



**St Philip's Anglican Church
O'Connor ACT**

Good Friday

The order for Good Friday 2022

Welcome to St Philip's for this Liturgy of Good Friday. By tradition this liturgy is offered in three distinct phases. The first is the Liturgy of the Word which this year comprises of readings from scripture and a Way of Cross. The 'Way' is presented in the form of Sonnets – slightly adapted, by Malcolm Guite.

In the second phase the cross is revealed and we pray a litany of repentance followed by the Great Intercessions.

The final phase is an act of Communion from the sacrament reserved from Maundy Thursday.

The Liturgy for Good Friday

Please kneel or remain seated as the ministers enter.

Let us pray:

Almighty Father, look graciously upon this your family,
for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and to be given into the hands of
sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross;
who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah (52:13 – 53:12)

¹³ See, my servant shall prosper;

he shall be exalted and lifted up,
and shall be very high.

¹⁴ 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—

¹⁵ 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.

¹Who has believed what we have heard?

And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

² 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.

³ 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.

⁴ Surely he has borne our infirmities
 and carried our diseases;
 yet we accounted him stricken,
 struck down by God, and afflicted.
⁵ 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.
⁶ 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.
⁷ 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.
⁸ 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.
⁹ 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.
¹⁰ 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.
¹¹ 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.
¹² 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

Thanks be to God.

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews (10:16-25)

¹⁶ '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',

¹⁷ he also adds,

'I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.'

¹⁸ Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

¹⁹ Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let 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. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is

faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Way of the Cross

By Malcolm Guite - Chaplain Girton College Cambridge

I Jesus is condemned to death

They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pontius Pilate. Pilate questioned him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

The very air that Pilate breathes, the voice
With which he speaks in judgment, all his powers
Of perception and discrimination, choice,
Decision, all his years, his days and hours,
His consciousness of self, his every sense,
Are given by this prisoner, freely given.
The man who stands there making no defence,
Is God. His hands are tied, His heart is open.
And he bears Pilate's heart in his and feels
That crushing weight of wasted life. He lifts
It up in silent love. He lifts and heals.
He gives himself again with all his gifts
Into our hands. As Pilate turns away
A door swings open. This is judgment day.

II Jesus is given his cross

Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your king?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, and carrying the cross himself he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha.

He gives himself again with all his gifts
And now we give him something in return.
He gave the earth that bears, the air that lifts,
Water to cleanse and cool, fire to burn,
And from these elements he forged the iron,
From strands of life he wove the growing wood,
He made the stones that pave the roads of Zion
He saw it all and saw that it is good.
We took his iron to edge an axe's blade,
We took the axe and laid it to the tree,
We made a cross of all that he has made,
And laid it on the one who made us free.
Now he receives again and lifts on high
The gifts he gave and we have turned away.

III Jesus falls the first time

He made the stones that pave the roads of Zion
And well he knows the path we make him tread
He met the devil as a roaring lion
And still refused to turn these stones to bread,
Choosing instead, as Love will always choose,
This darker path into the heart of pain.
And now he falls upon the stones that bruise
The flesh, that break and scrape the tender skin.
He and the earth he made were never closer,
Divinity and dust come face to face.
We flinch back from his *via dolorosa*,
He sets his face like flint and takes our place,

Staggers beneath the black weight of us all
And falls with us that he might break our fall.

IV Jesus meets His Mother

This darker path into the heart of pain
Was also hers whose love enfolded him
In flesh and wove him in her womb. Again
The sword is piercing. She, who cradled him
And gentled and protected her young son
Must stand and watch the cruelty that mars
Her maiden making. Waves of pain that stun
And sicken pass across his face and hers
As their eyes meet. Now she enfolds the world
He loves in prayer; the mothers of the disappeared
Who know her pain, all bodies bowed and curled
In desperation on this road of tears,
All the grief-stricken in their last despair,
Are folded in the mantle of her prayer.

V Simon of Cyrene carries the cross

They pressed into service a passer-by, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross.

In desperation on this road of tears
Bystanders and bypassers turn away
In other's pain we face our own worst fears
And turn our backs to keep those fears at bay
Unless we are compelled as this man was
By force of arms or force of circumstance
To face and feel and carry someone's cross
In Love's full glare and not his backward glance.
So Simon, no disciple, still fulfilled
The calling: 'take the cross and follow me'.
By accident his life was stalled and stilled
Becoming all he was compelled to be.
Make me, like him, your pressed man and your priest,
Your *alter Christus*, burdened and released.

VI Veronica wipes the face of Jesus

Bystanders and bypassers turn away
And wipe his image from their memory
She keeps her station. She is here to stay
And stem the flow. She is the reliquary
Of his last look on her. The bloody sweat
And salt tears of his love are soaking through
The folds of her devotion and the wet
folds of her handkerchief, like the dew
Of morning, like a softening rain of grace.
Because she wiped the grime from off his skin,
And glimpsed the godhead in his human face
Whose hidden image we all bear within,
Through all our veils and shrouds of daily pain
The face of god is shining once again.

VII Jesus falls the second time

Through all our veils and shrouds of daily pain,
Through our bruised bruises and re-opened scars,
He falls and stumbles with us, hurt again

6.

When we are hurt again. With us he bears
The cruel repetitions of our cruelty;
The beatings of already beaten men,
The second rounds of torture, the futility
Of all unheeded pleading, every scream in vain.
And by this fall he finds the fallen souls
Who passed a first, but failed a second trial,
The souls who thought their faith would hold them whole
And found it only held them for a while.
Be with us when the road is twice as long
As we can bear. By weakness make us strong.

VIII Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep instead for yourselves and for your children, for indeed, the days are coming when people will say, 'Blessed are the barren, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed.' At that time, people will say to the mountains, 'Fall upon us!' and to the hills, 'Cover us!' for if these things are done when the wood is green what will happen when it is dry?"

He falls and stumbles with us, hurt again
But still he holds the road and looks in love
On all of us who look on him. Our pain
As close to him as his. These women move
Compassion in him as he does in them.
He asks us both to weep and not to weep.
Women of Gaza and Jerusalem,
Women of every nation where the deep
Wounds of memory divide the land
And lives of all your children, where the mines
Of all our wars are sown: Ukraine, Afghanistan ,
Yemen, Myanmar... he reads the signs
And weeps with you and with you he will stay
Until the day he wipes your tears away.

IX Jesus falls the third time

He weeps with you and with you he will stay
When all your staying power has run out
You can't go on, you go on anyway.
He stumbles just beside you when the doubt
That always haunts you, cuts you down at last
And takes away the hope that drove you on.
This is the third fall and it hurts the worst

7.

This long descent through darkness to depression
From which there seems no rising and no will
To rise, or breathe or bear your own heart beat.
Twice you survived; this third will surely kill,
And you could almost wish for that defeat
Except that in the cold hell where you freeze
You find your God beside you on his knees.

X Jesus is stripped of His garments

You can't go on, you go on anyway
He goes with you, his cradle to your grave.
Now is the time to loosen, cast away
The useless weight of everything but love
For he began his letting go before,
Before the worlds for which he dies were made,
Emptied himself, became one of the poor,
To make you rich in him and unafraid.
See as they strip the robe from off his back
They strip away your own defences too
Now you could lose it all and never lack
Now you can see what naked Love can do
Let go these bonds beneath whose weight you bow
His stripping strips you both for action now

XI Crucifixion: Jesus is nailed to the cross

When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him and the criminals there, one on his right, the other on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do."

See, as they strip the robe from off his back
And spread his arms and nail them to the cross,
The dark nails pierce him and the sky turns black,
And love is firmly fastened onto loss.
But here a pure change happens. On this tree
Loss becomes gain, death opens into birth.
Here wounding heals and fastening makes free
Earth breathes in heaven, heaven roots in earth.
And here we see the length, the breadth, the height
Where love and hatred meet and love stays true
Where sin meets grace and darkness turns to light
We see what love can bear and be and do,
And here our saviour calls us to his side
His love is free, his arms are open wide.

XII Jesus dies on the cross

It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit"; and when he had said this he breathed his last.

The dark nails pierce him and the sky turns black
We watch him as he labours to draw breath
He takes our breath away to give it back,
Return it to its birth through his slow death.
We hear him struggle breathing through the pain
Who once breathed out his spirit on the deep,
Who formed us when he mixed the dust with rain
And drew us into consciousness from sleep.
His spirit and his life he breathes in all
Mantles his world in his one atmosphere
And now he comes to breathe beneath the pall
Of our pollutions, draw our injured air
To cleanse it and renew. His final breath
Breathes us, and bears us through the gates of death.

XIII Jesus' body is taken down from the cross

His spirit and his life he breathes in all
Now on this cross his body breathes no more
Here at the centre everything is still
Spent, and emptied, opened to the core.
A quiet taking down, a prising loose
A cross-beam lowered like a weighing scale
Unmaking of each thing that had its use
A long withdrawing of each bloodied nail,
This is ground zero, emptiness and space
With nothing left to say or think or do
But look unflinching on the sacred face
That cannot move or change or look at you.
Yet in that prising loose and letting be
He has unfastened you and set you free.

XIV Jesus is laid in the tomb

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea named Joseph, who was himself a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be handed over. Taking the body, Joseph wrapped it in clean linen and laid it in his new tomb that he had hewn in the rock. Then he rolled a huge stone across the entrance to the tomb and departed.

9.

Here at the centre everything is still
Before the stir and movement of our grief
Which bears its pain with rhythm, ritual,
Beautiful useless gestures of relief.
So they anoint the skin that cannot feel
Soothing his ruined flesh with tender care,
Kissing the wounds they know they cannot heal,
With incense scenting only empty air.
He blesses every love that weeps and grieves
And makes our grief the pangs of a new birth.
The love that's poured in silence at old graves
Renewing flowers, tending the bare earth,
Is never lost. In him all love is found
And sown with him, a seed in the rich ground.

The Sermon

Adoration of the Cross

Behold the wood of the cross, on which is hung the saviour of the world.

A Litany

For the times we have not loved as we are called to love:

Father, forgive.

For the times we have cultivated doubt instead of hope:

Father, forgive.

For the times when selfishness, greed, and lust influence our decisions:

Father, forgive.

For the times we nurture isolation instead of community:

Father, forgive.

For the times we know the needs of others but refuse to act:

Father, forgive.

For the times we are judgemental, self-righteous and hard of heart:

Father, forgive.

For the times we create divisions:

Father, forgive.

For the times we neglect to care for the Earth, our common home:

Father, forgive.

For the times we are not good stewards of the gifts you give us:

Father, forgive.

The Great 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.

[For the Church]

In peace let us pray for the Church of God throughout the world that God the almighty Father will guide it, and gather it together in peace and tranquillity.

Silent prayer

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

God of compassion, you have shown your glory to all nations in Christ your Son: guide the work of your Church, help it to persevere in faith, to proclaim your name, and to bring your salvation to all people.

[For the clergy and laity of the Church]

Let us pray for Geoffrey our Primate, for Mark our Bishop, for all bishops, priests and deacons, for all men and women who have a special ministry in the Church, for those preparing for baptism and confirmation, and for all God's people.

Silent prayer

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

God of compassion, by your Holy Spirit you teach your Church and make us holy: Help each of us to do your work more faithfully.

[For the unity of Christians]

Let us pray for all who share our faith in Christ, that God may gather and keep together in one community all those who sincerely seek the truth.

Silent prayer

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

God of compassion, by our baptism you made us one with Christ in the life of his Church: make us one with each other in faith, and love and service.

[For those who do not believe in God]

Let us pray for all who do not believe in God, that, in their seeking, they may find the one, true God.

Silent prayer

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

God of compassion, you created man and woman in your image: may all who long to find you, and, in you, find their peace, come to acknowledge you as the maker and redeemer of us all.

[For those who do not know Christ]

Let us pray for those who do not believe in Christ, that the light of the Holy Spirit may show them the way to salvation.

Silent prayer

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

God of compassion, whose Son was lifted up from the earth to draw all people to himself: enable those who do not acknowledge Christ to find the truth and to share in his mercy and grace.

Silent prayer

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

[For all in public office]

Let us pray for all who serve in public office, that God may guide their minds and hearts so that all may live in peace and freedom.

Silent prayer

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

God of compassion, you know the longings of our hearts and you desire justice for all: guide those in authority, that people everywhere may enjoy, and rightly use, freedom, security, and peace.

[For those in special need]

Let us pray that the God from whom all tenderness and healing flow may heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travellers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and rid the world of falsehood, hunger, and disease.

Silent prayer

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

God of compassion, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart: have mercy on all who are in trouble, that they may know the joy of receiving your help in their hour of need.

The priest concludes the intercessions:

Let us commit ourselves to God, and pray for the grace of a holy life, that, with all who have departed this world and have died in the peace of Christ and those whose faith is known to God alone, we may be counted worthy to enter into the fullness of the joy of our Lord, and receive the crown of life in the day of resurrection.

We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

The Ministry of the Sacrament

The priest lays a corporal on the altar and places upon it the sacrament reserved from the Eucharist of Maundy Thursday.

As our saviour Christ has taught us we are confident to pray:

**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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory, are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

✠□ Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy 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 sacrament is administered

Closing Prayer

Let us pray
Most merciful God, by the death and resurrection of your Son
Jesus Christ you have delivered and saved all people of the world.
Grant that, by faith in him who suffered on the cross,
we may triumph in the power of his victory over sin and death,
and live in newness of life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Lord, send down your abundant +blessing upon your people
who have devoutly recalled the death of your Son
in the sure hope of the resurrection.
Grant them pardon; bring them comfort.
May their faith grow stronger and their eternal salvation be assured.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*At the conclusion of the liturgy the ministers and people leave in silence.
The church will remain open for private prayer.*