

# A Service for Good Friday

## 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 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.

## The Readings

Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 52.13–end of 53*

Psalm

*Psalm 22*

New Testament Reading

*Hebrews 10.16-25*

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ

*John 18.1–end of 19*

*Silence is kept.*

## Said Anthem

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?

Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow which was brought upon me, which the Lord inflicted on the day of his fierce anger.

O my people, O my Church, what have I done to you,  
or in what have I offended you?

Testify against me.

I led you forth from the land of Egypt, and delivered you by the waters of baptism, but you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

I led you through the desert forty years, and fed you with manna.

I brought you through tribulation and penitence,  
and gave you my body, the bread of heaven,  
but you prepared a cross for your Saviour.

What more could I have done for you that I have not done?  
I planted you, my chosen and fairest vineyard,  
I made you the branches of my vine;  
but when I was thirsty, you gave me vinegar to drink,  
and pierced with a spear the side of your Saviour.

I went before you in a pillar of cloud,  
and you have led me to the judgement hall of Pilate.  
I scourged your enemies and brought you to a land of freedom,  
but you have scourged, mocked and beaten me.  
I gave you the water of salvation from the rock, but you have given  
me gall and left me to thirst.

I gave you a royal sceptre, and bestowed the keys of the kingdom,  
but you have given me a crown of thorns. I raised you on high with  
great power, but you have hanged me on the cross.

My peace I gave, which the world cannot give, and washed your  
feet as a sign of my love, but you draw the sword to strike in my  
name, and seek high places in my kingdom.  
I offered you my body and blood, but you scatter and deny and  
abandon me.

I sent the Spirit of truth to guide you, and you close your hearts to  
the Counsellor. I pray that all may be one in the Father and me,  
but you continue to quarrel and divide. I call you to go and bring  
forth fruit, but you cast lots for my clothing.

I came to you as the least of your brothers and sisters;  
I was hungry and you gave me no food,  
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,  
I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,  
naked and you did not clothe me,  
sick and in prison and you did not visit me.

## **The Prayers**

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 Viv and Lee, our bishops, 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.

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.

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.  
Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who do not believe the gospel of Christ:  
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.

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 in 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.  
Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

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 Conclusion**

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 sinner's 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.