



# *A Liturgy of the Word Good Friday*

## *2 April 2021*



Ven. Moses Thabethe



Rev. Allie Joseph



Rev. Matthew Wright



Rev. Margaret Place



Rev. Alison Thabethe

### *Opening Acclamation*



Blessed be the God of our salvation.

**Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

For us and for the salvation of all people, Christ became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

**Blessed be the Name of the Lord.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

### *The Collect*



**Eternal God**

**The cross of Jesus reveals the cost of our sin**

**And the depth of your love:**

**In humble hope and awe**

**May we place at his feet**

**All that we have and all that we are;**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

### *Hymn*



There is a green hill far away,  
outside a city wall,  
where our 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.

Author: Cecil Frances Alexander (1848)

## Liturgy of the Word



### The Gospel of the Passion



John 18:1 – 19:42

**Narrator:** Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them,

**Christ:** Whom are you looking for?

**Narrator:** They answered

**Soldiers:** Jesus of Nazareth.

**Narrator:** Jesus replied,

**Christ:** I am he.

**Narrator:** Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, 'I am he,' they stepped back and fell to the ground. Again he asked them,

**Christ:** Whom are you looking for?

**Narrator:** And they said,

**Soldiers:** Jesus of Nazareth.

**Narrator:** Jesus answered,

**Christ:** I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go.

**Narrator:** This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, 'I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me.' Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter,

**Christ:** Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?

**Narrator:** So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him.

First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people. Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went



with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. The woman said to Peter,

**Crowds:** You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?

**Narrator:** Peter said,

**Peter:** I am not.

**Narrator:** Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself. Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. Jesus answered,

**Christ:** I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said.

**Narrator:** When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying,

**Soldier:** Is that how you answer the high priest?

**Narrator:** Jesus answered,

**Christ:** If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?

**Narrator:** Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him,

**Soldiers:** You are not also one of his disciples, are you?

**Narrator:** Peter denied it and said,

**Peter:** I am not.

**Narrator:** One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked,

**Slave:** Did I not see you in the garden with him?

**Narrator:** Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed. Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said,

**Pilate:** What accusation do you bring against this man?

**Narrator:** They answered,

**Crowds:** If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.

**Narrator:** Pilate said to them,

**Pilate:** Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.

**Narrator:** The Jews replied,

**Crowds:** We are not permitted to put anyone to death.

**Narrator:** (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.) Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him,

**Pilate:** Are you the King of the Jews?

**Narrator:** Jesus answered,

**Narrator:** Pilate asked him,

**Pilate:** So you are a king?

**Narrator:** Jesus answered,

**Christ:** You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.

**Narrator:** Pilate asked him,

**Pilate:** What is truth?

**Narrator:** After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them,



**Pilate:** I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?

**Narrator:** They shouted in reply,

**Christ:** Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?

**Narrator:** Pilate replied,

**Pilate:** I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?

**Narrator:** Jesus answered,

**Christ:** My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.

**Crowds:** Not this man, but Barabbas!

**Narrator:** Now Barabbas was a bandit. Then 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,

**Soldiers:** Hail, King of the Jews!

**Narrator:** and striking him on the face. Pilate went out again and said to them,

**Pilate:** Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him.

**Narrator:** So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them,

**Pilate:** Here is the man!

**Narrator:** When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted,

**Crowds:** Crucify him! Crucify him!

**Narrator:** Pilate said to them,

**Pilate:** Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him.

**Narrator:** The Jews answered him,

**Crowds:** We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God.

**Narrator:** Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus,

**Pilate:** Where are you from?

**Narrator:** But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him,

**Pilate:** Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?

**Narrator:** Jesus answered him,

**Christ:** 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.

**Narrator:** From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out,

**Crowds:** If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor.

**Narrator:** 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. Pilate said to the Jews,

**Pilate:** Here is your King!

**Narrator:** They cried out,

**Crowds:** Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!

**Narrator:** Pilate asked them,

**Pilate:** Shall I crucify your King?



- Narrator:** The chief priests answered,
- Crowds:** We have no king but the emperor.
- Narrator:** Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. 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 Jews 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 of the Jews said to Pilate,
- Crowds:** Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'
- Narrator:** Pilate answered,
- Pilate:** What I have written I have written.
- Narrator:** 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. So they said to one another,
- Soldiers:** Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.
- Narrator:** 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. 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,
- Christ:** Woman, here is your son.
- Narrator:** Then he said to the disciple,
- Christ:** Here is your mother.
- Narrator:** And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture),
- Christ:** I am thirsty.
- Narrator:** 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,
- Christ:** It is finished.
- Narrator:** Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

*Silence is kept.*

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.'

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.



*A period of silence follows.*

*Taizè*



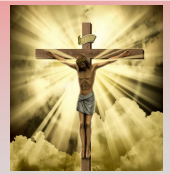
Jesus, remember me

*Homily*



Revd Matthew Wright

## *The General Intercessions*



*The Deacon leads the following General Intercessions. Please kneel or sit.*

Let us pray for the Holy Church of God (that our God and Lord will preserve it in peace throughout the whole world; and that we, leading a quiet and peaceable life, may glorify the Creator of heaven and earth).

Almighty and everlasting God,  
in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations:  
preserve the works of your mercy,  
that your Church throughout the world may persevere,  
with steadfast faith, in the confession of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ  
Lord in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for all bishops, priests and deacons, and especially *Steve* our Bishop (that God would clothe them with wisdom, and fill them with the Holy Spirit). Let us pray also for this congregation (that God would make us a royal priesthood, a holy nation, to the glory of Christ Jesus).

Almighty and everlasting God,  
by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people  
is governed and sanctified:  
receive our supplications and prayers  
for all members of your holy Church;  
that in their vocation and ministry  
they may truly and devoutly serve you  
to the glory of your name.

Lord, in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for those preparing to be baptised (that our Lord and God may give them illumination and understanding, opening their hearts, strengthening their faith, and granting them the waters of rebirth, so they may be one with Christ Jesus our Lord).



Almighty and everlasting God,  
you make your Church ever fruitful with new offspring:  
increase the faith and understanding of those to be baptised;  
that as they are buried with Christ by baptism into death,  
so in Christ they may be raised to newness of life;

Lord, in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for those in tribulation and special need (for those weighed down with sickness or any trouble; for those who are in prison and captivity for the name of the Lord: that God would deliver them from every illness and disease, open the prisons, loose their chains, and restore them sound into the holy Church).

Almighty and ever-living God,  
the comfort of the sorrowful,  
the strength of those who suffer:  
hear the prayers of your children who cry out in any tribulation;  
that all may rejoice,  
having known your merciful love in their time of need;

Lord, in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for God's ancient people, the Jews, who were the first to hear the word of the Lord our God (that together we may advance in the love of God's name and in faithfulness to God's covenant).

Almighty and ever-living God,  
who bestowed your promises  
on Abraham and Sarah and their descendants:  
bless the children of your covenant,  
both Christian and Jew;  
take from us all blindness and bitterness of heart,  
and hasten the coming of your kingdom,  
when Israel shall be saved, the Gentiles gathered in,  
and we shall dwell together in mutual love and peace

Lord, in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for all our brothers and sisters who believe in Christ (that our Lord and God may be pleased to regard not our sins, but the faith of the Church, and would grant peace and unity to all Christian people).

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you gather the scattered,  
and unite those you have brought together;  
look kindly on all who follow Jesus Christ, your Son;  
that we, who are consecrated by one baptism  
    into his life, death, and resurrection,  
may be joined together in the fullness of faith,  
and united in the fellowship of love;

Lord, in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**





Let us pray to Almighty God, the creator of heaven and earth, for the whole of creation, through Jesus Christ, in whom all things were made, and through whom all things were reconciled to the Father, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his Cross.

Eternal God of unchanging power and light:  
look with mercy on your whole creation;  
and bring to completion your saving work,  
so that the whole world may see the fallen lifted up,  
the old made new,  
and all things brought to perfection  
by him through whom all things were made,

Lord, in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father, accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## The Solemn Adoration of Christ



### The Entrance of the Cross



A wooden cross is brought into the church in procession and placed in the sight of the people. The priest stops 3 times to chant and the people respond.

This is the wood of the cross, on which hung the Saviour of the world  
**Come let us worship**

### The Adoration



We have set out white tiles on the floor, with a bowl of orange paint, a crown of thorns and a pair of nails.

To symbolise our gratitude and personal acknowledgement that Jesus was pierced for our transgressions, we invite the congregants to come forward, dip a cloth in the paint and make a mark on the cross.

During this time, Organ music will be playing.







## *Final Prayer*



*The hands of the presiding celebrant, may be extended towards the congregation, but the sign of the cross should not be made.*

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



*The congregation leave  
the church in silence*

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