

**Common**

***Services and Prayers for the Church of England***

**Worship**

**The Liturgy of Good Friday**

# The Liturgy of Good Friday

## **The Gathering**

*We gather in silence.*

*The ministers and choir enter in silence.*

*All may kneel for a time of silent prayer.*

*The choir sings the Introit.*

## **The Collect**

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 hand 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.

*All* **Amen.**

## **Hymn**

There is a green hill far away,  
without a city wall,  
where the dear Lord was crucified,  
who died to save us all.

We may not know, we cannot tell,  
what pains he had to bear;  
but we believe it was for us  
he hung and suffered there.

He died that we might be forgiven,  
he died to make us good,  
that we might go at last to heaven,  
saved by his precious blood.

There was no other good enough  
to pay the price of sin;  
he only could unlock the gate  
of heaven and let us in.

O dearly, dearly, has he loved,  
and we must love him, too,  
and trust in His redeeming blood,  
and try his works to do.

[Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895]

## ***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.

For the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence is kept.*

## **The Passion Reading**

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

*At the end*

This is the Passion of the Lord.

*No response is made.*

*Silence is kept.*

# ***The Proclamation of the Cross***

The cross of Christ.

**All The cross on which the Saviour of the world was hung.**

## **Hymn**

O sacred head, surrounded  
by crown of piercing thorn!  
O bleeding head, so wounded,  
so shamed and put to scorn!  
Death's pallid hue comes o'er thee,  
the glow of life decays;  
yet angel-hosts adore thee,  
and tremble as they gaze.

Thy comeliness and vigour  
is withered up and gone,  
and in thy wasted figure  
I see death drawing on.  
O agony and dying!  
O love to sinners free!  
Jesu, all grace supplying,  
turn thou thy face on me.

In this thy bitter passion,  
good Shepherd, think of me  
with thy most sweet compassion,  
unworthy though I be:  
beneath thy cross abiding  
for ever would I rest,  
in thy dear love confiding,  
and with thy presence blest.

[Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676,  
from a 14th-century Latin hymn  
*translated by Henry Williams Baker, 1821-1877*]

## The Prayers of Intercession

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.

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 John, 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.

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Let us pray for the nations of the world and their leaders:  
for Elizabeth our Queen and the Parliaments 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.

*Silence is kept.*

Lord hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

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.

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Let us pray for all those who suffer:  
for those who are deprived and oppressed,  
for all who are sick,  
for those in darkness, in doubt and in despair,  
in loneliness and fear,  
for prisoners, captives and refugees,  
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.

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

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.

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us. Amen.**

## Hymn

1. My song is love unknown,  
my Saviours' love to me,  
love to the loveless shown  
that they might lovely be.  
O who am I,  
that for my sake  
my Lord should take  
frail flesh, and die?
2. He came from his blest throne  
salvation to bestow;  
but men made strange, and none  
the longed-for Christ would know.  
But O, my Friend,  
my Friend indeed,  
who at my need  
his life did spend!

3. Sometimes they strew his way,  
and his strong praises sing;  
resounding all the day  
hosannas to their King.  
Then "Crucify!"  
is all their breath,  
and for his death  
they thirst and cry.
4. They rise, and needs will have  
my dear Lord made away;  
a murderer they save,  
the Prince of Life they slay.  
Yet steadfast he  
to suffering goes,  
that he his foes  
from thence might free.

5. Here might I stay and sing:  
no story so divine;  
never was love, dear King,  
never was grief like thine!  
This is my Friend,  
in whose sweet praise  
I all my days  
could gladly spend.

[Samuel Crossman, 1624-1683]

## ***The Liturgy of the Sacrament***

*The altar is covered with a fair linen and the consecrated elements are placed on it in silence.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Standing at the foot of the cross,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed by 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

Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink  
in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

*The president and people receive communion*

### **The Conclusion**

*Silence is kept.*

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your 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 your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*We depart in silence.*

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**Pershore Benefice**  
Pershore Abbey  
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