



Good Friday

The Celebration of the Lord's Passion

(sometime BEFORE sundown, Friday April 10, 2020)

Participation—*to prepare for this service, you will need to have a copy of the Bible, and a cross (or picture of a cross) to be placed on a table or place of honour for viewing during the Meditation on the Cross. You may also wish to use candles as part of the Meditation.*

+ The Ministry of the Word +

One: All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way.

All: **And the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.**

One: Christ the Lord became obedient unto death.

All: **Even death on a cross.**

One: Almighty God,

All: **we have sinned**

in thought and word and deed;

we have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We pray you of your mercy,

Forgive us all that is past,

and grant that we may serve you in newness of life

to the glory of your name. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

One: Almighty God, look graciously, we pray, on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and given into the hands of sinners, 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.**

Psalm 22.1-7, 14-19

- 1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from saving me, so far from the words of
my groaning?
- 2 My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer;
by night, but I find no rest.
- 3 Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- 4 Our ancestors put their trust in you,
they trusted, and you rescued them.
- 5 They cried out to you and were delivered;
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- 6 But as for me, I am a worm and not human,
scorned by all and despised by the people.
- 7 All who see me laugh me to scorn;
they curl their lips; they shake their heads.
- 14 I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint;
my heart within my breast is melting wax.
- 15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the
roof of my mouth; and you have laid me in the dust of death.
- 16 Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers circles round me;
they pierce my hands and my feet.
- 17 I can count all my bones; while they stare at me and gloat.
- 18 They divide my garments among them;
for my clothing, they cast lots.
- 19 But you, O LORD, be not far away;
O my help, hasten to my aid.

+ The Solemn Intercession +

If you have a Book of Alternative Services, you may wish to use the form that begins on p. 309. The following form may be used instead, the text in bold indicating how to alter petitions if there is more than one participant:

Confident that Jesus Christ hears our prayer, we/I offer petitions with an open heart:

For the church, for Todd our bishop,
for N. our church leaders,
and for all people who live their lives in service of God:
May they know the intimacy of authentic relationship with Christ.

For all preparing for baptism or confirmation,
And all those who must wait for a time when the church may gather again:
May they respond to their baptismal call with courage, opening their hearts to the invitation of God.

For all who are sick or suffering in body, mind, or spirit:
May they know the great compassion of God through those who care for them.

For peace in our families, communities, nation, and world:
May all seek resolution to disagreement and difference in ways that protect the life and dignity of all people.
For all who are unemployed or underemployed:
May they find opportunities to use their gifts for the service of others in ways that are sustaining and life-giving.

For all who grieve:
May they know the consolation of hope found in Christ.

Other petitions and intercessions may be added.

This form concludes with the following prayer:

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light,
look favourably on your whole Church,
that wonderful and sacred mystery.
By the effectual working of your providence,
carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation.
Let the whole world see and know
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 being brought to their perfection
by him through whom all things were made,
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

+ Meditation on the Cross of Jesus +

Place a cross on a table or some other place of honour, adding candles if you wish. Be sure to allow some time in silent reflection as you gaze upon the cross and grow in relationship with Jesus.

Part of the beauty of the Meditation on the Cross is the time for personal prayer and reflection, as well as performing individual acts of reverence. You may wish to touch the cross, or show another suitable sign, such as a bow or kiss. Take your time with this Meditation; there is no need to rush.

Do not let this time be cluttered by words but bask in the power of the cross as a symbol of not only death but ultimately of Resurrection. To begin and end the time of reflection, simply proclaim and respond with the following:

One: Christ our Lord became obedient unto death.

People: Come let us worship.

You are encouraged to end your time of meditation with a favourite hymn that extols the victory of the Cross, or with this simple anthem:

**We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
Because by your holy cross you redeemed the world.**

**If we have died with him, we shall also live with him;
If we endure, we shall also reign with him.**

Thanks be to God. Amen.