

Good Friday Service from Light to Darkness

March 30, 2018, 7:00pm



L.Mason

Please take a moment to silence your cellphone. Thank you.

Prelude: When I Survey

Please STAND as able as the ministers process the cross into the chapel, and join in singing,

Hymn

Were you there? Vs. 1

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Oh!

Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Presider Blessed be our God.

People For ever and ever. Amen.

Presider Let us pray. God of us all, in this season of Lent, we have asked you to renew us. We have prayed that you lift from our lives the dust of sin and make us new. We have been spiritual beings on an earthly journey, praying for freedom from guilt, shame, regret, unforgiveness; to heal all that has been broken. Stretch our hearts to be ready for the risen life in Jesus Christ; who was willing to be betrayed and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated, and remain seated for the remainder of the service.

Reader A reading from the Gospel according to Luke

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.' And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

The Death of Jesus

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last. *Luke 23: 32-46*

Silence

Please join in singing,
Hymn

Were you there? Vs. 2

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh!

Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

The Veneration of the Cross

This part of this Good Friday Service looks back to the ancient ceremony of the Veneration of the Cross. Roman Catholics have never ceased to value this act of devotion, but it fell into general disuse in the Church of England after the break with Rome. In the 19th century it was reintroduced by the "high" church, and in recent years has become more generally used. Careful distinction should be made between the worship due to God alone, and an act of veneration or reverence offered to a significant person, place or object.

Reader We glory in your cross, O Lord, and praise you for your mighty resurrection;
People **by virtue of your cross joy has come into our world.**

Reader God be gracious to us and bless us:
People **make your face to shine upon us,**

Reader Let your ways be made known upon the earth:
People **your liberating power among all nations.**

Reader Let the peoples praise you, O God:
People **let all the peoples praise you.**

Reader We glory in your cross, O Lord, and praise you for your mighty resurrection;
People **by virtue of your cross joy has come into our world.**

Reader Almighty God, as we stand at the foot of the cross of your Son, may we know your love for us, that in humility, love and joy we may place at his feet all that we have and all that we are; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Invitation to the Cross

Members of the congregation should do as you feel comfortable. You may want to stay in your seat and pray in silence; others will choose to approach the cross and offer some mark of respect for the central symbol of our Christian faith, by placing a rose on the cross, lighting a candle, touching it, or offering the traditional kiss.

Please join in singing,

We Adore You, Jesus Christ

Taizé

We a-dore you, Je - sus Christ, and we bless your ho - ly name, tru-ly your cross and pas-sion

bring us life and heal-ing. Tru-ly your cross and pas-sion bring us life and heal-ing.

From Light to Darkness

A candle is extinguished after each scripture passage is read.

Reader Like the Prodigal Son
People We have wasted your love.

Reader Like Nicodemus
People We have crept about in darkness

Reader Like James and John
People We have slept through others' sorrow.

Reader Like Peter
People We have denied and betrayed you.

Reader Like Pilate
People We have washed out hands of blame

Reader Like the criminals hanging near you
People We have not always lived a just life

Reader Like the crowd looking on
People We have let darkness overwhelm us



Kyrie eleison

Keith Getty

Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend. Used by permission.CCLI 11110659

As we come before you with the needs of our world we confess our failures and our sin, for our words are many yet our deeds have been few; fan the fire of compassion once again.

When the cries of victims go unheard in the land, and the scars of war refuse to heal, will we stand for justice to empower the weak 'til their bonds of oppression are no more?

If we love our God with all our heart, mind, and strength, and we love our neighbors as ourselves, then this law of love will heal the nations of earth, and the glory of Christ will be revealed.

Lord, renew our vision to be Christ where we live, to reach out in mercy to the lost; for each cup of kindness to the least in our midst is an offering of worship to the throne.

A Reading

Reader A Reading from the Gospel according to John

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. *John 19:38-42*

An invitation to receive an anointing with Holy Oil

On Ash Wednesday we received ashes in the sign of the cross on our foreheads. The ashes were a symbol of "repentance" and recognition of our fragile human nature. In Good Friday, we come to the final moments of the earthly life of Christ, the death of Jesus on the cross, and are united in this moment with the little deaths to self we face as we mature as Christians. In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are anointed with chrism oil as words are pronounced, "You are marked as Christ's own forever." We offer an anointing with chrism oil this night reaffirming we are followers of Jesus Christ, our Crucified God. We just heard the words of the gospel that Jesus was wrapped with spices, with oils, according to the burial custom. You are invited to come forward and renew your commitment as you hear the words.

"Remember you are buried with Christ, to rise with Christ"

Pie Jesu (from Requiem)

Gabriel Faure

Gentle Jesus, Lord, grant us rest.

Grant us eternal rest.

Please join in singing,

Closing Hymn

Were you there? Vs. 3

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Oh!

Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

All

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, give mercy and grace to the living; pardon and rest to the dead; to your holy Church peace and renewal; and to us sinners everlasting life and glory. Lighten our darkness and by your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The ministers depart in silence.