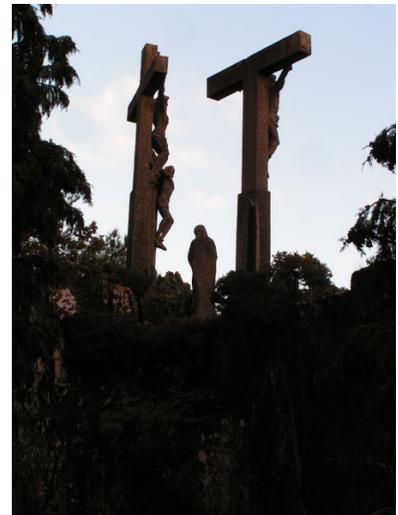
On this Good Friday, as I enter prayer and worship now, I pause to be still. To recentre my scattered senses upon the presence of God....

Collect Prayer for Good Friday:

Together we pray.

**Eternal God,
in the cross of Jesus
we see the cost of our sin
and the depth of your love:
in humble hope and fear
may we place at his feet
all that we have and all that we are,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

All: Amen



1. Opening Hymn: There is a Green Hill

First Reading – Genesis 22:v1-18 – The obedience of Abraham as he is asked to sacrifice his only son Isaac and God’s promise of blessing to the world.

2. Song: **Worthy is the Lamb**

Second Reading – Isaiah 52:v13- end ch. 53 – The prophecy of the suffering servant; and the purpose and achievement of that suffering...

3. Song: **At the cross (love ran red)**

Third Reading –Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9 – Jesus experienced every kind of temptation a person can have. Jesus did not shrink from suffering and death but from the indescribable agony of taking humanity’s sin upon himself. Although he asked that the cup of suffering might be removed, he did not waver in his determination to fulfil the Father’s will.

4. Song: **Blessed be your name**

Fourth Reading – John chapter 18 : Jesus is betrayed, and put on trial before the Jewish leaders and then Governor Pilate. And Peter denies Jesus three times as predicted by Jesus at the Last Supper.

Silence between these readings to reflect a minute.

Fifth Reading – John chapter 19:1-37 Jesus’s Crucifixion and Death

5. Song: **Victor’s Crown**

Meditation



Prayers

I will lead some prayers. In between there will be moments of silence for your own intercessions, holding people or places before God...

Lord hear us,

All: Lord graciously hear us.

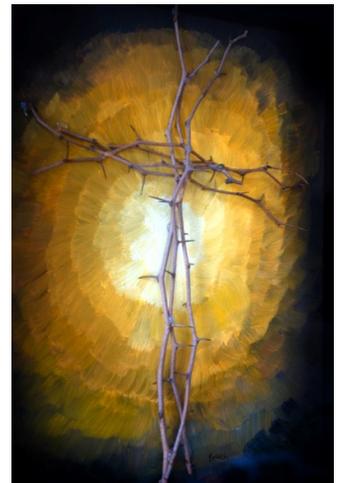
Standing at the foot of the Cross,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us...

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Final reading: Colossians 1:v15-23: Through Christ all things are created, through his blood, all things in heaven and earth are reconciled to God.

6. Final Hymn : When I survey the wondrous cross



Closing Prayer

Jesus, Son of God, our true and only Saviour,
You died like a criminal on the cross;
But you are God who forgives.

Once broken, helpless and in pain
You are God in whom there is hope.

You have shown us a love beyond words,
Give us your forgiveness, hope and love.
All Amen.

The Gospel of the Burial of Christ is read (John 19:38-42) - Grant

³⁸ Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jewish leaders. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away. ³⁹ He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about thirty-five kilograms. ⁴⁰ Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. ⁴¹ At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴² Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was near by, they laid Jesus there.

We finish with a time of silence as we reflect on an image...

Have a meaningful Good Friday.

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