



Good Friday At Holy Trinity Cathedral

10:30 am

April 3, 2026

Whether you are a lifelong Anglican or new to this tradition, we welcome you this morning. If you are not familiar with the worship, simply allow the words, music and symbols to speak to you. Participate as you feel comfortable. We stand to sing and sit to listen. The music for the songs is in the blue Common Praise hymnal.

*You are invited to join in the words in **bold type**.*

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

As you enter, you are invited to take a stone from the basket by the doors and to hold it as a symbol of your cares and prayers this day.

Prelude music

Gathering Hymn

***“Who Would Ever Have Believed It?”
Common Praise 199 (tune Ar Fond Kiss)***

**Who would ever have believed it?
Who could ever have conceived it?
Who dared trace God’s hand behind it
When a servant came among us?**

**Like a sapling, in dry soil,
He was rooted in our presence;
Lacking beauty, grace, and splendour,
No one felt attracted to him.**

**We despised him, we disowned him,
Though he clearly hurt and suffered;
We, believing he was worthless,
Never turned our eyes towards him.**

**Yet it was the pain and torment
We deserved which he accepted,
While we reckoned his affliction
Must have come by heaven’s instruction.**

**Though our sins let him be wounded,
Though our cruelty left him beaten,
Yet, through how and why he suffered,
God revealed our hope of healing.**

**We like sheep despite our wisdom,
All had wandered from God's purpose;
And our due in pain and anger
God let fall on one among us.**

**Who would ever have believed it?
Who could ever have conceived it?
Who dared trace God's hand behind it
When a servant came among us.**

The Greeting

Presider: All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned every one to their own way,

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

Presider: Christ the Lord became obedient unto death,
Even death on a cross.

Please take a minute for reflection

Presider: Almighty God,

**All Our heavenly Father,
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.

All: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

All: **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 GOOD NEWS

Hebrew Scriptures: Isaiah 52.13-53.12

Reader: A Reading from the prophet Isaiah,

See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. 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— 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.

Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? 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. 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.

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

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. 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. 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. 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. 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.

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. 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.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22 (sung by the HTC Choir)

My God, my God, why have you for - sak - en me?

Refrain: “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

Second Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16 & 5:7-9

Reader: A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews,

¹⁴ Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

⁷ In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸ Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹ and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

All: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word,
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn

“Were You There”

Common Praise 192 (tune Were You There)

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble:
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?...

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?...

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?...

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?...

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?...

The Gospel: John 18:1-19:42

Note: The term “the Jews” in St John’s Gospel applies to particular individuals and not to the whole Jewish people. Insofar as we ourselves turn against Christ, we bear responsibility for his suffering and death. The congregation may be seated until the verse which mentions the arrival at Golgotha (John 19.17) at which time please stand as you are able. A candle will be extinguished after each of the seven readings.

The Teaching

the Rev. Stephanie Shepard

Anthem- HTC Choir

Meditation: ‘Is it Nothing/Ave Verum Corpus’, Arr. George Ryan

THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Laying our Burden Down

Leader: Could we all now take in our hands the stone we have held during the service? Stones are what people wanted to throw at Jesus during his life; stones are also what surrounded him in the tomb and through stone he pushed his way back into life on the third day.

As we remember our Lord’s death, and see how he was crucified by the action or apathy of people like ourselves, let us remember that it was for our sins he died.

All: Let us remember the wrong things in our life which burden us, threaten each other, and offend God.

silence

Leader: And after we have recognized what these things are, let us give them to God to take away. For Jesus is the one who said, ‘Give me your burdens’, and Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Offering Hymn

**“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”
Common Praise 386 (tune Rockingham)**

*During the singing, a wooden cross will be brought into the church
and placed in the sight of all present.*

**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.**

**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 to his blood.**

**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?**

**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.**

Leader: Let us listen to these words of Jesus, spoken directly to us.
'I am the good shepherd and I know my sheep and I lay down
my life for them.'

'There is no greater love than this, that a man lay down his life
for his friends, and you are my friends if you do what I have
commanded.'

'Whoever believes in me, I will never turn away. Whoever has
faith in me, even though he or she dies, will live forever.'

'Now I am going to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God, but I shall return.'

We can now, if we want, take the stone representing our burdens, and lay it at the foot of the cross.

You are invited to come forward at this time or after the service.

Meditation on the Cross of Jesus

Presider: This is the wood of the cross,
on which hung the Saviour of the world.

All: Come let us worship.

Presider: Christ our Lord became obedient unto death.

All: Come let us worship.

Presider: We glory in your cross, O Lord,

**All: And praise and glorify your holy resurrection;
for by virtue of your cross
joy has come to the whole world.**

Presider: May God be merciful to us and bless us,
show us the light of his countenance, and come to us.

**All: Let your ways be known upon the earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

Presider: Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

**All: We glory in your cross, O Lord,
and praise and glorify your holy resurrection;
for by virtue of your cross
joy has come to the whole world. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider: In the language closest to your heart, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

(use the traditional version or another language if you prefer)

**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,
and 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 and yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Sending Hymn

"There is a Green Hill"

Common Praise 202 (tune Horsley)

**There is a green hill far away, outside a city wall,
where the dear Lord was crucified who died to save us all.**

**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.**

**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.**

**There was no other good enough to pay the price of sin;
he only could unlock the gate of heaven and let us in.**

**O dearly, dearly has he loved, and we must love him too,
and trust in his redeeming blood, and try his works to do.**

Liturgical texts taken from the BAS, Anglican Church of Canada. 'Laying our Burden Down' adapted from Stages on the Way, the Iona Community.



*Today we welcome participation from the three Anglican parishes
of New Westminster:
Holy Trinity Cathedral, St. Mary the Virgin, and St. Barnabas.*

Come join the New Westminster Cross Walk,
gathering at 12 noon
in front of the Holy Trinity Cathedral Hall.
Refreshments to follow in the Parish Hall Lounge
at approximately 1 pm.

Saturday Easter Vigil 7 pm at St. Mary the Virgin
Sunday Easter Services at
8 am (Holy Trinity Cathedral),
preceded by Easter Fire 7:30 am
and 10 am (all three parishes)