



Passion Sunday

President: Revd Canon Andrew Rowland
Deacon: Revd Nick Wells
Gospeller: Revd Heather Waldsax
OT Reader: Marilyn Barber
Prayer Reader: Peter Cook

Greeting

Lord of all, we praise you
for all whom we love but see no longer,
who have entered into their rest.
Give us grace to follow in their footsteps
as they followed in the way of your Son.
Thank you for the memory of those you have called to yourself:
by each memory, turn our hearts from things seen
to things unseen,
and lead us till we come to the eternal rest
you have prepared for your people,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Opening Hymn **707** Lift high the cross

Silence

Reader: Marilyn Barber

³ *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.*

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

⁵ *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.*

⁶ *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.*

*⁷ 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.*

[Isaiah 53: 1-9 NRSVA]

Commentary Revd Heather

Silent reflection

Reader: Peter Cook

Gracious God,
We remember the suffering death of Jesus.
He was despised and rejected,
oppressed and afflicted,
yet he was prepared to be wounded for our transgressions.
**We come overwhelmed by the depth of Jesus' love for us,
and his commitment to defeat evil,
even when that meant his own suffering and his own death.**
In his willingness to make us righteous,
he poured himself out to death,
even death on a cross,
and so, in response to such love and sacrifice,
we commit ourselves as his disciples
to overcome evil with good,
suffering with wholeness,
and oppression with justice.
In Jesus' name, we pray. **Amen.**

— written by Moira Laidlaw, and posted on **Liturgies Online**. <http://www.liturgiesonline.com.au/>

Psalm 51 – Penitential Psalm

Revd N: Have mercy on me, O God,

**According to your steadfast love; according to your
abundant mercy**

Revd H: blot out my transgressions.

Reader 1: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

Reader 2: and cleanse me from my sin.

Reader 1: For I know my transgressions,

Reader 2: and my sin is ever before me.

**Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is
evil in your sight,**

Reader 1: so that you are justified in your sentence

Reader 2: and blameless when you pass judgment.

Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

Reader 1: You desire truth in the inward being;

Reader 2: Therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Reader 1: Let me hear joy and gladness;

Reader 2: Let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities.

Reader 1: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Reader 2: Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Reader 1: Then I will teach transgressors your ways,

Reader 2: and sinners will return to you.

Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

Reader 1: O Lord, open my lips,

Reader 2: and my mouth will declare your praise.

For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Silence

O Lord, who has mercy on all,
take away from us our sins,
and mercifully kindle in us
the fire of your Holy Spirit.

Take away from us the heart of stone,
and give us a heart of flesh,
a heart to love and adore you,
a heart to delight in you,
to follow and enjoy you,
for Christ's sake Amen

~ St. Ambrose of Milan (AD 339-397)

Reader: Marilyn Barber

***31** The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. **32** It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. **33** But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. **34** No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the LORD', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.*

[Jeremiah 31: 31-34 NRSVA]

Commentary Revd Heather

Silent Reflection

The Creed

Let us affirm together
our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

The Gospel - Deacon

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Christ humbled himself and became obedient unto death,
even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted him

and given him the name that is above every name. *Philippians 2.8,9*

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord according to Mark

Three times Jesus prophesied his death

³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' ³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸ Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

[Mark 8: 31 -38 NRSVA]

³⁰ They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹ for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, 'The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.'

[Mark 9: 30-31 NRSVA]

32 They were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, 33 saying, 'See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles.

[Mark 10: 32-33 NRSVA]

Commentary The Rector

Silent Reflection

Reader: Peter Cook

Oh, God of love, power and faithfulness,
 We journey with your son,
 ever closer to Jerusalem,
 to his cross his true destiny.

 We hear his words
 "Take up your cross and follow me,"
but we aren't sure if it's the crosses of this life,
 or the actual cross of death.

 We hear his words,
 "deny your self,"
 and wonder which self it is;
 the self we put on for others,
 or the self centred self
 that wants it all for ourselves?

 Whichever it is,
 it seems like Jesus
 is asking a lot of us
 and we aren't sure we can do this.

 O God we will need your Holy Spirit
 to be able to do this.
 O God we will need your grace and mercy
 to be able to do this.

 We remember
 that you empowered your disciples,
 the early Christians,
 and others who decided to follow you,
 we believe that you will do likewise for us. Amen.

— written by Rev. Abi, and posted on [Rev. Abi's Long and Winding Road](#) blog.

The Peace

Christ is our peace.

He has reconciled us to God

in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

²⁰ Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' ²² Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

The Eucharistic Prayer B

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good

to give you thanks and praise,

almighty God and everlasting Father,

through Jesus Christ your Son.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast

with joyful hearts and minds

we bless you for your mercy

and join with saints and angels
for ever praising you and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

Gospeller: Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life

In the same night that he was betrayed,
Jesus took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Gospeller: ²⁶ *Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.* ²⁷ *'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—"Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour.* ²⁸ *Father, glorify your name.'* Then a voice came from heaven, *'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'*

²⁹ *The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.'* ³⁰ *Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine.* ³¹ *Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out.* ³² *And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.'* ³³ *He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.*

Deacon: Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Gospeller: ³⁴ *The crowd answered him, 'We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains for ever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?'* ³⁵ *Jesus said to them, 'The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light,*

so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. ³⁶ While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.' [NRSVA]

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, with the whole company of Heaven,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Agnus Dei

Anthem

Post Communion Prayer – Peter Cook

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your loving kindness;
in your great compassion, hear our prayers.

We pray for the whole church, all leaders and ministers,
and all the holy people of God.

Wash us through and through,
And cleanse us from our sin.

As this season of Lent draws to a close
we pray that we all might be given the grace and strength
to repent and grow closer to you, O God.

Create in us clean hearts, O God,

and renew a right spirit within us.

We pray for our nation, for all the nations of the earth,
and for all who govern and judge.

We pray for those who hunger, those who thirst,
those who cry out for justice,
those who live under the threat of terror,
and those without a place to lay their head.

Make them to hear of joy and gladness,

that those who are broken may rejoice.

We pray for those who are ill, those in pain,
those under stress, and those who are lonely.

Give them the joy of your saving help,

and sustain them with your bountiful Spirit.

We pray for those who have died,
and who have entered into eternity
and your abiding peace.

Cast them not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from them.

Lord Jesus,
you taught your disciples that unless a grain of wheat
falls into the earth and dies it remains just a single grain,
but if it dies it bears much fruit;
as we prepare our hearts to remember your death and resurrection,
grant us the strength and wisdom to serve and follow you,
this day and always. **Amen.**

— written by Rick Morley, and posted on his **Rick Morley** blog. <http://www.rickmorley.com/>

Closing Hymn **806** There's a wideness in God's mercy

Blessing and Dismissal

May the Father,
who so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
bring you by faith to his eternal life. **Amen.**

May Christ,
who accepted the cup of sacrifice
in obedience to the Father's will,
keep you steadfast as you walk with him the way of his cross. **Amen.**

May the Spirit,
who strengthens us to suffer with Christ
that we may share his glory,
set your minds on life and peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing...

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

In the name of Christ Amen

Organ Recessional

Mendelssohn Chorale and Variation: *Herzlich tut mich verlangen*

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