

Order of Service – 15/04/2022 Good Friday

In the Church

Opening verse:

“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” *Luke 23:46*

Gathering, Greeting and Call to Worship

Ian

Good morning friends and welcome to this solemn service remembering the last hours of Jesus' life. Welcome to those of you who are joining us in the room this morning. Welcome to those who are joining us on the livestream. Those here we'll keep our masks on through the service to protect the vulnerable amongst us as this virus continues to rage.

During the service today we'll be going on a procession around the site of the church. We'll be going to three stations, two stations outside and one in the hall. If you're not able to make that journey with us, of course, stay in the church as we go and we're going to attempt to put the live-stream on the screens while that's happening if you need to stay here.

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. Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”

Come let us worship the one who meets us in the heart of suffering.
As we look through his eyes today – what will we see?

Gathering Song: *When I survey, TiS 342*

- 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 death 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 *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.*
-

SONG: [When I survey the wondrous cross](#), by Isaac Watts,
from [Together in Song](#), Harper Collins *Religious*, PUBLIC DOMAIN

Acknowledgement of Country

Rui

Today as we gather to worship, we acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, the first inhabitants of this place from time beyond our remembering.

They have never ceded sovereignty.

We acknowledge that through this land, God nurtured and sustained the first peoples of this country, the aboriginal and Islander peoples.

We honour them for their custodianship of the land on which we gather today.

We acknowledge that the First Peoples had already encountered the Creator God before the arrival of the colonisers;

the Spirit was already in the land, revealing God to the people through law, custom and ceremony.

We acknowledge that the same love and grace that was finally and fully revealed in Jesus Christ sustained the first peoples and gave them particular insights into God's ways:

and so we rejoice in the reconciling purposes of God and commit ourselves to work for justice, reconciliation, and care of the earth.

Prayer

Amelia

Jesus who watches and waits with us,
We gather here in your name,
Wanting to perceive things that we can not see or measure.
How God loves the world,
The peace that you leave with us,
The Holy Spirit in the Kingdom today.
Help us to see them through your eyes as we walk the way of the cross.

Open our hearts like leaves reaching to the open sky,
as we kneel beside you in the place of prayer, conflict and healing.
Let truth shape us as water smooths the river stones,
as we listen with you in the place of denial.
Teach us the song of welcoming and belonging,
As we walk with you through the places of justice and suffering.
And finally, as we feel the breath leave your body and the darkness fill the tomb,
Show us how to remember the hope you have for your people.

Amen

Stations of the Cross - Introduction

Ian

Through Lent we have been following the stations of the cross, looking through the eyes of Jesus guided by the paintings around this room. Today we will conclude that journey. We will go on a procession visiting various sites around the church property, remembering the steps that have led us here today. On the way we will sing two songs for which you shouldn't need printed words. As we move between the stations the musicians will lead us in singing "We walk his way" – please join in with that refrain, those are the only words you need to know, "we walk his way". At each of the stations we will sing Kyrie Eleison, an ancient prayer in the Greek language meaning Lord have mercy. The tune we will sing today is from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church to connect us with the horror there. At each station we will hear a summary of the gospel story followed by the reproaches of the cross, a modern version of an ancient Good Friday prayer. We will sing Kyrie Eleison, and hear a bible reading from the prophet Isaiah or Psalm 22 before moving on to the next station. We'll visit 3 stations before returning here for the last 4.

Breathe into prayer...

Processional Song

Ian

Move through the Olive Way and covered walkway to Olive Tree

We walk his way [WWHW16] Congregation joins in with the refrain

Refrain: We walk his way.

Verses:

- 1. Unarmed he faces forces of demons and death;
we walk his way*
 - 2. He breaks the bonds of hell, dying on the cross;
we walk his way.*
 - 3. The tree of freedom blooms by his empty grave;
we walk his way.*
-

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At the Olive Tree

The First Station – Jesus prays on the Mount of Olives

Ian: The First Station – Jesus prays on the Mount of Olives and is arrested

He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.

The disciples sleep. Jesus prays in anguish. Judas comes to kiss him. A disciple draws a sword and attacks. Jesus heals the wounded and teaches peace.

Here beside our olive tree, we join Jesus in the place of prayer, conflict and healing.

Good Friday Reproaches by Janet Morley, *All desires known* p 61

Amelia: Hear the reproach of the cross.

O my people, what have I done to you?
how have I offended you?
Answer me.

I brooded over the abyss,
with my words I called for creation:
but you have brooded on destruction,
and manufactured the means of chaos.

I breathed life into your bodies,
and carried you tenderly in my arms:
but you have armed yourselves for war,
breathing out threats of violence.

You have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

Ukrainian Orthodox Kyrie eleison (TIS736) - unannounced

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison

SONG: [Kyrie eleison](#), (Ukrainian Orthodox), from [Together in Song](#), Harper Collins *Religious*.

Bible reading – Isaiah 53:1-5

Semisi: Isaiah 53:1-5 – The Suffering Servant

- 53:1 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 and acquainted with infirmity;
and as one from whom others hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him of no account.
- 4 Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.
5 But 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.

Processional Song

Ian

Take a leaf from the Olive Tree and move around front doors to Indigenous Garden

We walk his way [WWHW16] Congregation joins in with the refrain

Refrain: We walk his way.

Verses:

- 1. Unarmed he faces forces of demons and death;
we walk his way*
 - 2. He breaks the bonds of hell, dying on the cross;
we walk his way.*
 - 3. The tree of freedom blooms by his empty grave;
we walk his way.*
-

At the Indigenous Garden

The Second Station – Peter’s Denial

Ian: The Second Station – Peter’s Denial.

Then they seized Jesus and led him away, bringing him into the high priest’s house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them.

Three people accuse Peter of being a follower of Jesus. Three times he denies it. The cock crows. Peter weeps.

Here before these stones that acknowledge the meaningful presence of Indigenous people in this place, we join Jesus in the place of denial.

Good Friday Reproaches by Janet Morley, *All desires known* p 61

Amelia: Hear the reproach of the cross.

O my people, what have I done to you?
how have I offended you?
Answer me.

I made the desert blossom before you,
I fed you with an open hand:
But you have grasped the children's food,
and laid waste fertile lands.

I abandoned my power like a garment,
choosing your unprotected flesh:
but you have robed yourselves in privilege,
and chosen to despise the abandoned.

You have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

Ukrainian Orthodox Kyrie eleison (TIS736) - unannounced

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison

Bible reading – Isaiah 53: 7-9

Semisi: Isaiah 53: 7-9 – the Suffering Servant part 2.

7 He 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.

8 By 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.

9 They 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.

Processional Song

Ian

Take a stone from the Indigenous Garden and move along the front of the church and back in front doors of the West End (current Olive Way)

Red prayer cards laid out in hall

We walk his way [WWHW16] Congregation joins in with the refrain

Refrain: We walk his way.

Verses:

- 1. Unarmed he faces forces of demons and death;
we walk his way*
- 2. He breaks the bonds of hell, dying on the cross;
we walk his way.*

3. *The tree of freedom blooms by his empty grave;
we walk his way.*
-

In the Main Hall, current “Olive Way”

The Third Station – Jesus is tried before Pilate and Herod

Ian: The Third Station – Jesus is tried before Pilate and Herod.

Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. 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.” Then Pilate asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?” He answered, “You say so.”

Pilate sends Jesus to Herod. Herod treats him with contempt and sends him back to Pilate. Pilate is swayed by the bloodthirsty mob. He releases the murderer Barabbas and hands Jesus over to be crucified.

Here in this space where we strive to create a place of welcoming and belonging, we join Jesus in the place of injustice.

Good Friday Reproaches by Janet Morley, *All desires known* p 61

Amelia: Hear the reproach of the cross.

O my people, what have I done to you?
how have I offended you?
Answer me.

I would have gathered you to me as a lover,
and shown you the ways of peace:
but you have desired security,
and you would not surrender your self.

I have torn the veil of my glory,
transfiguring the earth:
but you have disfigured my beauty,
and turned away your face.

You have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

Ukrainian Orthodox Kyrie eleison (TIS736) - unannounced

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison

Bible reading - Psalm 22: 1-5

Jamie: Psalm 22:1-5 – Plea for Deliverance from Suffering and Hostility

- 1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?
- 2 O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.
- 3 Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- 4 In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.
- 5 To you they cried, and were saved;

in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

Processional Song

Ian

Place your Olive Leaf representing our desire for peace and your stone representing the hard places of our humanity here amidst these prayers, committing to join God in the work of justice, healing and transformation. Then move back through into the church. Don't go back to your seats yet, but gather around two bowls of water, one the font in the gathering space, the other on the communion table in front of cross.

Congregation joins in with the refrain

Refrain: We walk his way.

Verses:

- 1. Unarmed he faces forces of demons and death;
we walk his way*
 - 2. He breaks the bonds of hell, dying on the cross;
we walk his way.*
 - 3. The tree of freedom blooms by his empty grave;
we walk his way.*
-

In the Church

The Fourth Station – Women weep on the Way of the Cross

Ian: The Fourth Station – Women weep on the Way of the Cross.

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. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.

Here in our place of worship, we join Jesus on the way of the cross.

Good Friday Reproaches by Janet Morley, *All desires known* p 61

Amelia: Hear the reproach of the cross.

O my people, what have I done to you?
how have I offended you?
Answer me.

I have laboured to deliver you,
as a woman delights to give life:
but you have delighted in bloodshed,
and laboured to bereave the world.

You have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

Ukrainian Orthodox Kyrie eleison (TIS736) - unannounced

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison

Bible reading - Psalm 22: 9-11

Jamie: Psalm 22: 9-11

9 Yet it was you who took me from the womb;
you kept me safe on my mother's breast.
10 On you I was cast from my birth,
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.
11 Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near
and there is no one to help.

Processional Song

Ian

Take some salt crystals, a sign of the tears of world, the tears of our hearts, and the tears of God's compassion. Put them in the water then move back to your seats as we sing.

Jesus remember me TIS730

Jesus remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

SONG: [Jesus, remember me](#), by permission Ateliers et Presses de Taize Ltd.,
from [Together in Song](#), Harper Collins *Religious*

The Fifth Station – Jesus is crucified

Ian: The Fifth Station – Jesus is crucified.

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. 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. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."

Everyone mocks him, except one of the criminals crucified beside him who says, Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Here before the cross we look with Jesus upon the place of suffering.

Good Friday Reproaches by Janet Morley, *All desires known* p 61

Amelia: Hear the reproach of the cross.

O my people, what have I done to you?
how have I offended you?
Answer me.

I have followed you with the power of my spirit,
to seek truth and heal the oppressed:
but you have been following a lie,
and returned to your own comfort.

You have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

Ukrainian Orthodox Kyrie eleison (TIS736) - unannounced

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison

Bible reading - Psalm 22:16-31

Jamie: Psalm 22:16-21.

16 For dogs are all around me;
a company of evildoers encircles me.

My hands and feet have shriveled;
17 I can count all my bones.
They stare and gloat over me;
18 they divide my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.
19 But you, O Lord, do not be far away!
O my help, come quickly to my aid!
20 Deliver my soul from the sword,
my life from the power of the dog!
21 Save me from the mouth of the lion!

Song

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

*Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
O 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? ...*

SONG: [Were you there?](#), based on an African-American spiritual, from [Together in Song](#), Harper Collins *Religious*, PUBLIC DOMAIN

The Sixth Station – Jesus Breathes his Last

Semisi

Semisi: The Sixth Station – Jesus Breathes his Last – Luke 23:44-49

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. 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.

*Were you there when the sun refused to shine? ...
Were you there when my Lord breathed out his last? ...*

The Seventh Station – Jesus is buried

Jamie

Jamie: The Seventh Station – Jesus is buried – Luke 23: 50-56

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. On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? ...

Prayers of the People

Rui

Here before the cross and tomb of Christ, let us pray for the world that God loves so much.

Jesus, crucified saviour, as we gather in remembrance of your death, we remember and pray for the suffering in our communities and in the world.

We pray for the suffering ones, for the rejected, for the brokenhearted, for the needy and for those who endure injustice and violence.

We pray for those suffering injustice and turmoil in Ukraine, Ethiopia, Palestine, Yemen and Myanmar. We pray for peace, for protection and provision – beat our swords into ploughshares our spears into pruning hooks (Isaiah 2:4).

We remember and pray for lives still affected by the COVID pandemic – especially the vulnerable.

We pray also for those affected by economic turmoil, we ask provision for those in need in Sri Lanka and in Lebanon and wherever people are unemployed, hungry, overtaken by poverty.

Help us, your church in all the world, to see through your eyes, to know you walked this path before us – we know you have experienced the suffering that many have to endure. May we carry your cross and those of others. Deepen our compassion for those who suffer, strengthen our love, our generosity, our understanding and our forgiveness.

We continue to pray singing Eyes of Christ by Phil Hudson.

SONG: Eyes of Christ (Phil Hudson)

*Eyes of the dying closing to pray
War of injustice, drumbeat of pain
Tears of the children saying goodbye
Suffering eyes of Christ
Suffering eyes of Christ*

*Eyes of the powerful turning away
Noisy our lifestyles, silent the graves
Raising a whisper, questioning why
Humbling eyes of Christ
Humbling eyes of Christ*

*Eyes of the passionate seeking the way
Lighting a candle, voices for change
Joining together so justice can rise
Piercing eyes of Christ
Piercing eyes of Christ*

*Eyes of the innocent searching through haze
Imagining freedom, blanket of grace
Warmth of their vision touching our lives
Life-giving eyes of Christ
Life-giving eyes of Christ*

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Veneration of the cross

Ian

Jesus is in his tomb. Now as we approach the end of our service I invite you to come forward to his Cross, to touch it, to pray there, to venerate his Cross and all that he has suffered for the world. Please come.

Music: *musicians' choice*

Sending Song

Ian

My song is love unknown (TIS341 verses 1, 2, 6 & 7)

*My song is love unknown,
My Saviour's love to me;
Love to the loveless shown,
That they might lovely be.
O who am I, that for my sake
My Lord should take, frail flesh and die?*

*He came from His blest throne
Salvation to bestow;
But all made strange, and none
The longed for Christ would know:
But O! my Friend, my Friend indeed,
Who at my need His life did spend.*

*In life, no house, no home
My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb
But what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was His home;
But mine the tomb wherein He lay.*

*Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine;
Never was love, dear King!
Never was grief like Thine.
This is my Friend, in Whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend.*

SONG: [My song is love unknown](#), by Samuel Crossman,
from [Together in Song](#), Harper Collins *Religious*. PUBLIC DOMAIN

Sending

Ian

This service is not over – it couldn't end here – it continues in our prayers for the rest of today and tomorrow, and then comes to fulfilment in the great celebration here on Easter morning.

Now you are welcome to stay here in the church to pray, you may wish to light a taper in the chapel at the back. You could stay outside and share some time with your fellow mourners, or you may be ready to return home to wait prayerfully for the conclusion of this service here on Sunday at dawn 6:30am and/or at our Easter Holy Communion service at 9:30. For now, know the peace of God, the light that shines in the darkness and is not overcome. Go in that peace. As Christ has loved you, love one another.

Thank you

Thank you for joining us, and thank you to...

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Acknowledgement of Country

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Ian Ferguson
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Amelia Ware

Good Friday Reproaches:

by Janet Morley,
All desires known p 61

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Closing verse on screen

“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” Luke 23, verse 46