

## Good Friday Service 2020

Welcome friends to this good Friday service. As we come to the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend of not being able to physically gather together as God's church, we pray that God will meet you personally today as we reflect together again on our lives in this very different season of life, and as we take time to consider the meaning of Christ's suffering and crucifixion, and how the cross can bring hope and comfort to us and to a world currently undergoing great struggle and suffering.

The apostle Paul wrote: God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

We all 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. Isaiah 53:12

### Opening prayer

#### Hymn:

**There is a green hill far away, outside a city wall,  
where our 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 for sin,  
he only could unlock the gate of heaven and let us in.**

**O dearly, dearly has he loved! Will you not love him too,  
and trust in his redeeming blood, His life poured out for you**

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### Prayer of the day

Lord God, whose blessed Son, our Saviour gave his back to be beaten and did not hide his face from shame: give us grace to accept the sufferings of this present time with sure confidence in the glory that shall be revealed, through Jesus Christ our Lord

### Confession

Lord Jesus Christ, we confess we have failed you as did your first disciples. We ask for your mercy and your help. Our selfishness betrays you: Lord, forgive us. **All Christ have mercy.**

We fail to share the pain of your suffering: Lord, forgive us. **All Christ have mercy.**

We run away from those who abuse you: Lord, forgive us.

**All Christ have mercy.**

We are so often afraid of being known to belong to you: Lord, forgive us.  
**All Christ have mercy.**

Our hearts so easily stray from loving you to loving the world  
**All Christ have mercy.**

**Lord God, we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight. We are sorry and repent. Have mercy on us according to your unfailing love. Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**The Apostle Peter wrote:** 'He himself bore our sins' in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; 'by his wounds you have been healed.'

May Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who trust in Jesus Christ and his death on the cross, pardon you and set you free from all your sins, and keep you in eternal life through Christ our Lord Amen

### **Greeting of Peace**

May the peace of the Lord be always with you - **And also with you**

### **Song - How can I be free from Sin**

**How can I be free from sin? Lead me to the cross of Jesus  
From the guilt the power the pain. Lead me to the cross of Jesus**

**Chorus 1 There's no other way, no price that I could pay. Simply to the cross I cling  
This is all I need, this is all I plead, that His blood was shed for me**

**How can I know peace within, lead me to the cross of Jesus  
Sing a song of joy again, lead me to the cross of Jesus**

**Chorus 2 Flowing from above, all-forgiving love, from the Father's heart to me  
What a gift of grace, His own righteousness, clothing me in purity**

**How can I live day by day, lead me to the cross of Jesus  
Following His narrow way, lead me to the cross of Jesus**

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**Bible readings: Isaiah 53: 1-12 John 19:1-37**

**Message: The Antidote to the Pandemic**

### **Hymn: When I survey the wondrous cross**

**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 death 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 ever such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine That were an offering far too small  
Love so amazing so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all**

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### **Meditation - Prayers**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

#### **Song: O to see the Dawn**

**Oh, to see the dawn. Of the darkest day: Christ on the road to Calvary  
Tried by sinful men, Torn and beaten then, nailed to a cross of wood.**

**Chorus 1: This, the power of the cross: Christ became sin for us,  
Took the blame, bore the wrath: We stand forgiven at the cross.**

**Oh, to see the pain, written on Your face, bearing the awesome weight of sin;  
Every bitter thought, every evil deed, crowning Your bloodstained brow.**

#### **Chorus**

**Now the daylight flees, Now the ground beneath, quakes as its Maker bows His  
head Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life; 'Finished!' the victory cry.**

#### **Chorus**

**Oh, to see my name, written in the wounds, for through Your suffering I am free.  
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live, won through Your selfless love.**

**Chorus 2 : This the power of the cross: Son of God, slain for us.  
What a love! What a cost! We stand forgiven at the cross.**

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### **The Blessing**