

**Leigh Fijian Leigh Memorial
Congregations**

Parramatta Mission

Uniting Church in Australia

Good Friday

10 April 2020

(Lali)

Fijian Introit: 'The Old Rugged Cross'

Faces of Jesus:

Music: 'O sacred head, now wounded' (Strings Sold Separately)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uaxRqEa7zag>

Reading: Isaiah 53:1-3

Who has believed what we have heard?
And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?
² For 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.
³ He was despised and rejected by others;
a man of suffering^[d] and acquainted with infirmity;
and as one from whom others hide their faces^[e]
he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Lament:

Then Jesus told his disciples,
"If any want to become my followers,
let them deny themselves and take up their cross
and follow me.

Could we start again please?

We set out not knowing
where you would lead us.
We liked what we saw.

Could we start again please?

We heard you say that
You would be betrayed,
That you would be handed over,
That you would be beaten.

Could we start again please?

We did not count the cost
Of following you,
And now you, cross-bound Christ,
Now you are mocked,
Ridiculed, put to shame.

What of us? What next?

Could we start again please?

Amen

Reading: Matthew 27:1-2; 11-14.

‘Why did you not say something?’

Reading: Matthew 27:15-23

‘Do you not hear their shouts?’

Reading: Matthew 27:24-26



Lament:

Cross-bound Christ,
Your innocence matters not:
It is washed away
In a string of words
And some public deeds:
No blood on Pilate's hands:
He has sanitized himself

From the virus of accusation.

The crowd's cries are too strong.

Their mood has been managed.

Have mercy upon us

For those times we wash our hands

Of the problems before us

And leave others to suffer.

Lord have mercy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o34zio-m0R8&feature=youtu.be>

Reading: Matthew 27:27-31

‘Abused



Reading: Matthew 27:32-37

Prayer:

Forgive us, God of Jesus Christ,

For those times:

**We strip the other of their dignity;
We mock them;
We spit on their name;
We crucify them with our words and deeds.**

Forgive us, God of Jesus Christ,

For those times:

**We forget who you are;
We take your name in vain;
We disfigure you, Amen.**

Lord have mercy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o34zio-m0R8&feature=youtu.be>

Reading: Matthew 27:38-44

Hymn TiS 339: 'O sacred head sore wounded'.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pO2d0AD5wBg>

Reading: Matthew 27: 45-56

'Behold the man!'

From David Gascoyne's poem, 'Ecce homo'.

Whose is this horrifying face,
This putrid flesh, discoloured, flayed,
Fed on by flies, scorched by the sun?
Whose are these hollow red-filmed eyes

And thorn-spiked head and spear-stuck side?
Behold the Man: He is Man's Son.
Forget the legend, tear the decent veil
That cowardice or interest devised
To make their mortal enemy a friend,
To hide the bitter truth all His wounds tell,
Lest the great scandal be no more disguised:
He is in agony till the world's end,
And we must never sleep during that time!
He is suspended on the cross-tree now
And we are onlookers at the crime,
Callous contemporaries of the slow
Torture of God. Here is the hill
Made ghastly by His spattered blood

Prayer:

What can we say? What can we do?

Forgive us, cross-bound Christ,

For those times

We failed you;

We did not follow your way;

We denied you;

We did not stand by you in your hour of need;

We kept our distance

And looked on from afar.

Hymn: TiS 256: 'From heaven you came, helpless babe'.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GrQiLEO4D5s>

'What have they done to you?'

Prayer:

In your hour of death,

Lord Jesus Christ,

We pray:

For those whose lives are drawing to a close;

For those who wait with them;

For those who mourn;

Lord have mercy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o34zio-m0R8&feature=youtu.be>

Amen.

Reading: Matthew 27: 57-61.

'The deposition from the cross'.





TiS 342: 'When I survey the wondrous cross'.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4_fvFfPqjO4

We leave in silence.