

O Sacred Head now wounded

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p5hjdz4xZF4>

O sacred Head, now wounded,
with grief and shame weighed down;
now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown;
O sacred Head, what glory, what bliss 'til now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.

2 What thou, my Lord, hast suffered was all for sinners' gain:
mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Saviour! 'Tis I deserve thy place;
look on me with thy favour, vouchsafe to me thy grace.

3 What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest Friend,
for this, thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
O make me thine forever; and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never
outlive my love to thee.

Words Paul Gerhardt Music JS Bach C.C.L.I. No. 237097 Song no. 4224059

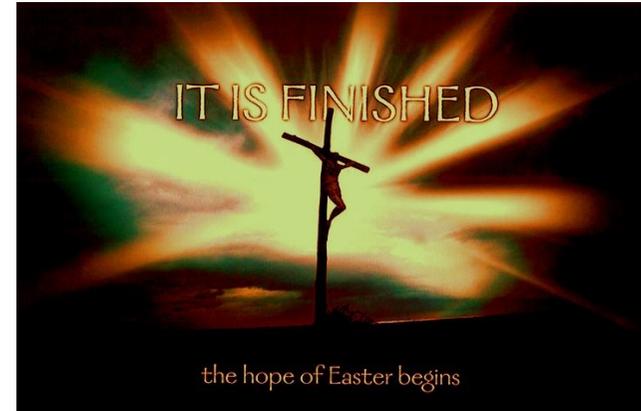


Liturgy adapted from Rev Dr M Laidlaw– Liturgies online– used with permission

Westmead Uniting Church

A congregation of Parramatta

Mission



9.00am

For worship today please have a bowl with water in it, smooth stones and a cross (if you have one).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ogRvBVRvqvk> There is a Green Hill

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CltrLsjsQl0> The Old rugged cross

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4_fvFfPqjO4 When I survey the wondrous cross

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p5hjdz4xZF4> O Sacred head now wounded

THE BEGINNING

O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.
Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.
In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.
To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted,
and were not put to shame. (from Psalm 22)

SONG TiS 350 There is a green hill far away

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ogRvBVRvqyk> music and words

There is a green hill far away,
outside 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.

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 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.



Good Friday Christina Rossetti

Am I a stone, and not a sheep,
That I can stand, O Christ, beneath Thy cross,
To number drop by drop Thy blood's slow loss,
And yet not weep?

Not so those women loved
Who with exceeding grief lamented Thee;
Not so -fallen Peter weeping bitterly;
Not so -the thief was moved;

Not so -the Sun and Moon
Which hid their faces in a starless sky,
A horror of great darkness at broad noon –
I, only I.

Yet give not o'er,
But seek Thy sheep, true Shepherd of the flock;
Greater than Moses, turn and look once more
And smite a rock.

CONCLUDING PRAYER:

We give thanks, O God, for the amazing love of Jesus Christ -
The love that was tortured that we might know peace.

The love that was crucified that we might live forever.

***The love that rightly demands our souls, our lives,
our all.***

Let us go from here revealing that love in all its fullness.

Amen

THE BURIAL

JOHN 19: 38-42

38 After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. ³⁹Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴²And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Followed by a time of silence



PRAYER

Gracious God,
on this day we gather to remember the suffering death of Jesus.
We come overwhelmed by the depth of Jesus' love for us,
and his commitment to defeat evil,
even when that meant his own suffering and his own death—
even death on a cross.

So, in response to such love and sacrifice,
we commit ourselves as his disciples
to overcome evil with good,
suffering with wholeness,
and oppression with justice in Jesus' name. Amen

THE ARREST

JOHN 18: 1-12

Followed by a time of silence

After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. ²Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. ³So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. ⁴Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, 'For whom are you looking?' ⁵They answered, 'Jesus of Nazareth.' Jesus replied, 'I am he.' Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. ⁶When Jesus said to them, 'I am he,' they stepped back and fell to the ground.

⁷Again he asked them, 'For whom are you looking?' And they said, 'Jesus of Nazareth.' ⁸Jesus answered, 'I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go.' ⁹This was to fulfil the word that he had spoken, 'I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me.' ¹⁰Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Machus. ¹¹Jesus said to Peter, 'Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?'

12 So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him.

silence

Lord Jesus Christ, wounded and crushed;

You gave your life that we might live.

THE INTERROGATION

JOHN 18: 13-27

¹³First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. ¹⁴Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people.

¹⁵ Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, ¹⁶but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. ¹⁷The woman said to Peter, 'You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?' He said, 'I am not.' ¹⁸Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing round it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

¹⁹ Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. ²⁰Jesus answered, 'I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. ²¹Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said.' ²²When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, 'Is that how you answer the high priest?' ²³Jesus answered, 'If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?' ²⁴Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.



PRAYER

As Jesus said "It is finished", we give thanks for his life of love and his painful death for us and for our world.

Even at the point of death, he cared about others.

Give us, O God, like minds and as deep a care for others, as we commit ourselves and all those dear to us, into your hands.

We especially uphold before you those who are sick and suffering, those for whom we have special concern.

May they know that neither death nor life nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

TiS 342 When I survey the wondrous cross

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

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 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.

Words Isaac Watts/Music adapted by Edward Miller C.C.L.I. No. 237097



THE CRUCIFIXION

JOHN 19: 16b - 37

So they took Jesus; ¹⁷and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. ¹⁸There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. ¹⁹Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, 'Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.' ²⁰Many 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. ²¹Then 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." ' ²²Pilate answered, 'What I have written I have written.' ²³When 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. ²⁴So 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.' ²⁵And that is what the soldiers did.

²⁸ After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfil the scripture), 'I am thirsty.' ²⁹A 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. ³⁰When Jesus had received the wine, he said, 'It is finished.' Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Followed by a time of silence

Lord Jesus Christ, wounded and crushed;

You gave your life that we might live.

²⁵ Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, 'You are not also one of his disciples, are you?' He denied it and said, 'I am not.' ²⁶One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, 'Did I not see you in the garden with him?' ²⁷Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

silence

Lord Jesus Christ, wounded and crushed;

You gave your life that we might live.

THE TRIAL

JOHN 18:28 - 19:6, 14-

²⁸ Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. ²⁹So Pilate went out to them and said, 'What accusation do you bring against this man?' ³⁰They answered, 'If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.' ³¹Pilate 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.' ³²(This was to fulfil what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

³³ Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' ³⁴Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' ³⁵Pilate 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?' ³⁶Jesus 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.' ³⁷Pilate 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.' ³⁸Pilate 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. ³⁹But 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?' ⁴⁰They shouted in reply, 'Not this man, but Barabbas!' Now Barabbas was a bandit.

¹⁹Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. ²And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. ³They kept coming up to him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' and striking him on the face. ⁴Pilate 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.' ⁵So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, 'Here is the man!' ⁶When 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.'

¹⁴Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, 'Here is your King!' ¹⁵They 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.' ¹⁶Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

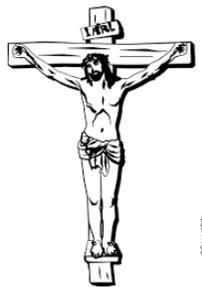
Lord Jesus Christ, wounded and crushed;

You gave your life that we might live.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CitrLsjsQI0> Music and lyrics

The Old Rugged Cross

On a hill far away, stood an old rugged Cross
The emblem of suffering and shame
And I love that old Cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain
*So I'll cherish the old rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down*



*I will cling to the old rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown*

Oh, that old rugged Cross so despised by the world
Has a wondrous attraction for me
For the dear Lamb of God, left his Glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary
*So I'll cherish the old rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown*

Then he'll call me some day to my home far away,
where his glory forever I'll share.
*So I'll cherish the old rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown*
Words and Music George Bennard

PRAYER

Almighty God, in Jesus Christ, we see the fulfilment of your vision for humanity.
A vision where all people live together in harmony and freedom.
He lived with love and compassion, forgiveness and healing
Inscribed on his heart, and revealed in all his actions.

May your Spirit sustain these qualities in us so that we can confront the evil in human hearts and in the world around us.
Lord Jesus Christ, despised and rejected,
Man of Sorrows and acquainted with grief;
be present with all those, young and old,
who bear the pain of the world.

Strengthen them and uplift them with the knowledge that you were prepared to die to overcome evil with a love that will never die. **Amen**