



## MID-DAY PRAYER ON GOOD FRIDAY 2 April 2021

### THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

#### The Greeting

##### *Presider*

All we like sheep have gone astray;  
we have turned every one to our own way,  
**and the Lord has laid on Christ  
the iniquity of us all.**

Christ the Lord became obedient unto death,  
**even death on a cross.**

##### *Silence*

God of mercy and forgiveness,  
**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

### *Presider*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, look graciously, we pray, on this 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.**

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

### The Psalm: Psalm 22.1-6, 15-22, 29-31

#### *Psalmist*

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

- <sup>1</sup> My God, my God, why have you forsaken me \*  
and are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress?
- <sup>2</sup> O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; \*  
by night as well, but I find no rest.
- <sup>3</sup> Yet you are the Holy One, \*  
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

- <sup>4</sup> Our ancestors put their trust in you; \*  
they trusted, and you delivered them.
- <sup>5</sup> They cried out to you and were delivered; \*  
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- <sup>6</sup> But as for me, I am a worm and not human, \*  
scorned by all and despised by the people.

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

- <sup>15</sup> My mouth is dried out like a potsherd;  
my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; \*  
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.
- <sup>16</sup> Packs of dogs close me in and gangs of evildoers circle around me; \*  
they pierce my hands and my feet.
- <sup>17</sup> I can count all my bones \*  
while they stare and gloat over me.
- <sup>18</sup> They divide my garments among them; \*  
they cast lots for my clothing.

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

- <sup>19</sup> Be not far away, O Lord; \*  
you are my strength; hasten to help me.
- <sup>20</sup> Save me from the sword, \*  
my life from the power of the dog.
- <sup>21</sup> Save me from the lion's mouth, \*  
my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.
- <sup>22</sup> I will declare your name to my kindred; \*  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

- <sup>29</sup> To God alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*  
all who go down to the dust fall before God.
- <sup>30</sup> My soul shall live for God;  
my descendants shall serve God; \*  
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.
- <sup>31</sup> They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*  
the saving deeds that God has done.

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

*Psalmist*

Holy One, Jesus felt abandoned and cried out in anguish from the cross, yet you delivered him. He overcame the bonds of death and you raised him in triumph from the grave. Do not hide your face from those who cry out to you: feed the hungry, strengthen the weak, and break the chains of the oppressed, so that your people may rejoice in your saving deeds. This we ask in the name of your Beloved, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**The Reading: John 19.1-42**

*Reader 1*

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*Reader 1*

[Pilate] took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face. Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." The [authorities] answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."

*Reader 2*

Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the [authorities] cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor."

### *Reader 3*

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the [crowd], "Here is your King!" They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

### *Reader 1*

So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." [Many of the onlookers] read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. Then [the chief priests] said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top.

### *Reader 2*

So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots." And that is what the soldiers did.

### *Reader 3*

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

### *Reader 1*

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

### *Silence*

### *Reader 2*

Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

### *Reader 3*

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

**Musical Reflection:** ['Were You There'](#)

## THE PRAYERS

### *Leader of the Prayers*

Let us pray for the one holy catholic and apostolic Church of Christ throughout the world:

- for its unity in witness and service,
- for all bishops and other ministers, and the people whom they serve,
- for John our bishop, and all the people of this diocese,
- for all Christians in this community,
- for those about to be baptized

that the Lord will confirm the Church in faith, increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

Lord, **hear and have mercy.**

Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth, and for those in authority among them:

- for Elizabeth our Queen and all the Royal Family,
- for Justin the Prime Minister and for the government of this country,
- for John the premier of this province and the members of the legislature,
- for Jonathan the mayor of this municipality and those who serve with him on the city council,
- for the elders and elected councillors of the First Nations on whose lands we gather and worship,
- for all who serve the common good,

that by God's help they may seek justice and truth, and live in peace and concord.

Lord, **hear and have mercy.**

Let us pray for all who suffer and are afflicted in body or in mind:

- for the hungry and homeless,
- for the destitute and the oppressed, and all who suffer persecution or prejudice,
- for the sick, the wounded, and the handicapped,
- for those in loneliness, fear and anguish,
- for those who face temptation, doubt and despair,
- for the sorrowful and bereaved,
- for prisoners and captives and those in mortal danger,

that our merciful God will comfort and relieve them, and grant them the knowledge of the divine love and stir up in us the will and patience to minister to their needs.

Lord, **hear and have mercy.**

Let us pray for all who have not yet received the gospel of Christ:

- for all who have not heard the words of salvation,
- for all who have lost their faith,
- for all whose sin has made them indifferent to Christ,
- for all who actively oppose Christ by word or deed,
- for all who are enemies of the cross of Christ and persecutors of his disciples,
- for all who in the name of Christ have persecuted others,

that God will open their hearts to the truth, and lead them to faith and obedience.

Lord, **hear and have mercy.**

Let us commit ourselves to God, and pray for the grace of a holy life, that with all who have departed this life and have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to God alone, we may be accounted worthy to enter into the fullness of the joy of our Lord, and receive the crown of life in the day of resurrection.

Lord, **hear and have mercy.**



*Presider*

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 tranquillity 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.**

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.

**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 forever. Amen.**

**Musical Reflection:** ['O Sacred Head, Sore Wounded'](#)

**THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY**

*Presider*

Let us pray.

Send down your abundant blessing, Lord, upon your people who have devoutly recalled the death of your Son in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection. Grant them pardon; bring them comfort. May their faith grow stronger and their eternal salvation be assured. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**