

2021-04-02 ... Good Friday 10am FTW Zoom Service ... Revd Canon Judy Hunt
'The Compassion of Jesus' ... from Praying Holy Week 2021
(stbeunosoutreach@gmail.com)

Welcome – you will need a paper and pencil / pen to have ready for later in the service ...



Vyacheslav Okun S.J., Good Friday 2020

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Take a few moments to look at the picture
To remember it is Good Friday
To recall who was at the cross with Jesus
To recall those who are close to death now ...

Opening Prayer

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,
to you be praise and glory for ever.

As a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief
your only Son was lifted up
that he might draw the whole world to himself.
May we walk this day in the way of the cross
and always be ready to share its weight,
declaring your love for all the world.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

PTO

GOOD FRIDAY

Jesus suffers with the terminally ill

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' Jesus replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

Luke 23: 39-43

"It's often worst when I wake up very early in the morning; I'm alone and have to admit that I'm so frightened sometimes. It's like an enormous wave engulfs me – I feel like I'm drowning. I can't get my breath, and everything is black around me. I'm so afraid of what will happen at the end.

How will I leave behind these precious ones whose love and care have carried me through this far? My heartbeat quickens and I feel the panic arising again, but then, in the sliver of light that is coming through the gap in the curtains, I catch sight of the crucifix on the wall of my room, and at that moment I know Jesus is here with me. His voice surrounds me:

'I know how you feel. You are not on your own.
I am with you, let my compassion enfold you. Lean on me.
Do you remember what I promised the thief
who was put to death beside me?'

I recall our Lord's suffering, and his kindness and compassion to all those he encountered along the journey to his own death. My fears begin to subside. I know I won't be alone – the Lord will be with me on every step of my journey towards his kingdom.

When my time comes, I know I will be with him in Paradise."

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Hymn 'Glory be to Jesus' (to Caswall) (Glory be to Jesus – YouTube)

Glory be to Jesus,
who in bitter pains
poured for me the life blood
from his sacred veins!

Grace and life eternal
in that blood I find,
blest be his compassion
infinitely kind!

(next page)

(Hymn continued)

Blest through endless ages
be the precious stream
which from endless torment
doth the world redeem!

Abel's blood for vengeance
pleaded to the skies;
but the blood of Jesus
for our pardon cries.

Oft as it is sprinkled
on our guilty hearts,
Satan in confusion
terror-struck departs;

Oft as earth exulting
wafts its praise on high,
hell with terror trembles,
heaven is filled with joy.

Lift ye then your voices;
swell the mighty flood;
louder still and louder
praise the precious blood.

Words: trans Edward Caswall; tune Friedrich Filitz

**Clearly that hymn is appropriate for any Good Friday.
But this year in Holy Week, we've been thinking each day about the Compassion of Jesus**

Grace and life eternal
in that blood I find,
blest be his compassion
infinitely kind!

And in a previous course we've been reminded that the New Testament word used when we read that Jesus was moved with compassion links to a "gut-wrenching" feeling – it's strong, it's motivating, it leads to action ... including being willing to die for us.

But then notice v3 and 4: the outcome of the pouring of life blood:

- **Redemption of the world**
- **And pardon**

**There has been blood spilt on our streets and the streets of other nations ...
Blood which, I believe, certainly calls out for justice ... but not for vengeance.**

**How could we pray?
How could we bring into conversations?**

That the blood of Jesus cries for the pardon of all???

Now, a short time of reflection before our second Bible reading ...

PTO

Second Bible reading: Luke 23. 44-49

⁴⁴ It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵ while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶ Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last. ⁴⁷ When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, 'Certainly this man was innocent.' ⁴⁸ And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. ⁴⁹ But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.
This is the Word of the Lord:

All: Thanks be to God

Today's theme from the leaflet is Jesus and his suffering with the terminally ill.

It can be hard to stay with people going through great suffering ...

Revd Judy spoke of parents whose child was very seriously ill and suffering. It was too painful for them to stay for long with their child in hospital ... some people could not understand, thinking that they were not caring parents, but staying with someone you love deeply in terrible suffering often needs others to share in the 'watching' ... you just cannot cope without others to help ... and so hard for the disciples to stay and watch Jesus, who they loved deeply, suffer so intensely, so perhaps many of them could not cope with this and left ... not because they did not care, but simply could not cope with the feelings.

Introduce activity –

Draw your cross and then in each 'corner' write in response: (see next page for example)

What do you want to say? The centurion came out with a statement of belief

For whom do you want to pray – for that person to come to know Jesus as Saviour ...

For whom do you want to pray – who is suffering, perhaps terminally, now?

And from all of this – what response do you want to offer to Jesus ...

Response from us:

- **Draw yourself a cross and as we complete our own, we'll listen to**

a Taizé Chant: 'Jesus, remember me'

[Jesus remember me TAIZE HD with on screen lyrics - YouTube](#)

(next page)

**What do you want to say
to Jesus on the cross?**

**For whom do you want to
pray – that they may come
to know the salvation
offered by Jesus?**

**For whom do you want to
pray amongst those who are
suffering now?**

**What response do you
want to offer to Jesus
in your own life?**



Next two hymns are linked with belief and response: first 'In Christ Alone'

Hymn: 'In Christ alone'

[In Christ Alone by Stuart Townsend with Lyrics in HD - YouTube](#)

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
'Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
'Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

Stewart Townsend & Keith Gerry © 2001 Kingsway Thank you Music

Prayer Responses

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;

All: by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.

All: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

(next page)

We preach Christ crucified,
the power of God and the wisdom of God.

All: By your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

God forbid that I should glory,
save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**All: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;
By your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.**

cf 1 Corinthians 1 and Galatians 6

**All: The word of the cross is folly
to those who are perishing,
but to those who are being saved
it is the power of God.**

Closing Prayers

Almighty Father,
look with mercy on this your family,
here and throughout the world,
and those for whom we pray.
We give you our deep gratitude that, for our sake,
our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed
and given up into the hands of sinners
and to suffer death upon the cross;
yet who is alive and glorified with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

We pray for God's ancient people, the Jews,
the first to hear his word:
and for greater understanding between Christian, Muslim and Jew,
for the removal of our blindness and bitterness of heart,
that God will grant us grace to be faithful to his covenant
and to walk in ways of peace, compassion and justice.

All: Amen.

*Picturing ourselves at the foot of the cross,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:*

**All: 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.**

PTO

**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.**

Hymn: 'When I survey' (Rockingham)

[When I Survey the Wondrous Cross \(Tune: Rockingham\) \[with lyrics for congregations\] 16x9 - YouTube](#)

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 death 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 a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Words: Isaac Watts; tune: adptd by Edward Miller

May Christ, who bore our sins on the cross,
set us free to serve him with joy.

All: Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.
Amen.**

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