Service sheet for Good Friday

2nd April 2021



Christ of St John of the Cross,
Salvador Dali.

Walking alone, Lord, you go to your sacrifice, victim of death, and our death's mighty conqueror.
What can we say to you, knowing our poverty, you, who have freed us from sin and from slavery? (Peter Abelard, 1097-1142)

CONFESSION Forgive me the sins which I know, and those sins which I know not; forgive them , O Lord, forgive them all of thy great goodness.*(Lancelot Andrewes 1555-1626)*

May the Father forgive us by the death of his Son, and strengthen us to live in the power of the Spirit all our days. Amen (CW)

COLLECT
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 for ever.

READINGS Isaiah 52: 13-end of 53; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18: 1-end of 19.



Always the same hills
Crown the horizon,
Remote witnesses
Of the still scene
And in the foreground
The tall Cross,
Sombre, untenanted,
Aches for the Body
That is back in the cradle of a maid's arms.
'Pieta' by R.S.Thomas

PRAYERS
Eternal God, in the cross of Jesus we see the cost of our sin and the depth of your love: in humble hope and fear may we place at his feet all that we have and all that we are, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We pray for the world and all its people. 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. Amen.

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. Amen.

(Prayers from the Common Worship Liturgy of Good Friday).

WE SAY THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE SHARE THE GRACE

See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingling down:
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?
(Isaac Watts)

Service sheet for Holy Saturday, April 3rd.



***Window at All Saints' Church, Farmborough*.**

And so we took him down
(Or thought we did).
Wiped off the sweat and spittle
From his face,
Washed the dried blood,
Threw out the crown of thorns,
And wrapped him once again
In swaddling clothes.
A tomb can be a cramped, confining place,
Far smaller than a stable.
We laid him there
(Or thought we did).
We were not able to comprehend
The infinite contained.
For us it was the end.
Only the harsh realities of death and stone
Remained. *(Elizabeth Rooney)*

CONFESSION O sweet Jesus, I grieve for my sins; vouchsafe to supply whatever is lacking to my true sorrow and to offer for me to God the Father all the grief which thou hast endured because of my sins and those of the whole world. *(Mechthild of Magdeburg)*
You are rich in grace and mercy, you are willing to cleanse all sinners from their guilt. You take the sinfulness from sinners, O Christ, and when we repent you make us welcome beside you. *(Rabbula of Edessa)*.

COLLECT Grant, Lord, that we who are baptized into the death of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ may continually put to death our evil desires and be buried with him; and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass to our joyful resurrection; through his merits, who died and was buried and rose again for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen**.

READINGS Lamentations 3.1-9, 19-24, Psalm 31.1-5, 1Peter 4.1-8, Matt. 27.57-end.

PRAYERS We bow before you, Lord, in the shadow of darkness; we watch and wait.
We bring before you all those who suffer physical pain or mental anguish, those who mourn loved ones, those who are lonely or feel rejected, those who feel overcome by the darkness. Especially we pray for……

Let us embrace the way of the Crucified Jesus; fountain of life, source of hope, deliverer from slavery, maker of peace, obedient to death, pioneer of the narrow way, burning flame of love, source of all faithfulness, sanctuary of justice, elder brother, Lamb slain before the foundation of the world, bodily presence of the fullness of God, our life, our death, our resurrection. *(Jim Cotter).*

We say the **LORD'S PRAYER**

We share **THE GRACE**

FINAL PRAYER
Good Captain, maker of the light
Who dost divide the day and night,
The sun is drowned beneath the sea,
Chaos is on us horribly,
O Christ, give back to faithful souls the light!
(Prayer for the kindling of the light on Easter Eve, attributed to Prudentius [348-410]).

