



ST STEPHEN'S UNITING CHURCH

197 Macquarie St, Sydney

An Oasis of Christian Worship, Thought and Action

Minister:Rev. Ken Day
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25 March 2016 – 10 am

MORNING WORSHIP

Good Friday

Led by Rev. Ken Day



SOME HELPFUL NOTES FOR YOU ABOUT THE WAY THIS WORSHIP SERVICE FLOWS:

- **CHILDREN** are welcome here. If you have a pram, there are aisles beside the walls where you can 'park' your pram, if that helps. Also, there is more pram space at the back of the church where there is a wider gap. Children do not disturb us, and we are very happy for you to explain to your children what is happening during the service.
- We stand to sing. In the Order of Service it will say other places **WHERE WE STAND UP**, if you are able.
- **HYMNS** are numbered and found in the red hymn book *Together in Song*, or printed in the Order of Service.
- If the **LORD'S SUPPER** (communion) is being celebrated, (there will be a white cloth on the communion table) everyone of every age and background is welcome to share in the supper with us. We serve bread (and gluten free bread is available if you indicate to the server) and grape juice.
- **TEXT IN BOLD** is to be said by the congregation.
- It is the tradition at St Stephen's to refrain from talking during the **PRELUDE** and **POSTLUDE** as these form part of our worship.
- After the service has concluded, you are most welcome to join us downstairs in the hall for **MORNING TEA**. Please use the stairs at each end of the vestibule.
- **TOILETS** are located downstairs below the vestibule. A baby changing table is located in the women's toilet area.
- For those with **IMPAIRED HEARING** a hearing loop is available in the church. Please switch your hearing aid to the 'T' position.

The Gathering of the People of God

Organ Prelude

Were you there?

Dale Wood (1934 - 2003)

Please stand at the entry of the choir and clergy and remain standing for the...

Hymn

“Man of sorrows,” what a name (Man of Sorrows)

1. “Man of Sorrows,” what a name
for the Son of God who came
ruined sinners to reclaim!
Hallelujah! what a Saviour!

2. Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
in my place condemned he stood;
sealed my pardon with his love;
Hallelujah! what a Saviour!

3. Guilty, helpless, lost were we,
spotless Lamb of God was he;
full redemption—can it be?
Hallelujah! what a Saviour!

4. Lifted up was he to die,
“It is finished!” was his cry;
now in heaven exalted high;
Hallelujah! what a Saviour!

5. When he comes, our glorious King,
all his ransomed home to bring,
then anew this song we'll sing
Hallelujah! what a Saviour!

Philip Bliss

Welcome

Good Friday Prayers

Hymn 339 *O scared head sore wounded* (Passion Chorale)

The Service of the Word

Gospel Reading *from Luke 22 and 23*

Jesus before the Council

66 When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought Jesus to their council. **67** They said, 'If you are the Messiah, tell us.' He replied, 'If I tell you, you will not believe; **68** and if I question you, you will not answer. **69** But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.' **70** All of them asked, 'Are you, then, the Son of God?' He said to them, 'You say that I am.' **71** Then they said, 'What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!'

Jesus before Pilate

23 Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. **2** They began to accuse him, saying, 'We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.' **3** Then Pilate asked him, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' He answered, 'You say so.' **4** Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, 'I find no basis for an accusation against this man.' **5** But they were insistent and said, 'He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.'

Jesus before Herod

6 When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. **7** And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. **8** When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. **9** He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. **10** The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. **11** Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. **12** That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

Jesus Sentenced to Death

13 Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, **14** and said to them, ‘You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. **15** Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. **16** I will therefore have him flogged and release him.’

18 Then they all shouted out together, ‘Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!’ **19** (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) **20** Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; **21** but they kept shouting, ‘Crucify, crucify him!’ **22** A third time he said to them, ‘Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.’ **23** But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. **24** So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. **25** He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

Hymn 337

O dearest Jesus, why aren't you acquitted
(Herzliebster Jesu)

The Crucifixion of Jesus

26 As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. **27** A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him.

32 Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. **33** When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. **34** Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.' And they cast lots to divide his clothing. **35** And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' **36** The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, **37** and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' **38** There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

39 One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' **40** But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? **41** And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' **42** Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into[!] your kingdom.' **43** He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

Hymn 602

O love that will not let me go

(St. Margaret)

The Death of Jesus

44 It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, **45** while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. **46** Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last.

Extinguishing of the Christ-candle and a time of silence.

47 When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, 'Certainly this man was innocent.'**48** And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. **49** But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

The Burial of Jesus

50 Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, **51** had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. **52** This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. **53** Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. **54** It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. **55** The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. **56** Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.

Sermon

Prayers, offerings, and devotion of the people

Anthem

Were you there?

Text: Negro Spiritual
Music: Trad. arr. Roger Price

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

Praying the words of the cross

The Sending Forth of the People of God

Hymn 342 *When I survey* (Rockingham)

Benediction and Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ.**

Threefold Amen

Organ Postlude

O Mensch, beweine dein' Sünde groß BWV 622
[Lutheran chorale for Good Friday]

J S Bach (1685 - 1750)

*O man, thy grievous sin bemoan,
For which Christ left His Father's throne,
From highest heaven descending.
Of Virgin pure and undefiled
He here was born, our Saviour mild,
For sin to make atonement.
The dead He raised to life again.
The sick He freed from grief and pain.
Until the time appointed
That He for us should give His Blood,
Should bear our sins' o'erwhelming load,
The shameful Cross enduring.*

Adapted from *Uniting in Worship 2* (2005)
Bible Readings taken from the *New Revised Standard Version* (1989)