

# The Liturgy of Good Friday

DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND



He stands before Pilate,  
before whom stand and quake the powers of heaven.  
By the hand of his creature  
is struck the Creator.  
To the cross is sentenced  
the judge of the living and dead.  
Hell's destroyer  
is buried in a grave.  
Glory to you, most patient Lord:  
All this you suffer in your love,  
you have saved all from the curse.

*From Orthodox Vespers on Holy Friday*

*The Gathering*

*The president enters in silence and kneels in prayer.*

***All stand with the president.***

### **The Collect**

Almighty Father, look with mercy on this your family, for which our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed and given up into the hands of sinners and to suffer death upon the cross; who is alive and glorified with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

***All Amen.***

*The Liturgy of the Word*

### **Reading**

***Please sit for the first reading (Isaiah 52.13—end of 53)***

***At the end:***

This is the word of the Lord.

***All Thanks be to God.***

**Hymn: There is a green hill far away**

## The Passion Reading

*Please stand throughout if you are able.*

*As the Passion is announced the reader says:*

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

*(John 18.1 – end of 19)*

*At the end*

This is the Passion of the Lord

*No response is made. Silence is kept.*

### Sermon

*A brief sermon is given.*

*The Proclamation of the Cross*

*A veiled wooden cross is brought into church. The procession stops three times as the cross is unveiled.*

*The following response is used,*

This is the wood of the cross, on which hung the Saviour of the World.

**All Come, let us worship.**

*All are invited to come forward to venerate the cross in whatever way they feel comfortable.*

*During the veneration of the Cross, the following hymn may be sung:*

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

### Acclamations by the Priest

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,

**because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

This is the wood of the cross, on which hung the Saviour of the world.

**Come, let us worship.**

O Saviour of the world,

who by your cross and precious blood have redeemed us,

**save us and help us, we humbly pray.**

## Prayers of Intercession

God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world,  
but that the world might be saved through him.  
Therefore we pray to our heavenly Father  
for people everywhere according to their needs.

Let us pray for the Church of God throughout the world:  
for unity in faith, in witness and in service,  
for bishops and other ministers, and those whom they serve,  
for Robert, our bishop, and the people of this diocese,  
for all Christians in this place, for those to be baptized,  
for those who are mocked and persecuted for their faith,  
that God will confirm his Church in faith,  
increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.  
Lord, hear us.

*All Lord, graciously hear us.*

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole  
body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our  
prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in  
their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness  
and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and  
Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray for the nations of the world and their leaders:  
for Charles our King and the Government of this land,  
for those who administer the law  
and all who serve in public office,  
for all who strive for justice and reconciliation,  
that by God's help the world may live in peace and freedom.  
Lord, hear us.

*All Lord, graciously hear us.*

Most gracious God and Father, in whose will is our peace, turn our hearts and the hearts of all to yourself, that by the power of your Spirit the peace which is founded on justice may be established throughout the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for God's ancient people, the Jews, the first to hear his word:  
for greater understanding between Christian and Jew,  
for the removal of our blindness and bitterness of heart,  
that God will grant us grace to be faithful to his covenant and to grow in the love of his name.  
Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lord God of Abraham, bless the children of your covenant, both Jew and Christian; take from us all blindness and bitterness of heart, and hasten the coming of your kingdom, when the Gentiles shall be gathered in, all Israel shall be saved, and we shall dwell together in mutual love and peace under the one God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

Let us pray for those who do not believe the gospel of Christ: for those who have not heard the message of salvation, for all who have lost faith, for the contemptuous and scornful, for those who are enemies of Christ and persecute those who follow him,  
for all who deny the faith of Christ crucified,  
that God will open their hearts to the truth and lead them to faith and obedience.  
Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us**

Merciful God, creator of all the people of the earth, have compassion on all who do not know you, and by the preaching of your gospel with grace and power, gather them into the one fold of the one Shepherd; Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us pray for all those who suffer:  
for those who are deprived and oppressed,  
for all who are sick,  
for those in darkness, in doubt and in despair, in loneliness  
and in fear,  
for prisoners, captives and refugees,  
for the victims of false accusations and violence,  
for all at the point of death and those who watch beside  
them, that God in his mercy will sustain them  
with the knowledge of his love.

Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Almighty and everlasting God, the comfort of the sad, the strength of those who suffer: hear the prayers of your children who cry out of any trouble, and to every distressed soul grant mercy, relief and refreshment, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us commend ourselves and all God's children to his unfailing love, and pray for the grace of a holy life, that, with all who have died in the peace of Christ, we may come to the fullness of eternal life and the joy of the resurrection.

Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light, look favourably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery, and by the tranquil operation of your perpetual providence carry out the work of our salvation:

and let the whole world feel and see that things which were cast down are being raised up and things which had grown old are being made new and that all things are returning to perfection through him from whom they took their origin, even Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

*The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

*Please stand.*

*The holy table is covered with a fair linen cloth and the consecrated elements are placed on it in silence.*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Standing at the foot of the cross, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**All 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.**

## Giving of Communion

Behold the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*The minister and people receive communion. All baptised Christians are welcome to receive communion. In this service, only the Eucharistic bread, consecrated at the liturgy of Maundy Thursday, is distributed.*

*The Conclusion*

***Silence is kept.***

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, set your passion, cross and death between your judgement and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Grant mercy and grace to the living, rest to the departed, to your Church peace and concord and to us sinners forgiveness, and everlasting life and glory; for, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you are alive and reign, God, now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

*All depart in silence*

**For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.**