



# A Liturgy for Good Friday

## Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024



### **Welcome to this special service of devotion for Good Friday.**

*We gather in quiet reflection. The ministers enter in silence.*

### **Collect**

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.  
**Amen.**

### **Hymn**

*please stand*

**O Sacred head, sore wounded,  
Defiled and put to scorn;  
O kingly head, surrounded  
With mocking crown of thorn:  
What sorrow mars thy grandeur?  
Can death thy bloom deflower?  
O countenance whose splendour  
The hosts of heaven adore.**

**In thy most bitter passion  
My heart to share doth cry,  
With thee for my salvation  
Upon the Cross to die.  
Ah, keep my heart thus movèd  
To stand thy Cross beneath,  
To mourn thee, well-belovèd,  
Yet thank thee for thy death.**

**My days are few, O fail not,  
With thine immortal power,  
To hold me that I quail not  
In death's most fearful hour:  
That I may fight befriended,  
And see in my last strife  
To me thine arms extended  
Upon the Cross of life.**

## **First Reading**

*Silence is kept*

**John 18: 1-27**

*please sit*

## **Aria**

**The Lord's Prayer – Malotte**

## **Second Reading**

*Silence is kept*

**John 18: 28 – 19:16**

## **Spiritual**

*Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
O, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

*Were you there when they nailed him to a tree?  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?*

## **Third Reading**     **John 19: 16b – 30**

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*

**Praise to you O Christ**

*Silence is kept*

## **Sermon** *please sit*

*At the end, silence is kept*

## **Aria**

**Élégie – Massenet**

*O sweet Spring of yesteryear, green seasons, you have fled forever! I no longer see the blue sky,  
I no longer hear the joyous songs of the birds! You have fled, my love, and with you has fled my  
happiness. And it is in vain that the spring returns! For along with you, the cheerful sun, the  
laughing days have gone! As my heart is dark and frozen, so all is withered for evermore!*

## **Proclamations of the Cross**

*please stand*

*All stand and face the cross placed against the East Wall of the church.*

This is the wood of the cross, on which hung the saviour of the world.

**Come, let us worship.**

## **The Veneration of the Cross**

*You are invited to come forward and venerate the cross, during which during which a chorale prelude is played, and an aria is sung:*

***Herzlich tut mich verlangen, BWV 727 – J. S. Bach***

***Blute nur (from St Matthew Passion) – J. S. Bach***

*Bleed, dear heart. Ah! A child you have raised, which sucked at your breast, threatens to murder its nurse, for it has become a serpent.*

## **The Intercessions**

Let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ, who loved us so much he gave his life for us.

*Silence*

Lord Jesus, we pray for those who are the victims of injustice and torture today. Make us people of truth and compassion.

*Silence*

Lord Jesus' we pray for those who are betrayed, abandoned and abused. Help us to know that all people are your people.

*Silence*

Lord Jesus, we pray for prisoners and their families and all who live under the sentence of death. Help us to remember your presence with all who suffer.

*Silence*

Lord Jesus, when we face the cross in our own lives, help us to know your solidarity with us in all that we suffer.

*Silence*

Lord Jesus, at the end of our lives give us the grace to face death with courage, fortitude and serenity.

*Silence*

Lord Jesus, give us confidence in the depth of your love for us and the power of your resurrection.

*Silence*

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom in the words our Saviour taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved  
mankind: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross, we may triumph in the  
power of his victory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Hymn**    *please stand*

**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.**

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
save in the death of Christ my God;  
all the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.**

**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?**

**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.**

**We depart in silence.**