

Good Friday Order of service 10 April 2020

Call to worship The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. (Ps. 145:18 NIV)

Hymn O Sacred head now wounded

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wRvMx8uWaX4>

Prayer of Invocation

O Lord, we magnify you, we rejoice in you, O God our Saviour! You have regarded the low estate of your people, the Church in every age! You have done great things for us, and holy is your name, O mighty God! Remember your mercy to us in the name of Jesus Christ, for in Him we plead the new and eternal covenant; for in him the promises made to Abraham have been fulfilled. Remember your covenant once again, as you have from generation to generation. For yours is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, Father, ever blest, Son, ever praised, Holy Spirit, ever adored, One God now and always. Amen

Call to Confession

"Come now, let us settle the matter," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. (Isa. 1:18 NIV)

Responding to this command let us confess our sins to God

Confession of sin

For you, O God, we long. For you our souls Thirst, O ever living God. You are our life and the source of all life. Oh, that we might see your face and live. Yet our sins which our many have robbed us of joy, of the sense of your presence. Lord forgive this terrible thing that we are and the terrible things we have thought said and done.

Our souls are disturbed, we doubt, we become discouraged, we run from your word, and yet you pursue us and cause us to have hope in you.

We remember those times when we sensed your presence. We remember the joy of being in your sanctuary. Our hope is in you, that again we might praise you. O God strengthen our hope, feed us on your word, and increase our faith and restore to us the joy of salvation for Christ the Saviour's sake. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. (Acts 13:38 NIV) In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace (Eph. 1:7 NIV)

Hymn God of grace amazing wonder

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6crNdna2_4E

Announcements

A sermon for Easter will be recorded and sent out. Prayer meeting next Thursday 7:30pm via Skype.

Prayer for Illumination

O Lord, as we open Your word, enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may be able to comprehend what is the breadth and length and height and depth of the love of Christ. We ask this in our Saviour's name. Amen

Reading

Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. 33 When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals-- one on his right, the other on his left. 34 Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. 35 The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One." 36 The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar 37 and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." 38 There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. 39 One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" 40 But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? 41 We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." 42 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. " 43 Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise." 44 It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, 45 for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46 Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last. 47 The

centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, "Surely this was a righteous man." 48 When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away. 49 But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things. (Lk. 23:32-49 NIV)

Intercessory Prayer

Almighty God, in Jesus Christ you taught us to pray and to offer our petitions to you in his name. Guide us by your Holy Spirit, that our prayers for others may serve your will and show your steadfast love, through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Let us pray for the world.

God our creator, you made all things in your wisdom, and in your love you save us. We pray for the whole creation. Overthrow evil powers, right what is wrong, feed and satisfy those who thirst for justice, so that all your children may freely enjoy the earth you have made and joyfully sing your praises, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

We pray for the nations that are experiencing the devastating effects of the Coronavirus. We pray for the countries of Europe, especially Italy who are seeing high numbers of death. We pray for India, Iran, Nigeria and Sudan and other countries where our congregation have families. Lord we hear of talk of fighting spirit, determination and scientific knowhow and we thank you for these attitudes and knowledge, but Lord we are out of our depth in the face of this virus. Lord in mercy come to our aid and remove this virus from the world. Help the nations to turn to you in prayer and repentance and Lord bring healing to the nations.

Let us pray for the church.

Gracious God, you have called us to be the church of Jesus Christ. Keep us one in faith and service, celebrating the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper and proclaiming the good news to the world, that all may believe you are love, and turn to your ways, and live in the light of your truth, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Lord we have been removed from access to the sacraments and we are no longer able to meet in Your house. Help us to search our hearts and your Word to learn how we must turn back to You. We pray for our brothers and sisters in the local churches around us. May they be

built up in their faith and faithfully witness for you. Lord we pray that You will bless our churches that through this time we may see your hand working in our lives.

We pray for our own congregation (No names are used here but add the names in your prayers to intercede for those we know who are in need)

Lord remember those who feel anxious because of uncertainty in their lives, we pray for those who are waiting for surgery. We thank you for those who have come through surgery successfully. We pray that they will be kept safe from getting the virus. Lord we ask that you will give wisdom and skill to the doctors, nurses and other medical staff who are working at risk to themselves. We especially remember those associated with our congregation who work for the NHS. Lord keep them and their families safe. We pray for those who struggle with mental health issues may they be sustained in life and be sustained by you through their anxious times. We ask that this time of isolation will not add to their anxiety.

Be pleased to hear our prayers and answer according to your will and for your glory and we ask all these things through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come
your will be done on earth
as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our debts, as we also
have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one,
for yours is the kingdom and the
power and the glory for ever.
Amen.

Hymn From the breaking of the dawn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y6PSsTq0YD8>

Sermon

Hymn Jesus Christ I think upon your sacrifice

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jgzVGFxurgo>

Benediction May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all, now and forevermore. Amen