

ST MARY'S CHURCH WELWYN

GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY 2021



Welcome back to church – it's great you are here.

We think of those still shielding and just to note that we will be livesteaming the service.

The camera is at the front of the nave, please don't sit in front of it!

Please remember to maintain social distance with those outside your household, and sanitise your hands on entry. The wearing of face masks is now mandatory in places of worship unless you are exempt.

There will be some other differences in the service, which you will see by following this sheet.

If you are new to this church please introduce yourself to one of the clergy. There is an induction loop for those with hearing aids.

NOON - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

IF THERE IS ROOM PLEASE FILL UP FROM THE CENTRE OF THE NAVE SO THAT YOU CAN SEE THE SCREEN OF IMAGES

The ministers enter in silence.

Today's images and reflections for the Stations of the Cross come from the sister of Turvey Abbey.

The images and reflections take us through 15 stations from Jesus' being condemned to death to his burial.

Please remain seated throughout.

Normally we would walk around the stations in the church - this was done when the traditional way of 'walking the cross' (via dolorosa) in Jerusalem was no longer accessible to pilgrims because of the Muslim conquests. However today we are even more stationary because of the need for social distancing in COVID19.

The choir will sing the hymns and the anthems.

The first station - lesus is condemned to death

There is a green hill far away, without a city wall, where the 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.

There was no other good enough to pay the price of sin; he only could unlock the gate of heaven, and let us in. O dearly, dearly has he loved, and we must love him too, and trust in his redeeming blood, and try his works to do.

The second station – Jesus takes up his cross

Anthem - What wondrous love is this? (Shaker-style)

The third station – Jesus falls the first time

1 Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended, that we to judge thee have in hate pretended? By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted!

4 For me, kind Jesus, was thy incarnation, thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation; thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion, for my salvation.

5 Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee, I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee, think on thy pity and thy love unswerving, not my deserving.

The fourth station – Jesus meets his mother

Organ piece - O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig (BWV 618) by J S Bach 'O Lamb of God most holy'

The fifth station - Simon of Cyrene

1 Holy Jesu, by thy passion, by the woes which none can share, borne in more than kingly fashion, by thy love beyond compare: Refrain: Crucified, I turn to thee, Son of Mary, plead for me.

2 By the treachery and trial, by the blows and sore distress, by desertion and denial, by thine awful loneliness: [Refrain]

4 By the hour of condemnation, by the blood which trickled down, when, for us and our salvation, thou didst wear the robe and crown: [Refrain]

5 By the path of sorrows dreary, by the cross, thy dreadful load, by the pain, when, faint and weary, thou didst sink, upon the road: [Refrain]

The sixth station - Veronica

Anthem - Break in grief, O loving heart, from St Matthew Passion by J S Bach

The seventh station – Jesus falls the second time

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.

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?

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. The eighth station - The women of Jerusalem

Organ piece - Chorale Prelude on St Cross by C H H Parry
'O come and mourn with me awhile'

The ninth station – Jesus falls the third time

When you prayed beneath the trees, it was for me, O Lord; when you cried upon your knees, how could it be, O Lord? When in blood and sweat and tears you dismissed your final fears, when you faced the soldiers' spears, you stood for me, O Lord.

When their triumph looked complete, it was for me, O Lord; when it seemed like your defeat, they could not see, O Lord! When you faced the mob alone you were silent as a stone, and a tree became your throne; you came for me, O Lord.

When you stumbled up the road, you walked for me, O Lord, when you took your deadly load, that heavy tree, O Lord; when they lifted you on high and they nailed you up to die, and when darkness filled the sky, it was for me, O Lord.

The tenth station – Jesus is stripped

Anthem recorded by STARS - O Saviour of the world, who by thy cross and precious blood hast redeemed us, save us, and help us, we humbly beseech Thee, O Lord. Amen.

Music by John Goss

The eleventh station – Jesus is nailed to the cross

The choir sings Pergolesi's 'Stabat mater':

Stabat mater dolorosa Juxta Crucem lacrimosa, Dum pendebat Filius. Stabat mater dolorosa Juxta Crucem lacrimosa, Dum pendebat Filius. Dolorosa, Lacrimosa, Dum pendebat Filius.

The grieving Mother stood weeping beside the cross Where Her Son was hanging. The grieving Mother stood weeping beside the cross Where Her Son was hanging.
Grieving, Weeping, Where Her Son was hanging.

The twelfth station – Jesus speaks to his mother

Organ piece - Let us then with Jesus suffer (from Opus 65) by S Karg-Elert

The thirteenth station – Jesus dies on the cross

Anthem sung by STARS – Music by Jacob Handl

Ecce quomodo moritur justus et nemo percipit corde. Viri justi tolluntur et nemo considerat. A facie iniquitatis sublatus est justus et erit in pace memoria eius: et in Sion habitation eius.

Behold how the righteous man dies
And no one understands.
Righteous men are taken away
And no one considers:
The righteous man has been taken away from present iniquity
And his memory shall be in peace, and dwell in Zion

The fourteenth station – Jesus is taken down from the cross

It is a thing most wonderful, almost too wonderful to be, that God's own Son should come from heaven, and die to save a child like me.

And yet I know that it is true: he chose a poor and humble lot, and wept, and toiled, and mourned, and died, for love of those who loved him not.

But even could I see him die, I could but see a little part of that great love, which, like a fire, is always burning in his heart.

It is most wonderful to know his love for me so free and sure; but 'tis more wonderful to see my love for him so faint and poor.

And yet I want to love thee, Lord; O light the flame within my heart, and I will love thee more and more, until I see thee as thou art.

The fifteenth station - Jesus is buried

We keep a time of silence.

1:30pm: CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The minister enters in silence, and all kneel for a period of silent prayer.

The president stands and says

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 wicked men 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.**

Please sit for the readings.

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah (52.12-53-end)

 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? ²For 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. ³He 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.

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. ⁵But 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. ⁶All 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.

⁷He 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. ⁸By 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. ⁹They

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.

¹⁰Yet 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. ¹¹Out 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. ¹²Therefore 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.

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

Psalm 22 sung by the choir, response: **By his wounds we have been healed.**

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (4.14-16; 5.7-9)

¹⁴Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

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

STARS recording of the gradual hymn:

We sing the praise of him who died, of him who died upon the cross; the sinner's hope let men deride, for this we count the world but loss.

2 Inscribed upon the cross we see in shining letters, 'God is love'; he bears our sins upon the tree; he brings us mercy from above.

3 The cross! It takes our guilt away: it holds the fainting spirit up; it cheers with hope the gloomy day, and sweetens every bitter cup.

4 It makes the coward spirit brave, and nerves the feeble arm for fight; it takes its terror from the grave, and gilds the bed of death with light:

5 The balm of life, the cure of woe, the measure and the pledge oflove, the sinner's refuge here below, the angels' theme in heaven above.

The congregation is invited to stand if possible for the reading of the Passion, but to sit if necessary.

John chapters 18-19

Pilate Here is the man!

Evangelist When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted,

Crowd: Crucify him! Crucify him!

...

Evangelist 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, Pilate Here is your King!

Crowd: Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!

Pilate Shall I crucify your King?

Crowd: We have no king but the emperor.

Please sit for the **Sermon**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE CROSS

The choir sings the hymn:

Come and see, come and see, come and see the King of love; see the purple robe and crown of thorns he wears. Soldiers mock, rulers sneer, as he lifts the cruel cross; lone and friendless now he climbs towards the hill.

We worship at your feet, where wrath and mercy meet, and a guilty world is washed by love's pure stream. For us he was made sin. Oh help me take it in! Deep wounds of love cry out, 'Father, forgive!' I worship, I worship the Lamb who was slain.

Come and weep, come and mourn for your sin that pierced him there;

so much deeper than the wounds of thorns and nail. All our pride, all our greed, all our fallenness and shame; and the Lord has laid the punishment on him.

We worship at your feet...

As the cross is carried in procession, the following is said three times:

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

Come, let us worship.

The cross is placed at the altar.

Please sit or kneel

The choir and cantor sing "The Reproaches"

During this, the congregation is invited to come before the cross to spend a moment in quiet contemplation. This year please remember to maintain social distance, and please do not touch the cross.

My people, what have I done to you?

How have I offended you? Answer me.

I led you out of Egypt from slavery to freedom

but you led your Saviour to the cross. My people....

Holy is God! Holy and strong. Holy immortal One, have mercy on us. For forty years I led you safely through the desert.

I fed you with manna from heaven and brought you to a land of plenty: but you led your Saviour to the cross. *Holy is God!*What more could I have done for you?

I planted you as my fairest vine, but you yielded only bitterness.

When I was thirsty you gave me only vinegar to drink and you pierced your Saviour with a lance. *Holy is God!....*

For your sake I scourged your captors and their first born sons

but you brought your scourges down on me. My people....

I led you from slavery to freedom and drown'd your captors in the sea but you handed me over to your high priests. *My people....*

I opened the sea before you but you opened my side with a spear *My people...*

I led you on your way in a pillar of cloud but you led me to Pilate's court. *My people....*

I bore you up with manna in the desert

but you struck me down and scourged me. My people....

I gave you saving water from the rock but you gave me gall and vinegar to drink. My people....

For you I struck down the Kings of Canaan but you struck my head with a reed. *My people....*

I gave you a royal sceptre but you gave me a crown of thorns *My people....*

I raised you to the height of majesty but you raised me high on a cross. My people....

When all have returned to their places, we pray 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.

The choir sings the hymn:

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure, that he should give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure. How great the pain of searing loss; the Father turns his face away, as wounds which mar the chosen One bring many souls to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross, my sin upon his shoulders; ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers. It was my sin that held him there, until it was accomplished; his dying breath has brought me life – I know that 'it is finished'.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom; but I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection. Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer; but this I know with all my heart, his wounds have paid my ransom.

THE INTERCESSION

Please sit or kneel

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.

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 our bishop, 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 each may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your Name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray for the nations of the world and their leaders - for Elizabeth our Queen and the Parliament 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.

Most gracious God and Father, in whose will is our peace: turn our hearts and the hearts of all to yourself, that by the power of your Spirit the peace which is founded on justice may be established throughout the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for God's ancient people, the Jews, the first to hear his word - for greater understanding between Christian and Jew for the removal of our blindness and bitterness of heart that God will grant us grace to be faithful to his covenant and to grow in the love of his name.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

Lord God of Abraham, bless the children of your covenant, both Jew and Christian; take from us all blindness and bitterness of heart, and hasten the coming of your kingdom, when Israel shall be saved, the Gentiles gathered in, and we shall dwell together in mutual love and peace under the one God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who do not believe the Gospel of Christ for those who follow other faiths and creeds 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.

Merciful God, creator of all the people of the earth, have compassion on all who do not know you, and by the preaching of your Gospel with grace and power, gather them into the one fold of the one Shepherd, Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all those who suffer for those who are deprived and oppressed for all who are sick and handicapped for those in darkness, in doubt and in despair, in loneliness and in fear

for prisoners

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.**

Let us commend ourselves and all God's children to his unfailing love, and pray for the grace of a holy life, that, with all who have died in the peace of Christ, we may come to the fullness of eternal life and the joy of the resurrection. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

Please remain seated or kneeling as the choir sings the hymn:

1 O sacred head, surrounded by crown of piercing thorn! O bleeding head, so wounded, so shamed and put to scorn! Death's pallid hue comes o'er thee, the glow of life decays; yet angel-hosts adore thee, and tremble as they gaze. 2 Thy comeliness and vigour is withered up and gone, and in thy wasted figure I see death drawing on. O agony and dying! O love to sinners free! Jesu, all grace supplying, turn thou thy face on me.

3. In this thy bitter passion, good Shepherd, think of me with thy most sweet compassion, unworthy though I be: beneath thy cross abiding for ever would I rest, in thy dear love confiding, and with thy presence blest.

During the hymn the sacrament is brought and placed on the altar

Let us pray for the coming of the kingdom in the words our Saviour taught us.

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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

We say

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

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed 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 President and people receive Communion in one kind only.

Prayer of Spiritual Communion for those at home

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

After the distribution silence is kept and the service concludes with the following prayer:

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved humanity: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross, we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All depart in silence.