

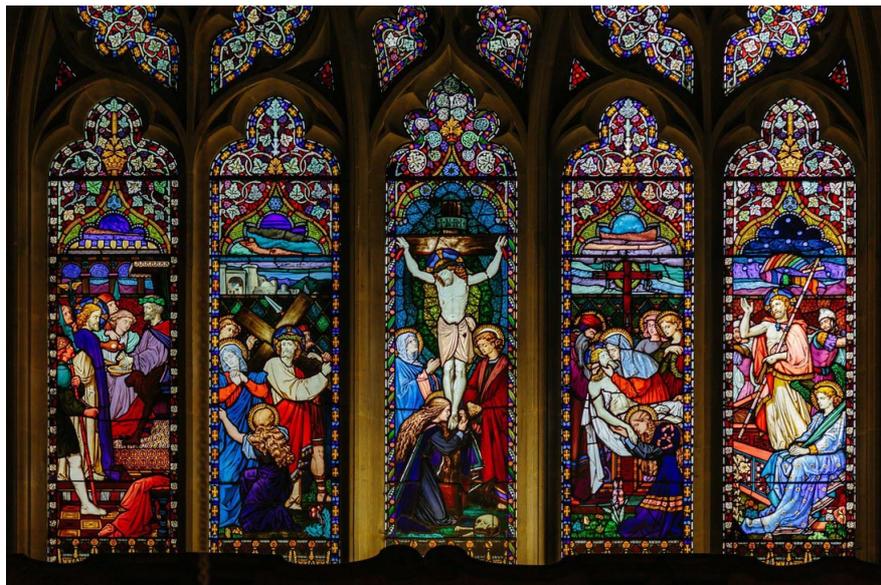


Sunday 7 March 2021<sup>1</sup>

**At the foot of the Cross:  
A Service of readings and music of the Passion**

*A warm welcome to our service this week.  
Thank you for joining us from wherever you may be.*

The full text of the service is found in this pdf file that you have downloaded from our Online Evensong page. An audio-recording of the full service is on the page where you found the link to this text.



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<sup>1</sup> Each service is recorded a week in advance of the date on which we post it online.

## WORDS OF WELCOME



Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that 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.**

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord,  
who liveth and reigneth with thee,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Hymn: 'Praise to the holiest in the height'**

Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
and in the depth be praise,  
in all his words most wonderful,  
most sure in all his ways.

O loving wisdom of our God!  
When all was sin and shame,  
a second Adam to the fight  
and to the rescue came.

O generous love! that he who smote  
in Man for man the foe,  
the double agony in Man  
for man should undergo;

And in the garden secretly,  
and on the cross on high,  
should teach his brethren, and inspire  
to suffer and to die.

Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
and in the depth be praise,  
in all his words most wonderful,  
most sure in all his ways.

Words: John Henry Newman (1801-90)  
Music: J. B. Dykes (1823-76), 'Gerontius'

### **First Reading: Mark 14.32-52**

#### **Anthem: 'Lord, hear my Prayer'**

Lord, hear my prayer, hark the plaint  
that I do make to thee.  
Lord, in thy native truth and in  
thy justice, answer me.

In judgement with thy servant, Lord,  
O enter not at all,  
for justified be in thy sight  
not one that liveth shall.

Words: Henry Noell, Lamentations 7: Domine exaudi (Psalm 143)  
Music: John Dowland (1563-1626)

## **Second Reading: Mark 14.53-72**

### **Anthem: 'Turn thy face from my sins'**

Turn thy face from my sins,  
and put out all my misdeeds.  
Make me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from thy presence,  
and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

Words: Psalm 51.9-11  
Music: Thomas Attwood (1765-1838)

## **Third Reading: Mark 15.1-32**

### **Anthem: 'Erhöre mich, wenn ich rufe'**

Erhöre mich, wenn ich rufe,  
Gott meiner Gerechtigkeit,  
der du mich tröstest in Angst,  
sei mir gnädig, und erhöre mein Gebet,  
vernimm mein Schreien,  
mein König und mein Gott.

*Hear me when I call,  
God my righteousness,  
you that comfort me in trouble,  
be gracious to me, and hear my prayer,  
accept my cry,  
my King and my God.*

Words: Psalm 4.2 and 5.3  
Music: Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672)

## **Fourth Reading: Mark 15.33-47**

## **Hymn: 'O sacred head, sore wounded'**

O sacred head, sore wounded,  
Defiled and put to scorn;  
O kingly head, surrounded  
With mocking crown of thorn:  
What sorrow mars thy grandeur?  
Can death thy bloom deflower?  
O countenance whose splendour  
The hosts of heaven adore.

In thy most bitter passion  
My heart to share doth cry,  
With thee for my salvation  
Upon the Cross to die.  
Ah, keep my heart thus movèd  
To stand thy Cross beneath,  
To mourn thee, well-belovèd,  
Yet thank thee for thy death.

My days are few, O fail not,  
With thine immortal power,  
To hold me that I quail not  
In death's most fearful hour:  
That I may fight befriended,  
And see in my last strife  
To me thine arms extended  
Upon the Cross of life.

Words: Paul Gerhardt (1607-76) from a 14<sup>th</sup> century Latin hymn,  
translated by Robert Bridges (1844-1930)  
Music: J. S. Bach (1685-1750), from the *Passion according to St Matthew* (1729)

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Let us pray to the Father,  
who loved the world so much that he sent  
his only son to give us life.

Simon from Cyrene was forced  
to carry the cross for your son.  
Give us grace to lift heavy loads off those whom we meet,  
and to put ourselves with those condemned to die.

Lord, hear us  
**Lord, graciously hear us**

Your son watched the soldiers gamble to share his clothes.  
Look with your forgiveness  
on those who make a profit from their victims,  
and on those whose hearts may be hardened by their work.

Lord, hear us  
**Lord, graciously hear us**

The centurion was astonished to see your glory  
in the crucified Messiah.  
Open the eyes of all your children  
to see in your son the meaning of life and death.

Lord, hear us  
**Lord, graciously hear us**

Joseph came to take your son's body away.  
Give gentleness, hope and faith,  
to all who minister to the dying and the bereaved,  
and comfort to those who mourn.

Lord, hear us  
**Lord, graciously hear us**

Faithful women witnessed Jesus' death,  
and with others became part of his Church.  
May your Church today make welcome  
all your people, united by the cross,  
that we may show your love in word and deed.

Lord of the Church,  
**Hear our prayer,  
and make us one in heart and mind  
to serve you in Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Blessing**

Christ crucified give you grace to grow in holiness,  
to deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow him;  
and the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit  
be among you and remain with you, always. **Amen.**

## **Voluntary**

Diapason Movement (A minor), by William Boyce (1711-79)

