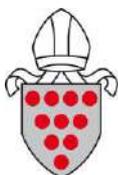


# Service of the Word

Good Friday 2021  
12noon on Zoom



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
DIOCESE OF  
WORCESTER



Kingdom People  
love • compassion • justice • freedom

# 1 Greeting

Leader In the name of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit

**All Amen**

Leader We meet in the presence of God

**All who knows our needs, hears our cries,  
feels our pain, and heals our wounds.**

# 2 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 forever.

**All Amen**

# 3 1st Reading Isaiah 52:13 - 53:end

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

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

<sup>15</sup> so 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.

53 Who has believed what we have heard?

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

<sup>2</sup> For 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.

<sup>3</sup> He 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.

<sup>4</sup> Surely he has borne our infirmities  
and carried our diseases;  
yet we accounted him stricken,  
struck down by God, and afflicted.

<sup>5</sup> But 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.

<sup>6</sup> All 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.

<sup>7</sup> He 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.

<sup>8</sup> By 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.

<sup>9</sup> They 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.

<sup>10</sup> Yet 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.

<sup>11</sup> Out 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.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore 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.

## 4 The first hymn

*'It is a thing most wonderful', sung by St Martin's Voices.*

- 1 It is a thing most wonderful,  
almost too wonderful to be,  
that God's own Son should come from heav'n,  
and die to save a child like me.
- 2 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.
- 3 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.
- 4 It is most wonderful to know  
His love for me so free and sure;  
but 'tis more wonderful to see  
my love for Him so faint and poor.
- 5 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.

*William Walsham How (1823-1897)*

## 5 2nd Reading Hebrews 10.16-25

<sup>16</sup> 'This is the covenant that I will make with them  
after those days, says the Lord:

I will put my laws in their hearts,  
and I will write them on their minds',

<sup>17</sup>he also adds,

'I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.'

<sup>18</sup>Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any  
offering for sin.

19 Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup>by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), <sup>21</sup>and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup>let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup>Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup>And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup>not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

## 6 The second hymn

*'There is a green hill far away', sung by St Martin's Voices.*

- 1 There is a green hill far away,  
without a city wall,  
where the dear Lord was crucified,  
who died to save us all.
- 2 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.
- 3 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.
- 4 There was no other good enough  
to pay the price of sin;  
he only could unlock the gate  
of heaven, and let us in.
- 5 O dearly, dearly has he loved,  
and we must love him too,  
and trust in his redeeming blood,  
and try his works to do.

## 7 The Passion John 18:1 - 19:37

*We will use a dramatized version of St John's Passion.  
This has been provided separately.*

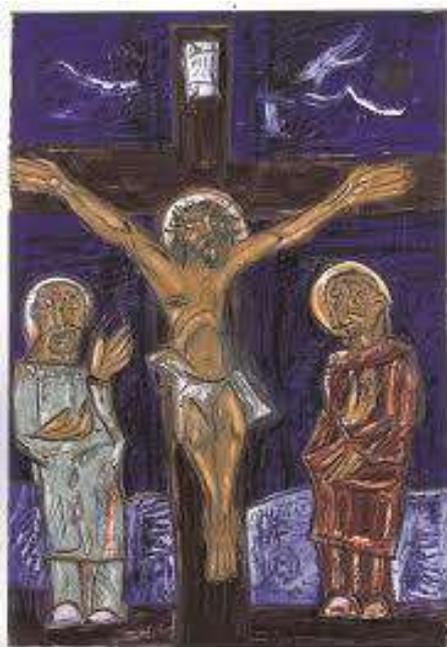
Priest The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
*The congregation makes no response*

*At the end*

Priest This is the Passion of the Lord  
*Again, the congregation makes no response*

## 8 The first anthem

*We will listen to 'Were you there when they crucified my Lord',  
sung by St Martin's Voices as we reflect on the death of Jesus.*



## 9 The Sermon

*Adam will share some thoughts on the events of Good Friday and what it means for us today.*

## 10 The second anthem

*We will listen to 'O sacred head sore wounded' by Johann Sebastian Bach, sung by St Martin's Voices to aid our reflection on all that we have thought and heard from God.*

## 11 Prayers for the church and the world

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.

Leader Let us pray for the Church of God throughout the world:  
for unity in faith, in witness and in service,  
for bishops and other ministers,  
and those whom they serve,  
for John, our bishop,  
Martin, Bishop of Dudley,  
and the people of this diocese,  
for all Christians in this place,  
for those to be baptised,  
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*

Priest 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.

**All Amen**

Leader Let us pray for the nations of the world  
and their leaders: for Elizabeth our Queen,  
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*

Priest 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.

**All Amen**

Leader Let us pray for God's ancient people, the Jews,  
the 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*

Priest 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

**All Amen**

Leader Let us pray  
for those who do not believe 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.

**All Amen**

Leader 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 in 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.

**All Amen**

Leader 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*

Priest 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 forever.

**All Amen**

Priest Standing at the foot of the cross, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

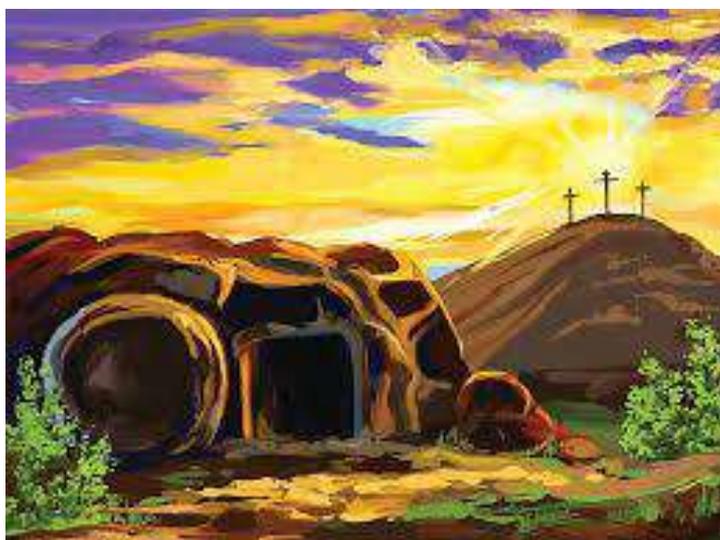
**All Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen**

## 12 The third hymn

*'When I survey the wondrous cross', sung by St Martin's Voices.*

- 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 cross of Christ, my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them through 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?
- 4 His dying crimson, like a robe,  
spreads o'er his body on the tree;  
then am I dead to all the globe,  
and all the globe is dead to me.
- 5 Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small.  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.

*Isaac Watts (1674-1748)*



## 13 Concluding Prayer

Priest     O Lord Jesus Christ,  
              Son of the living God,  
              set your passion, cross and death  
              between your judgement and our souls,  
              now and in the hour of our death.  
              Grant mercy and grace to the living,  
              rest to the departed,  
              to your Church peace and concord  
              and to us sinners forgiveness,  
              and everlasting life and glory;  
              for, with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
              you are alive and reign,  
              God, now and for ever.

All            **Amen.**

## 14 Gospel of the Burial of Christ    John 19:38-end

Priest     Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jews. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away. He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

*This time of worship now ends in silence.*