

Good Friday Service



We gather in silence for this service.

Sentence

Christ the Lord became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

Collect

Loving 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.

Words of welcome and introduction may be said

Hymn

Psalm

Psalm 22 is said.

*Those on the North side say the odd verses,
those on the South side say the even verses.*

N My God, my God, why have you forsaken me, *
and are so far from my salvation,
from the words of my distress?

S O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; *
and by night also, but I find no rest.

N Yet you are the Holy One, *
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.

S Our forebears trusted in you; *
they trusted, and you delivered them.

N They cried out to you and were delivered; *
they put their trust in you and were not confounded.

S But as for me, I am a worm and no man, *



Germinate
Arthur Rank Centre

scorned by all and despised by the people.

N All who see me laugh me to scorn; *
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,

S 'He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him; *
let him deliver him, if he delights in him.'

N But it is you that took me out of the womb *
and laid me safe upon my mother's breast.

S On you was I cast ever since I was born; *
you are my God even from my mother's womb.

N Be not far from me, for trouble is near at hand *
and there is none to help.

S Mighty oxen come around me; *
fat bulls of Bashan close me in on every side.

N They gape upon me with their mouths, *
as it were a ramping and a roaring lion.

S 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.

N My mouth is dried up like a potsherd;
my tongue cleaves to my gums; *
you have laid me in the dust of death.

S For the hounds are all about me,
the pack of evildoers close in on me; *
they pierce my hands and my feet.

N I can count all my bones; *
they stand staring and looking upon me.

S They divide my garments among them; *
they cast lots for my clothing.

N Be not far from me, O Lord; *
you are my strength; hasten to help me.

S Deliver my soul from the sword, *
my poor life from the power of the dog.

N Save me from the lion's mouth,
from the horns of wild oxen. *

Silence is kept

You have answered me!

S I will tell of your name to my people; *
in the midst of the congregation will I praise you.

N Praise the Lord, you that fear him; *
O seed of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, O seed of Israel.

S For he has not despised nor abhorred
the suffering of the poor;
neither has he hidden his face from them; *
but when they cried to him he heard them.

N From you comes my praise in the great congregation; *
I will perform my vows
in the presence of those that fear you.

S The poor shall eat and be satisfied; *
those who seek the Lord shall praise him;
their hearts shall live for ever.

N All the ends of the earth
shall remember and turn to the Lord, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

S For the kingdom is the Lord's *
and he rules over the nations.

N How can those who sleep in the earth
bow down in worship, *
or those who go down to the dust kneel before him?

S He has saved my life for himself;
my descendants shall serve him; *
this shall be told of the Lord for generations to come.

N They shall come and make known his salvation,
to a people yet unborn, *
declaring that he, the Lord, has done it.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

The Passion Reading John 18:28-19:37
A period of silence is kept.

Hymn

The Reproaches

My people, what have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Listen to me!

My people, what have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Listen to me!

I led you out of Egypt, from slavery to freedom,
and brought you to a land of plenty;
but you led your Saviour to the cross.

My people, what have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Listen to me!

What more could I have done for you?
I planted you as my fairest vine,
but you yielded only bitterness:

My people, what have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Listen to me!

I opened the sea before you,
but you opened my side with a spear.
Holy God, Holy and strong,
Holy and immortal, Have mercy on us.

I bore you up with manna in the desert,
but you struck me down and scourged me.

My people, what have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Listen to me!

I gave you saving water from the rock,
but you gave me gall and vinegar to drink.

My people, what have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Listen to me!

I gave you a royal sceptre,
but you gave me a crown of thorns.
My people, what have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Listen to me!

I raised you to the height of majesty,
but you have raised me high on a cross.

**Holy God, Holy and strong,
Holy and immortal, Have mercy on us.**

Intercessions

For the prayers of intercessions, the ministers will say brief biddings, each of which will be followed by silence. After this, music will be played, during which you are invited to come forward to place a lighted candle at the foot of the Cross.

The Lord's Prayer

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

Hymn

Raising of the Cross

We leave the church in silence, following the Cross as it is carried to the Green to be erected.

Collect

Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up to joy
but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we,
walking in the way of the cross,
may find it none other than the way of life and peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Hymn

Gospel Reading The burial of Jesus - John 19:38-42

Feel free to stay by the Cross as long as you wish, and then to leave in silence when you are ready.

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Taken from a service by St Mary's Church, Stamfordham, Christians Together