



Nothing to say

Good Friday, 2018
Knox Church, Christchurch

Good Friday

Good Friday is the day on which the Church remembers the crucifixion and death of Jesus. On this day we recall the people's cruelty to Jesus, and interpret it as human nature's desire to push God away. Accordingly several aspects of the usual service that assert the presence of God are omitted. There is no opening greeting ("May God be with you") and no benediction at the end. Further, following the Prayer of Confession there is no Assurance of Pardon.

The heart of the Good Friday service is the reading of Jesus' Passion. This year the Passion is taken from Luke's gospel.

The service ends when, at the conclusion of the closing reflection, the minister leaves the church. Please keep a silence in the church after the service, and when you feel moved to leave, please do so quietly. Feel no pressure to leave the church immediately; the minister will not be waiting at the door.

While Good Friday is a day of sorrow, and a stark occasion in the calendar of the Christian Faith, it does not stand alone. On Easter Day the sequel to Good Friday begins. It is important that you hear the second part of the story of the death of Jesus. Please make an effort to attend Church on Sunday. If you are travelling beyond Christchurch, and cannot attend the service at Knox, find another good church at which you can hear the Good News of Easter.

The Service

Before the service, we keep a silence.

The Solemn Sentences:

Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips,
and I live among a people of unclean lips;
yet my eyes have seen the King,
the Lord of hosts!

Isaiah 6:5

See, I am of small account; what shall I answer you?
I lay my hand on my mouth.
I have spoken once, and I will not answer;
twice, but will proceed no further.'

Job 40:4-5

The Prayer of Confession

Lord have mercy.

CHRIST HAVE MERCY.

Lord have mercy.

We keep a silence

Without announcement, we stand to sing

Hymn:

Sally Gardens

Irish Folk Melody



1. Here hangs a man discarded,
a scarecrow hoisted high,
a nonsense pointing nowhere
to all who hurry by.
Can such a clown of sorrows
still bring a useful word
where faith and love seem phantoms
and every hope absurd?
2. Can he give help or comfort
to lives by comfort bound,
where drums of dazzling progress
give strangely hollow sound?
Life emptied of all meaning,
drained out in bleak distress,
can share in broken silence
my deepest emptiness;
3. and love that freely entered
the pit of life's despair
can name our hidden darkness
and suffer with us there.
Christ, in our darkness risen,
help all who long for light
to hold the hand of promise
and walk into the light.

Brian Wren (b.1936)

A Lesson: Isaiah 52: 13-15, 53: 7-9

A Reflection: “They shut their mouths”

Hymn:

Martyrdom

Hugh Wilson (1766-1824)



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|--|---|
| 1. Before this sad, momentous sight,
the kings of earth are stilled;
they know not what to do or say,
as love itself is killed. | 4. And priests and scribes, and hypocrites,
will never deeply know
that Christ, whom they have crucified,
will God's great mercy show. |
| 2. For Pilate, in his court of power,
hell-bent on pleasing Rome,
has no idea where justice is,
how far from truth he's gone. | 5. Yes, God's great mercy is for them;
the claim is quite absurd,
that even on this Friday Good,
he comes with a new word: |
| 3. King Herod, in his vanity,
and dumbing down of thought,
has no idea the one he mocks
a new creation's wrought. | 6. the word is "Easter", and will come
with overwhelming might,
and gather in the fools and crims,
to God's redeeming light. |

Matthew Jack (b. 1963)

The Reading of the Passion: Luke 22:39 - 23: 56

Hymn:
Picardy

French carol melody, 17th Century



1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with questions in his hand
Christ on earth is now condemnèd,
our attention to demand.
2. King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
taken down to death and blood,
he commands from all the faithful
his own people seeking good.
3. Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as he walks the path to Calv'ry
from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.
4. At his feet the six-winged seraphs,
cherubim with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"O my God, let not it happen,
God forbid that you will die!"

*From the Liturgy of St James, 4th Century,
adapted by Matthew Jack (b. 1963)*

Prayers for the World and the Lord's Prayer

*To the minister's words "we pray",
please respond "GOD, HEAR OUR PRAYER".*

**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.
SAVE US FROM THE TIME OF TRIAL
AND DELIVER US FROM EVIL.
FOR THE KINGDOM, THE POWER AND THE GLORY
ARE YOURS NOW AND FOR EVER. AMEN.

Without announcement, we stand to sing

Hymn:

Rockingham

Edward Miller (1731-1807)



1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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?

The fourth verse is sung unaccompanied

4. 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.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Epilogue: No words

No Benediction

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Sunday 1 April

10:00am

Easter Day celebratory
communion

***My strength
and my song***





The Bible reading for Easter Sunday will be:

- Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24

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Keeping in Touch

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and putting it in the offering bag.

Name:

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