

Monday 29 March 2021: Holy Week Service

Preparation

GREETING

May the grace, healing and forgiveness of the Lord
be with you this Holy Week
and also with you.

**O Saviour of the world,
by your Cross and precious blood you have redeemed us:
save us and help us, we humbly pray. Amen.**

Opening Hymn: 226 *"It is a thing most wonderful" (vs 1-5, 7)*

It is a thing most wonderful,
almost too wonderful to be,
that God's own Son should come from heaven,
and die to save a child like me.

And yet I know that it is true;
he chose a poor and humble lot,
and wept and toiled and mourned and died
for love of those who loved Him not.

I cannot tell how He could love
a child so weak and full of sin;
his love must be most wonderful
if He could die my love to win.

I sometimes think about the cross,
and shut my eyes, and try to see
the cruel nails and crown of thorns,
and Jesus crucified for me.

But even could I see Him die,
I could but see a little part
of that great love which, like a fire,
is always burning in His heart.

And yet I want to love thee, Lord;
O light the flame within my heart,
and I will love thee more and more,
until I see thee as thou art.

W Walsham How (1823-97)

INTRODUCTION

We gather together this evening to continue our journey with the Lord through this Holy Week of our salvation. The Monday in Holy Week is the day on which we remember that Mary of Bethany anointed Jesus feet while Judas objected. We are reminded to love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul and with all our mind. So we ask God to give us pure hearts, devoted to him, that his voice may be clearly heard, and that our priorities this week would be the priorities of Jesus Christ.

Silence

PENITENCE

Lord God, you sent your Son to reconcile us to yourself and one another.

Lord, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division.

Christ, have mercy

Christ, have mercy

Holy Spirit, through you we put to death the sins of the body- and live.

Lord, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us,

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us,

Jesus, Redeemer of the world, grant us peace.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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 his cross,

may find it none other than the way of life and peace,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Ministry of the Word

The Psalm: Psalm 36: 5-11

Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens,

and your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness stands like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep:

you, Lord, shall save both man and beast.

How precious is your loving mercy, O God:

all mortal flesh shall take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens,

and your faithfulness to the clouds.

They shall be satisfied with the abundance of your house:

they shall drink from the river of your delights.

For with you is the well of life:

and in your light shall we see light.

Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens,

and your faithfulness to the clouds.

O continue your loving-kindness to those who know you:

and your righteousness to those who are true of heart.

Let not the foot of pride come against me:

nor the hand of the ungodly thrust me away.
Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.

Canticle: The Song of Christ's Glory

Christ Jesus was in the form of God:
but he did not cling to equality with God.
He emptied himself, taking the form of a servant:
and was born in our human likeness.
And being found in human form he humbled himself:
and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.
Therefore God has highly exalted him:
and bestowed on him the name above every name.
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow:
in heaven and on earth and under the earth.
and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord:
to the glory of God the Father. Amen

The Bible Reading: John 12: 1-11

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.' When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came not only because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death as well, since it was on account of him that many of the Jews were deserting and were believing in Jesus.

ADDRESS

Response

SCRIPTURAL AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Christ suffered for us, leaving us an example,
that we should follow in his steps.
He committed no sin, no guile was found on his lips,
when he was reviled, he did not revile in turn.
when he suffered, he did not threaten,
but he trusted himself to God, who judges justly.
Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree,
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.
By his wounds we have been healed,
for we were straying like sheep,
but have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of our souls.

1 Peter 2: 21b-25

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray to the Father through the Son
who suffered on the cross for the world's redemption.

Fill with your Spirit Christ's broken body, the Church...
Give to Christian people everywhere a deep longing
to take up the cross and to understand its mysterious glory.
By the Saviour's cross and passion,
Lord, save us and help us.

Bless those who lead the Church's worship at this solemn time...
In the preaching of the word and the celebration of the sacraments
draw your people close to you.
By the Saviour's cross and passion,
Lord, save us and help us.

Strengthen those who are preparing for baptism,
together with their teachers, sponsors and families...
Teach them what it means to die and rise with Christ
and prepare them to receive the breath of his Spirit.
By the Saviour's cross and passion,
Lord, save us and help us.

Look in your mercy on the world you loved so much
that you sent your Son to suffer and to die...
Strengthen those who work to share
the reconciliation won at such cost upon the cross.
By the Saviour's cross and passion,
Lord, save us and help us.

Bring healing by the wounds of Christ
to all who are weighed down by pain and injustice...
Help the lonely and the betrayed, the suffering and the dying,
to find strength in the companionship of Jesus,
and in his passion to know their salvation.
By the Saviour's cross and passion,
Lord, save us and help us.

Welcome us into paradise when we leave this world in your friendship.
According to your promises bring us with all your saints
to share in all the benefits of Christ's death and resurrection.
By the Saviour's cross and passion,
Lord, save us and help us.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

**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.**

Closing Hymn: 597 "Take my life and let it be"

Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in endless praise.

Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my king;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-79)

Dismissal

BLESSING

Christ draw you to himself
and grant that you find in his cross
a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope,
and the assurance of sins forgiven;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**