

PARISH OF ABINGDON-ON-THAMES



LITURGY FOR GOOD FRIDAY

2020

CHURCH OF ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS

Good Friday is the darkest day in the Church's year when we 'celebrate' the Lord's Passion and are reminded that His death has redeemed the world. In view of this silence is a prominent feature in the liturgy. The service is a continuation of the Maundy Thursday liturgy and hence the silence is continued from the night before.

The liturgy is in four distinct parts:

First, the ministers and servers enter in silence and we begin with the Collect of the Day. The Liturgy of the Word follows which has a distinct focus on the Passion. The Passion according to John is read dramatically.

Second, after the reading of the Passion there is an extended form of Intercession.

Third, we have the proclamation of the Cross when a veiled Cross is processed from the West end of the Church and brought into the Nave, and stands in front of the uncovered Altar, and people are invited to kneel at the foot of the Cross in deep prayer to the Crucified Lord, and if they wish, kiss the Cross as a response to the love He has poured out for us.

Fourth, and lastly, a fair linen cloth is laid on the altar and the Blessed Sacrament (the remaining consecrated hosts from the night before) is brought to the altar and people are invited to receive Holy Communion in one kind only (i.e. no wine is distributed).

The Liturgy concludes after the distribution and the priest ends with a short prayer. There is no blessing or dismissal. We leave as we arrived, in silence, awaiting the great celebration the following evening as we welcome the Risen Christ in the Easter Liturgy.

SOLEMN LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

¶ *Please stand in silence as ministers enter, then kneel in silent prayer as the ministers bow.*

¶ *Please stand with the priest who then says the collect.*

Priest 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.

FIRST READING Isaiah 52.13-53.12

¹³See, my servant shall prosper;
he shall be exalted and lifted up,
and shall be very high.

¹⁴Just as there were many who were astonished at him
– so marred was his appearance, beyond human
semblance,
and his form beyond that of mortals –

¹⁵so 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.

¹Who has believed what we have heard?

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

²For 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.

³He 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.

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities

and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵But 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.

⁶All 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.

⁷He 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.

⁸By 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.

⁹They 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.

¹⁰Yet 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.

¹¹Out 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.

¹²Therefore 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.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 30

R. *Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.*

In you, O Lord, I take refuge.
Let me never be put to shame.
In your justice, set me free.
Into your hands I commend my spirit.
It is you who will redeem me, Lord. **R.**

In the face of all my foes
I am a reproach,
An object of scorn to my neighbours
And of fear to my friends. **R.**

Those who see me in the street
Run far away from me.
I am like a dead man, forgotten in men's hearts,
Like a thing thrown away. **R.**

But as for me, I trust in you, Lord,
I say, 'You are my God.'
My life is in your hands, deliver me
From the hands of those who hate me. **R.**

Let your face shine on your servant.
Save me in your love.
Be strong, let your heart take courage,
All who hope in the Lord. **R.**

SECOND READING Hebrews 4.14-16; 5.7-9

¹⁴Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

This is the word of the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN (NEH 92)

There is a green hill far away,
Without a city wall,
Where the 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 his redeeming blood,
And try his works to do.

Mrs C.F. Alexander 1818-95

¶ See separate booklet for the Passion. If you find yourself unable to stand throughout, please feel free to sit.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, ACCORDING TO JOHN
John 18.1-19.42

The Prayers of Intercession

¶ *The priest introduces the prayers:*

Priest 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.

Deacon Let us pray for the Church of God throughout the
world:
for unity in faith, witness and in service.
for bishops and other ministers, and those whom
they serve,
for our bishop, and for 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.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Priest 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.

Deacon 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.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Priest 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.

Deacon Let us pray for God's ancient people, the Jews,
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.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Priest 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.

Deacon Let us pray for those who do not believe in 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 deny 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.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Priest 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.

Deacon 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 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.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Priest 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.

Deacon 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.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Priest 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.**

The Proclamation of the Cross

¶ *The ministers move in silence to the back of the church. Please turn to face the back. The deacon unveils the Cross and holds it up for us all to see. The priest sings [NEH 516A]*

Priest or cantor



Be - hold _____ the_ wood of_ the Cross,
where - on was hung _____ the Sa_ - viour
of_ the_ world. _____
All
O_ come _____ let_ us wor _____ - ship.

¶ *We are invited to kneel at each response. This is repeated in the middle of the labyrinth and at the crossing.*

¶ *All who wish may come forward to kneel at the foot of the Cross and, if they wish, to kiss it as a response to the self-giving love of God on Calvary.*

¶ *During the veneration, THE REPROACHES [NEH 516A] are sung.*

O MY people, what have I done to thee, or wherein have I wearied thee? Answer me. Because I brought thee out of the land of Egypt, thou hast prepared a Cross for thy Saviour.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy upon us.

Because I led thee through the Desert forty years and fed thee with manna, and brought thee into a land exceeding good, thou hast prepared a Cross for my Saviour.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy upon us.

What could I do more for thee that I have not done? I planted thee, my choicest vine, and thou hast become exceeding bitter unto me: for when I was thirsty thou gavest me to drink vinegar mingled with gall, and hast pierced with a spear the side of thy Saviour.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy upon us.

We venerate thy Cross, O Lord, and praise and glorify thy holy Resurrection: for by virtue of the Cross, joy has come to the whole world.

¶ *The hymn CRUX FIDELIS [NEH 517] may be sung.*

*Faithful Cross! Above all other,
One and only noble tree!
None in foliage, none in blossom,
None in fruit thy peer may be;
Sweetest wood and sweetest iron,
Sweetest weight is hung on thee.*

Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle,
Sing the ending of the fray,
O'er the Cross, the victor's trophy,
Sound the loud triumphant lay:
Tell how Christ, the world's Redeemer,
As a Victim won the day.

God in pity saw man fallen,
Shamed and sunk in misery,
When he fell on death by tasting
Fruit of the forbidden tree:
Then another tree was chosen
Which from death should free.

Therefore when the appointed fulness
Of the holy time was come,
He was sent who maketh all things
Forth from God's eternal home:
Thus he came to earth, incarnate
Offspring of a maiden's womb.

Thirty years among us dwelling,
Now at length his hour fulfilled,
Born for this, he meets his Passion,
For that this he freely willed,
On the Cross the Lamb is lifted,
Where his life-blood shall be spilled.

Bend thy boughs, O Tree of Glory,
Thy too rigid sinews bend:
For a while the ancient rigour
That thy birth bestowed, suspend,
And the King of heavenly beauty
On thy bosom gently tend.

Thou alone wast counted worthy
This world's Ransom to sustain,
That a shipwrecked race might ever
Thus a port of refuge gain,
With the sacred blood anointed
From the Lamb for sinners slain.

He endured the nails, the spitting,
Vinegar and spear and reed;
From that holy Body piercèd
Blood and water forth proceed:
Earth and stars and sky and ocean
By the flood from stain are freed.

To the Trinity be glory,
To the Father and the Son,
With the co-eternal Spirit,
Ever three and ever One,
One in love and one in splendour,
While unending ages run. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

¶ The altar is covered with a fair linen cloth. The Blessed Sacrament is then brought to the altar. The deacon then says,

Deacon Let us pray for the coming of the kingdom in the words our Saviour 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.**

¶ The priest then says:

Priest Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

HOLY COMMUNION

¶ After the distribution, silence is kept. The priest then says,

Priest 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 our Lord.
Amen.

¶ Everyone departs in silence.

The text for the service is from *Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England* © The Archbishops' Council, 2000 and *Festivals*, © The Archbishops' Council, 2008.

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