

Good Friday  
The Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
3 April 2026

*Total silence is kept. Please kneel when the ministers enter. The servers go to their places.*

*We stand, as we are able, when the clergy stand*

Let us pray

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.**

*Liturgy of the Word (we sit)*

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First Reading (Isaiah 52.13-end 53)

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm 22 (1-21) is read*

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me, • and are so far from my salvation, from the words of my distress?

**O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; • and by night also, but I find no rest.**

Yet you are the Holy One, • enthroned upon the praises of Israel.

**Our forebears trusted in you; • they trusted, and you delivered them.**

They cried out to you and were delivered; • they put their trust in you and were not confounded.

**But as for me, I am a worm and no man, • scorned by all and despised by the people.**

All who see me laugh me to scorn; • they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying, **'He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him; • let him deliver him, if he delights in him.'**

But it is you that took me out of the womb • and laid me safe upon my mother's breast.

**On you was I cast ever since I was born; • you are my God even from my mother's womb.**

Be not far from me, for trouble is near at hand • and there is none to help.

**Mighty oxen come around me; • fat bulls of Bashan close me in on every side.**

They gape upon me with their mouths, • as it were a ramping and a roaring lion.

**I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; • my heart has become like wax melting in the depths of my body.**

My mouth is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue cleaves to my gums; • you have laid me in the dust of death.

**For the hounds are all about me, the pack of evildoers close in on me; • they pierce my hands and my feet.**

I can count all my bones; • they stand staring and looking upon me.

**They divide my garments among them; • they cast lots for my clothing.**

Be not far from me, O Lord; • you are my strength; hasten to help me.

**Deliver my soul from the sword, • my poor life from the power of the dog.**

Save me from the lion's mouth, from the horns of wild oxen. • You have answered me!

Second reading (Hebrews 10.16-25)

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please remain seated for the reading of the Passion)*

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross.

But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

Passion Reading (John 18.1-end 19)

(please see separate booklet for the text of the Passion and join in parts marked in **bold text**.)

at the end: This is the Passion of the Lord

(No response is made)

Liturgy of the Cross

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The cross is collected from the back of the church and is carried in procession, the priest stopping three times and proclaiming:



This is \_\_\_\_\_ the\_ wood\_ of the cross,



on which hung\_\_\_\_\_ the Sav\_\_\_\_\_ iour of the world\_

(the response is)



Come let us\_\_\_\_\_ wor-ship

After each response all are invited to kneel for a few moments of silent adoration.

The priest will kiss the foot of the cross and any who wish are invited to venerate in this manner or through approaching the cross and bowing, as they wish.

After all have venerated, the cross is placed on the altar.

**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 cross 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?**

**His dying crimson like a robe,  
spreads o'er his body on the Tree;  
then am I dead to all the globe,  
and all the globe is dead to me.**

**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 (1674-1748)*

*Music: 'Rockingham' Edward Miller (1735-1807)*

### Devotions

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*The response at the end of each of the three main sections is:*

**Holy God, holy and strong,  
holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.**

*At the end of the final section, we say together:*

**Father, hear our prayer and forgive us.**

**Unstop our ears, that we may receive the gospel of the cross.**

**Lighten our eyes, that we may see your glory in the face of your Son.**

**Penetrate our minds, that your truth may make us whole.**

**Irradiate our hearts with your love, that we may love one another for Christ's sake. Father, forgive us.**

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

**because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

This is the wood of the cross, on which hung the Saviour of the world.

**Come, let us worship.**

O Saviour of the world, who by your cross and precious blood have redeemed us,  
**save us and help us, we humbly pray.**

*The Intercessions (please kneel or sit)*

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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.

*After each bidding, the response is:*

Lord hear us    **Lord graciously hear us**

*and at the end of the final:*

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.    **Amen.**

*Liturgy of the Sacrament*

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*Music is played while the Sacrament is collected and brought to the altar.*

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.**

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.

*We receive Communion in one kind only today.*

*After communion we sit to sing*

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**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

**– sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble;**

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

**Were you there when they nailed him to a tree? (x2)**

**– sometimes ... they nailed him to a tree?**

**Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (2)**

**– sometimes ... they pierced him in the side?**

**Were you there when the sun refused to shine? (x2)**

**– sometimes ... when the sun refused to shine?**

**Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (x2)**

**– sometimes ... they laid him in the tomb?**

**Were you there when he rose from out the tomb? (x2)**

**– sometimes ... he rose from out the tomb?**

*Words and Music: Traditional Spiritual*

*Please stand for the final prayer:*

○ Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, set your passion, cross, and death between your judgement and us, now and at the hour of our death.

Give mercy and grace to the living, rest to the faithful departed, to your holy Church peace and concord, and to us sinners eternal life and glory; for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

All then depart in silence.

