



Vigil at the Cross

Waiapu Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist

Good Friday, 2.30pm, 10 April 2020

INFORMAL GREETINGS AS WE GATHER

SILENCE FOR PREPARATION (*please ensure your microphone is turned OFF, see bottom left hand corner of the Zoom screen*)

AN INTROIT IS SUNG HERE

Blessed be the name of the Holy One

Who redeems us from sin and death.

For us and for the salvation of humankind

Christ became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

Blessed be our Saviour Jesus,

the author and pioneer of our salvation.

Let us pray.

silence

Holy and everliving God,
look graciously on this your family
for which our Saviour Jesus Christ
was willing to be betrayed,
and to suffer death upon the cross;
and grant us to grow into the fullness of new life in Christ
who now is alive and glorified with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

HYMN: *Rejected and despised*

1. Rejected and despised by men
and women of our race,
he bears transgression's wounding weight
and anguish mars his face.
2. This man of Sorrows, born to loss,
acquainted with our grief:
this Christ of God now crucified
astonishes belief.
3. In all the victims of our age,
the battered and the bruised,
Christ lives again alike with them
by human sin abused:
4. ascending on a cross to die,
descending into hell,
in torment, suffering, scorn, and pain,
we meet our God as well.
5. Forgive us, Lord, as you forgave
with your expiring breath
the ones whose guilty hands, like ours,
required a guiltless death.

continued

6. O mystery of such costly love,
O depth of grace revealed:
in scourge-marked flesh we find our Christ,
and by his stripes are healed.

Mary Louise Bringle, Tune: ST PETER

PSALM: 30: 10-20

Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress;
My eyes are wasted from grief, my soul and body
also.

**For my life is spent with sorrow,
and my years with sighing;
my strength fails because of my misery,
and my bones waste away.**

I am the scorn of all my adversaries,
a horror to my neighbours,
**an object of dread to my acquaintances;
those who see me in the street flee from me.**

I have passed out of mind like one who is dead;
I have become like a broken vessel.

**For I hear the whispering of many—
terror all around!—
as they scheme together against me,
as they plot to take my life.**

But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, 'You are my God.'

My times are in your hand;
**deliver me from the hand
of my enemies and persecutors.**

Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.

**Do not let me be put to shame, O Lord,
for I call on you;**

let the wicked be put to shame;
let them go dumbfounded to the grave.

**Let the lying lips be stilled
that speak insolently against the righteous
with pride and contempt.**

Pause

Kororia ki a koe, e te Ariki.

READING: *Hebrews 13: 10 – 16*

We have an altar from which those who officiate in the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp.

Therefore Jesus also suffered outside the city gate in order to sanctify the people by his own blood. Let us then go to him outside the camp and bear the abuse he endured.

For here we have no lasting city, but we are looking for the city that is to come.

Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

HYMN: *My song is love unknown*

1. My song is love unknown, my saviour's love to me;
love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be:
but who am I, that for my sake
my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
2. He came from heaven's throne, salvation to bestow;
but they refused and none the longed for Christ would know:
this is my friend, my friend indeed
who at my need his life did spend!
3. With angry shouts they have my dear Lord done away;
a murderer they save: the prince of life they slay.
Yet willingly he bears the shame
That through his name we might be free.
4. Here might I stay and sing my 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 (adapted) Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN

(The customary responses are not used):

Pilate went out to them and said, 'What accusation do you bring against this man?' They answered, 'If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.' Pilate said to them, 'Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.' The Jews replied, 'We are not permitted to put anyone to death.' (This was to fulfil what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on

your own, or did others tell you about me?’ Pilate replied, ‘I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?’ Jesus answered, ‘My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.’ Pilate asked him, ‘So you are a king?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.’ Pilate asked him, ‘What is truth?’

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, ‘I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?’ They shouted in reply, ‘Not this man, but Barabbas!’ Now Barabbas was a bandit.

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying, ‘Hail, King of the Jews!’ and striking him on the face. Pilate went out again and said to them, ‘Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him.’ So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, ‘Here is the man!’ When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, ‘Crucify him! Crucify him!’ Pilate said to them, ‘Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him.’ The Jews answered him, ‘We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God.’

Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, ‘Where are you from?’ But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, ‘Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?’ Jesus answered him, ‘You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.’ From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, ‘If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor.’

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, 'Here is your King!' They cried out, 'Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!' Pilate asked them, 'Shall I crucify your King?' The chief priests answered, 'We have no king but the emperor.' Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, 'Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.' Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, 'Do not write, "The King of the Jews", but, "This man said, I am King of the Jews."' Pilate answered, 'What I have written I have written.' When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, 'Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.' This was to fulfil what the scripture says,

'They divided my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.'

And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfil the scripture), 'I am thirsty.' A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, 'It is finished.' Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

You may wish to extinguish your candle here.

At the conclusion of the Passion Narrative there is a brief silence for reflection

REFLECTION: Dean Ian *see also [facebook.com/rendertogod](https://www.facebook.com/rendertogod)*

ANTHEM

THE SOLEMN INTERCESSION *Adapted from Washington, USA, National Cathedral*

O God, our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. In this challenging and uncertain time of global pandemic and public health crisis, we come before you offering our prayers on behalf of those in need, the Church and the world.

For the Church, that it may not grow weary of proclaiming the gospel of Christ and serve as a beacon of hope to a suffering world. We pray for creative minds and determined spirits to meet the challenges ahead. We pray especially for our Archbishops, ++Philip, ++Don & ++Fereimi, our Bishop, +Andrew, and all who minister in your name.

God in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of the nations, that they may work together for the common good. May barriers that divide be brought down that bonds of trust may be strengthened to benefit the entire human family.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For public health and government officials in our nation: grant them the strength and will to act swiftly and decisively, with wisdom and compassion in service to all. We give you thanks for the leadership of our Prime Minister, Jacinda and her advisors. Grant them strength to bear the burdens of office.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those who are sick, especially those with COVID-19. May they have swift access to medical care and regain their strength and health; grant them your healing grace. Give strength and resilience to all who are caring for loved ones.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For healthcare workers and volunteers, who with hearts of service, stand on the front lines of providing care. Grant them patience, courage, and protection as they put the needs of public safety before their own.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For scientists and researchers around the world as they combat the virus, that their work may yield knowledge to develop a vaccine, treatments, and improved measures to reduce its spread.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the safety and well-being of all who must travel during these perilous times and those who remain quarantined.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who are consumed with fear and anxiety. Give us all courage to meet the days ahead, that confident in your providence, we may only take what we need and be generous in sharing our resources.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those who have already lost friends and family to the Corona virus, that they may know the consolation of your love and the promise of your eternal life.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all those people and situations on our hearts, which we now offer to God, either silently or aloud.

A moment of silence

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Keep us, O God, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Shepherd. **Amen.**

(Prayer from Gloucester Cathedral)

DEVOTIONS AT THE CROSS: *We suggest you hold a cross that you have, or make the sign of the cross on a nearby surface, or inwardly picture the cross*

Behold the cross, on which hung the Saviour of the world.

Come let us worship.

Lord Jesus Christ, we glory in your cross,
**and we praise and glorify your resurrection victory over death;
for by the virtue of your cross joy has come to the whole world.**

May God be merciful to us and bless us, shed the light of the divine countenance on us, and come to us.

**We adore you O Christ and we bless you,
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

HYMN: *When I survey the wondrous cross*

1. 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.

continued

2. 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.

3. See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down:
when did such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4. 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!

Isaac Watts, Tune: ROCKINGHAM

CONCLUSION:

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

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

God of our redemption, abundantly bless your people
who have devoutly recalled the death of Christ;
grant us forgiveness, renew us,
strengthen our faith, and increase in us the fullness of life;
we ask this through Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

We depart in silence and gather again at 10.00am on Easter Day

