



**THE LITURGY OF  
GOOD FRIDAY**

**2 April 2021  
at 10.00 am**

## The Liturgy of Good Friday

Welcome to York Minster, and to the Liturgy of Good Friday. Today is the most solemn day of the Christian year—the day on which we enter into the dereliction of the man who cried out, ‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’

The Cross stands at the heart of this Good Friday Liturgy. The Liturgy of the Word culminates in the singing of the Passion according to St John: the gospel account which presents Jesus’ being ‘lifted up’ on the cross not as failure, but as his glorification.

This year, because of restrictions related to the pandemic, there is no specific liturgy of the Proclamation of the Cross. However, as always at this time of the year, the Nave is dominated by the large cross hanging at the heart of the building, and you are invited to use this as a focus for your reflections as the choir sings a setting of the Reproaches, an ancient text based on Scripture in which God’s love for us is set in stark contrast with the hatred that the human race has shown towards his Son.

There then follows a pattern of intercessory prayer ‘at the foot of the cross’ during which we lay before God the needs of the world and individuals at the feet of our crucified Saviour.

For those who wish, there is an opportunity to receive communion from the elements consecrated and reserved during the Liturgy of Maundy Thursday.

The Service begins and ends in silence. Silence forms a significant part of the simple and austere liturgy of Good Friday. It is both an identification with Christ in his suffering and an appropriate response to the mystery of our salvation.

## Some prayers for private use

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.

*Common Worship: Additional Collects*

Thirsting on the cross,  
your Son shared the reproach of the oppressed and carried the sins of all;  
in him, O God, may the despairing find you,  
the afflicted gain life and the whole creation know its true king,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Common Worship: Daily Prayer*

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,  
set your passion, cross and death  
between your judgement and our souls,  
now and in the hour of our death.  
Grant mercy and grace to the living, rest to the departed,  
to your Church peace and concord  
and to us sinners forgiveness, and everlasting life and glory;  
for, with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
you are alive and reign, God, now and for ever. Amen.

from 'Prayers at the Foot of the Cross' *Common Worship: Daily Prayer*

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.  
Body of Christ, save me.  
Blood of Christ, refresh me.  
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.  
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.  
O good Jesus, hear me.  
Within your wounds hide me.  
Let me never be separated from you.  
From the power of darkness defend me.  
In the hour of my death, call me and bid me come to you,  
that with your saints I may praise you for ever and ever. Amen.

*Anima Christi*, anon 14th century

# The Gathering

*Please remain as the choir and the ministers enter in silence. Please stand when the president indicates.*

## The Collect

*The president says:*

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. **Amen.**

*Please sit.*

# The Liturgy of the Word

## Old Testament Reading

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

See, my servant shall prosper;  
he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high.

Just as there were many who were astonished at him—  
so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance,  
and his form beyond that of mortals—  
so he shall startle many nations;  
kings shall shut their mouths because of him;  
for that which had not been told them they shall see,  
and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.  
Who has believed what we have heard?  
And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?  
For he grew up before him like a young plant,  
and like a root out of dry ground;  
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,  
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

By a perversion of justice he was taken away.  
Who could have imagined his future?  
For he was cut off from the land of the living,  
stricken for the transgression of my people.

They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich,  
although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain.  
When you make his life an offering for sin,  
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;  
through him the will of the Lord shall prosper.

Out of his anguish he shall see light;  
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.  
The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,  
and he shall bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,  
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;  
because he poured out himself to death,  
and was numbered with the transgressors;  
yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

ISAIAH 52.13–53.12

## The Lamentation

*The choir sings:*

How doth the city sit solitary, that was full of people:

how is she become as a widow.

She that was great among the nations, and princess among the provinces:

how is she become tributary!

She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears are on her cheeks: among all her lovers she hath none to comfort her.

The ways of Zion do mourn, because none come to the solemn assembly:

all her gates are desolate, and she herself is in bitterness.

The Lord hath afflicted her for the multitude of her transgressions: her children are gone into captivity before the enemy.

All they that go by clap their hands at her:

they hiss and wag their head at the daughter of Jerusalem, saying,

Is this the city that men called The perfection of beauty: the joy of the whole earth?

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

For these things I weep: mine eye runneth down with water.

From on high hath the Lord sent fire into my bones, and it prevaieth against them:

he hath made me desolate and faint all the day.

My flesh and my skin hath he made old: he hath broken my bones.

He hath builded against me: and compassed me with gall and travail.

He hath made me to dwell in dark places: as those that have been long dead.

I am become a derision to all my people: and their song all the day.

Let him give his cheek to him that smiteth him: let him be filled full with reproach.

Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by?

behold and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow.

Remember mine affliction and my misery: the wormwood and the gall.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

Remember, O Lord, what is come upon us: behold and see our reproach.

The joy of our heart is ceased: our dance is turned into mourning.

The crown is fallen from our head: woe unto us for we have sinned.

For this our heart is faint: for these things our eyes are dim.

Let us search and try our ways: and turn again unto the Lord.

Turn thou us unto thee, O Lord, and we shall be turned: renew our days as of old.

It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed:

because his compassions fail not.

They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

The Lord is my portion, saith my soul: therefore will I hope in him.

O Lord, thou hast pleaded the causes of my soul: thou hast redeemed my life.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

*Words from the Lamentation of Jeremiah*

*Music* Edward Bairstow (1874–1946), Organist of York Minster (1913–46)

## New Testament Reading

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

The Holy Spirit testifies to us, for after saying, ‘This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds’, he also adds, ‘I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.’

Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin. Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

HEBREWS 10.16–25

*Please stand. Those who find it difficult to stand are invited to sit at any time.*

## The Passion Gospel

*The Passion Gospel according to John is sung to the traditional words in the setting by Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548–1611).*

*During the Gospel, when the account of Christ’s death is reached, please bow for a moment of silent prayer. The narrative is then resumed.*

*At the end the deacon says:*

This is the Passion of the Lord.

*No response is made.*

*After the singing of the Passion Gospel, please sit in silence.*

## Homily

The Rt Revd Dr Jonathan Frost, Dean

*Please stand.*

### The Reproaches

*O my people, what have I done to you?*

*How have I offended you? Answer me.*

I led you out of Egypt, from slavery to freedom,  
but you led your Saviour to the cross.

*O my people, what have I done to you?*

*How have I offended you? Answer me.*

*Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal One, have mercy on us.*

For forty years I led you safely through the desert.  
I fed you with manna from heaven,  
and brought you to a land of plenty:  
but you led your Saviour to the cross.

*Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal One, have mercy on us.*

What more could I have done for you?

I planted you as my fairest vine:  
but you yielded only bitterness.

When I was thirsty you gave me vinegar to drink,  
and you pierced your Saviour's side with a lance.

*Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal One, have mercy on us.*

I opened the sea before you,  
but you opened my side with a spear.  
I led you on your way in a pillar of cloud:  
but you led me to Pilate's court.

*O my people, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me.*

I bore you up with manna in the desert:  
but you struck me down and scourged me.  
I gave you saving water from the rock:  
but you gave me gall and vinegar to drink.



*O my people, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me.*

I gave you a royal sceptre:  
but you gave me a crown of thorns.

I raised you to the height of majesty;  
but you have raised me high on a cross.

*O my people, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me.*

*Words* The Reproaches • *Music* John Sanders (1933–2003)

*Please kneel.*

## **The Intercession**

*The president introduces the intercessions.*

God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world,  
but that the world might be saved through him.  
Therefore we pray to our heavenly Father  
for people everywhere according to their needs.

*The deacon says:*

Let us pray for the Church of God throughout the world:  
for unity in faith, in witness and in service;  
for bishops and other ministers, and those whom they serve;  
for our bishop, and the people of this diocese;  
for all Christians in this place; for those to be baptized;  
for those who are mocked and persecuted for their faith;  
that God will confirm his Church in faith,  
increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*The president says:*

Almighty and everlasting God,  
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified:  
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people;  
that in their vocation and ministry  
they may serve you in holiness and truth  
to the glory of your Name;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

*The deacon says:*

Let us pray for the nations of the world and their leaders:  
for Elizabeth our Queen and the Parliament of this land;  
for those who administer the law and all who serve in public office;  
for all who strive for justice and reconciliation;  
that by God's help the world may live in peace and freedom.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*The president says:*

Most gracious God and Father,  
in whose will is our peace:  
turn our hearts and the hearts of all to yourself,  
that by the power of your Spirit  
the peace which is founded on justice  
may be established throughout the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*The deacon says:*

Let us pray for God's ancient people, the Jews,  
the first to hear his word:  
for greater understanding between Christian 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 grow in the love of his name.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*The president says:*

Lord God of Abraham,  
bless the children of your covenant, both Jew and Christian;  
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  
under the one God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

*The deacon says:*

Let us pray for those who do not believe the Gospel of Christ:  
for those who follow other faiths and creeds;  
for those who have not heard the message of salvation;  
for all who have lost faith; for the contemptuous and scornful;  
for those who are enemies of Christ and persecute those who follow him;  
for all who deny the faith of Christ crucified;  
that God will open their hearts to the truth  
and lead them to faith and obedience.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*The president says:*

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.**

*The deacon says:*

Let us pray for all those who suffer:  
for those who are deprived and oppressed;  
for all who are sick and frail;  
for those in darkness, in doubt and in despair, in loneliness and in fear;  
for prisoners; for the victims of false accusations and violence;  
for all at the point of death and those who watch beside them;  
that God in his mercy will sustain them with the knowledge of his love.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*The president says:*

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.**

*The deacon says:*

Let us commend ourselves and all God's children to his unfailing love,  
and pray for the grace of a holy life,  
that, with all who have died in the peace of Christ,  
we may come to the fullness of eternal life  
and the joy of the resurrection.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*The president says:*

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light,  
look favourably on your whole Church,  
that wonderful and sacred mystery,  
and by the tranquil operation of your perpetual providence  
carry out the work of our salvation:  
and let the whole world feel and see  
that things which were cast down are being raised up  
and things which had grown old are being made new  
and that all things are returning to perfection  
through him from whom they took their origin,  
even Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

# The Liturgy of the Sacrament

## The Lord's Prayer

Standing at the foot of the cross,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## Giving of Communion

*The president says this invitation to communion:*

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The body of Christ, broken for you.

*The president and people receive communion.*

*During the distribution of Communion the choir sings:*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:  
miserere nobis.

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the  
world, have mercy on us.*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:  
dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the  
world, grant us peace.*

## The Conclusion

*Please stand.*

*The president says:*

O Lord Jesus Christ,  
Son of the living God,  
set your passion, cross and death  
between your judgement and our souls,  
now and in the hour of our death.  
Grant mercy and grace to the living,  
rest to the departed,  
to your Church peace and concord  
and to us sinners forgiveness,  
and everlasting life and glory;  
for, with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
you are alive and reign,  
God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

*Please stand as the choir and ministers depart.*

*All depart in silence.*

---

Material in this Order of Service is taken from *Common Worship: Times and Seasons*, copyright © 2006 The Archbishops' Council. The Scripture Readings are taken from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible (Anglicized edition), copyright © 1989, 1994 The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. This compilation is copyright © 2021 The Chapter of York.

