

PASSION SUNDAY 26 MARCH 2023

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on "Herzlich Tut Mich Verlangen" J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

HYMN 121

- 1 Forty days and forty nights thou wast fasting in the wild; forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled:
- 2 Sunbeams scorching all the day; chilly dewdrops nightly shed; prowling beasts about thy way; stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.
- 3 Shall not we thy sorrows share, and from earthly joys abstain, fasting with unceasing prayer, glad with thee to suffer pain?
- 4 And if Satan, vexing sore, flesh or spirit should assail, thou, his vanquisher before, grant we may not faint nor fail.
- 5 So shall we have peace divine; holier gladness ours shall be; round us too shall angels shine, such as ministered to thee.

6 Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear, ever constant by thy side; that with thee we may appear at the eternal Eastertide.

GREETING

In the name of the living God: Father, Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you and also with you.

The celebrant welcomes those in attendance.

THE DECALOGUE

God spoke these words and said: I am the Lord your God [who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery]; you shall have no other gods but me.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not make for yourself any idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them.

[For I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.]

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain [for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain]. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy.

For six days you shall labour and do all your work.

But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God.

[You shall not do any work —
you, your son or your daughter,
your slaves, your livestock,
or the foreigner who lives among you.

For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them,
but rested the seventh day;
therefore the Lord blessed the seventh day and consecrated it.]

Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Honour your father and your mother [so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you]. Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not murder.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not commit adultery. **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

You shall not steal.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not bear false witness [against your neighbour]. **Lord, have mercy upon us,**

and incline our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not covet [your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or slaves, or ox, or donkey,

or anything that belongs to your neighbour]. Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these your laws in our hearts.

CONFESSION

The officiant uses an invitation to confession.

God shows his love for us in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Let us then show our love for him by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COLLECT

The celebrant prays the collect set for the day.

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

A Reading from the Book of Ezekiel:

suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. 81 looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' 10 I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. 11 Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." 12 Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. 14 I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.'

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

PSALM Psalm 130

Out of the depths have I called to / you O / Lord: Lord / hear / my / voice;

O let your ears con-/-sider / well: the / voice · of my / suppli-/-cation.

If you Lord should note what / we do / wrong: who / then O / Lord could / stand?

But there is for-/-giveness · with / you: so that / you / shall be / feared.

I wait for the Lord * my / soul / waits for him: and / in his / word · is my / hope.

My soul / looks · for the / Lord: more than watchmen for the morning *

¹ The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord GOD, you know.' ⁴ Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.' ⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied,

more I say than / watchmen / for the / morning.

O Israel trust in the Lord * for with the / Lord · there is / mercy: and with / him is / ample · re-/-demption.

He will re-/-deem / Israel: from the / multi-tude / of his / sins.

Glory be to the Father, and / to the / Son: and / to the / Holy / Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and / ever / shall be: world without / end./ A-/-men.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 8:6-11

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans:

⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

GRADUAL HYMN 153

1 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.
- 3 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.
- 4 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.

GOSPEL John 11:1-45

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' ⁸ The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' ⁹ Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' ¹¹ After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken

him.' 12 The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' 13 Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' 16 Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellowdisciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.' 17 When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' 23 Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' 24 Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' 25 Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' ²⁷ She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.' 28 When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' 29 And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' 33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. 34 He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' 35 Jesus began to weep. 36 So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' 37 But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?' ³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. 39 Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' 40 Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' 41 So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. 42 I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me. 43 When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.' ⁴⁵ Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We believe in one God,

SERMON

CREED The Nicene Creed

the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

A member of the congregation offers prayers.

PEACE

The celebrant introduces the Peace with a suitable sentence:

Once we were far off, but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

HYMN 145

- 1 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.
- 2 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.
- 3 I cannot tell how he could love a child so weak and full of sin; his love must be most wonderful, if he could die my love to win.

- 4 I sometimes think about the cross, and shut my eyes, and try to see the cruel nails and crown of thorns, and Jesus crucified for me.
- 5 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.
- 6 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.
- 7 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.

EUCHARIST

Eucharistic Prayer B

The Lord be with you and also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty. The power of the life-giving cross reveals the judgement that has come upon the world

and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more,
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,
for ever praising you and singing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
[Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.]

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith: Christ has died: Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of [N and] all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,

the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Amen.

The celebrant distributes communion.

ANTHEM

"Aus Liebe" from the St. Matthew Passion J.S. Bach (1685-1750) Maria Ladurner, Soprano

HYMN 157 (TUNE 1)

- 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.
- 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; did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown!
- 4 His dying crimson, like a robe, spreads o'er his body on the tree: then am I dead to all the globe, and all the globe is dead to me.
- 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.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

Amen.

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

Amen.

BLESSING

The celebrant may use a seasonal blessing, or another suitable blessing:

Christ crucified draw you to himself, to find in him a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven; ...and the blessing of God Almighty the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN 135

- 1 Take up thy cross, the Saviour said, if thou wouldst my disciple be; deny thyself, the world forsake, and humbly follow after me.
- Take up thy cross: let not its weight fill thy weak spirit with alarm; his strength shall bear thy spirit up, and brace thy heart, and nerve thine arm.
- Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame, nor let thy foolish pride rebel: thy Lord for thee the cross endured, to save thy soul from death and hell.
- 4 Take up thy cross then in his strength, and calmly every danger brave;

- 'twill guide thee to a better home, and lead to victory o'er the grave.
- 5 Take up thy cross, and follow Christ, nor think till death to lay it down; for only they who bear the cross may hope to wear the glorious crown.
- To thee, great Lord, the One in Three, all praise for evermore ascend:O grant us in our home to see the heavenly life that knows no end.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Praeludium in G Minor
Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

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This liturgy is taken from The Archbishop's Council 2000, *Common Worship* (London: Church House Publishing, 2000). The hymns are taken from *Ancient & Modern* (Norwich: Canterbury Press, 2013). Scripture reference, unless otherwise noted, are from the NRSV translation of *The Holy Bible*.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We are taking a collection during all of the services in the church building through the offering plate and through a tap and pay card reading system at the back of the church. PayPal and standing orders are also possible through our website or by contacting the church Treasurer. More information is available on our website.

Your contributions make a difference, and we are thankful for them.