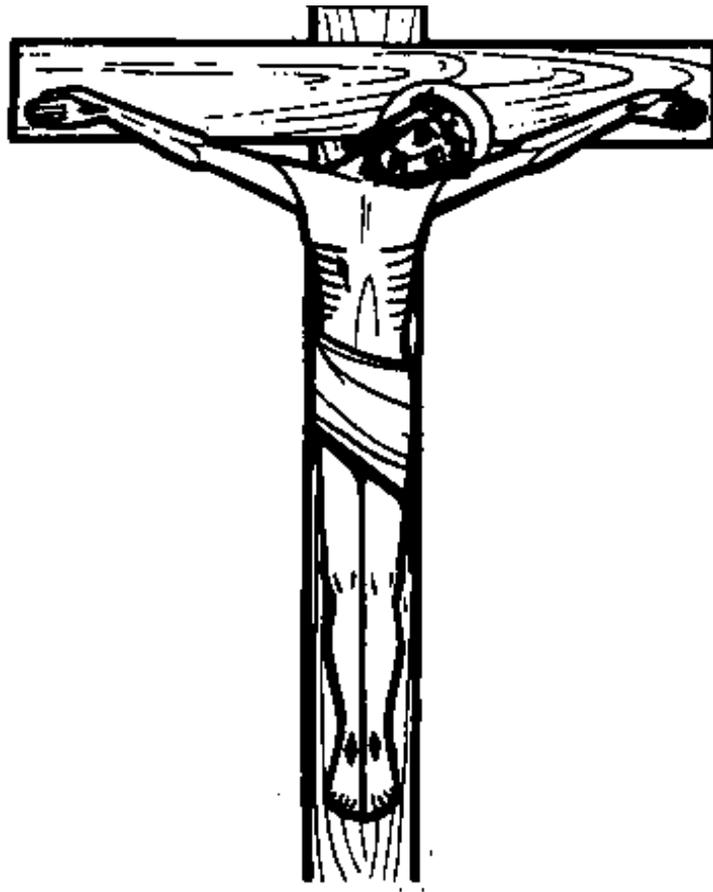


GOOD FRIDAY
2pm.

The Last Hour at the Cross



The Gathering

The Collect

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.

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 52.13–end of 53*

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.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Silence is kept.

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!

New Testament Reading Hebrews 10.16-25

The Holy Spirit testifies to us 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Silence is kept.

Hymn

There is a green hill far away,
outside a city wall,
where our dear Lord was crucified,
who died to save us all.

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.

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.

There was no other good enough,
to pay the price of sin;
he, only, could unlock the gate
of heaven and let us in.

O dearly, dearly has he loved,
and we must love him too;
and trust in your redeeming blood,
and try his works to do.

Words: Cecil Alexander

The Passion Reading

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

John 18.1– 19:37

At the end

This is the Passion of the Lord.

Silence is kept.

Reflection

¶ The Proclamation of the Cross

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

Come, let us worship.

My people, what wrong have I done to you?

What good have I not done for you?

Listen to me.

I am your Creator, Lord of the universe;

I have entrusted this world to you,

but you have created the means to destroy it.

My people, what wrong have I done to you?

What good have I not done for you?

Listen to me.

I made you in my image,

but you have degraded body and spirit

and marred the image of your God.

You have deserted me and turned your backs on me.

My people, what wrong have I done to you?

What good have I not done for you?

Listen to me.

I filled the earth with all that you need,

so that you might serve and care for one another,

as I have cared for you;

but you have cared only to serve your own wealth and power.

**Holy God, holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

My people, what wrong have I done to you?

What good have I not done for you?

Listen to me.

I made my children of one blood
to live in families rejoicing in one another;
but you have embittered the races and divided the nations.

My people, what wrong have I done to you?

What good have I not done for you?

Listen to me.

I commanded you to love your neighbour as yourself,
to love and forgive even your enemies;
but you have made vengeance your rule and hate your guide.

My people, what wrong have I done to you?

What good have I not done for you?

Listen to me.

In the fullness of time I sent you my Son,
that in him you might know me,
and through him find life and peace;
but you put him to death on the cross.

**Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

My people, what wrong have I done to you?

What good have I not done for you?

Listen to me.

Through the living Christ, I called you into my Church
to be my servants to the world,
but you have grasped at privilege and forgotten my will.

My people, what wrong have I done to you?

What good have I not done for you?

Listen to me.

I have given you a heavenly gift and a share in the Holy Spirit;

I have given you the spiritual energies of the age to come;
but you have turned away
and crucified the Son of God afresh.

My people, what wrong have I done to you?

What good have I not done for you?

Listen to me.

I have consecrated you in the truth;
I have made you to be one
in the unity of the Father and the Son,
by the power of the Spirit;
but you have divided my Church and shrouded my truth.

**Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

Turn again, my people, listen to me.

Let your bearing to one another arise out of your life in Christ
Jesus. He humbled himself

and in obedience accepted the death of the cross.

But I have bestowed on him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Je-
sus every knee should bow

and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Turn again, my people, listen to me.

Father, hear our prayer and forgive us.

Unstop our ears,

that we may receive the gospel of the cross.

Lighten our eyes,

that we may see your glory in the face of your Son.

Penetrate our minds,

that your truth may make us whole.

Irradiate our hearts with your love,

that we may love one another for Christ's sake. Father, forgive us.

Acclamations

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

This is the wood of the cross,
 on which hung the Saviour of the world.
Come, let us worship.

O Saviour of the world,
 who by your cross and precious blood have redeemed us,
save us and help us, we humbly pray.

Hymn:

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 splendor
 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 moved
 to stand thy cross beneath,
 to mourn thee, well-beloved,
 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.

he 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.

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 Rachel and Robert our bishops,
 and the people of this diocese,
 for all Christians in this place,
 for those to be baptized,
 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.
Lord, graciously hear us.

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. **Amen.**

Let us pray for the nations of the world and their leaders:
 for Elizabeth our Queen 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.
Lord, graciously hear us.

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. **Amen.**

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.
Lord, graciously hear us.

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. **Amen.**

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 de-
 ny 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.
Lord, graciously hear us.

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. **Amen.**

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.
Lord, graciously hear us.

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.
Amen.

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.
Lord, graciously hear us.

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.
Amen.

Standing at the foot of the cross,
 let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us
Our Father, who art in heaven ...

Silence is kept.

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.

Amen.

Hymn

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 an offering far too small;
 Love so amazing, so divine,
 Demands my soul, my life, my all!

he Gospel of the Burial of Christ (John 19.38-42)

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

The service ends in silence.

Holy Saturday is a quiet day of preparation a day when we watch and wait and pray.....

