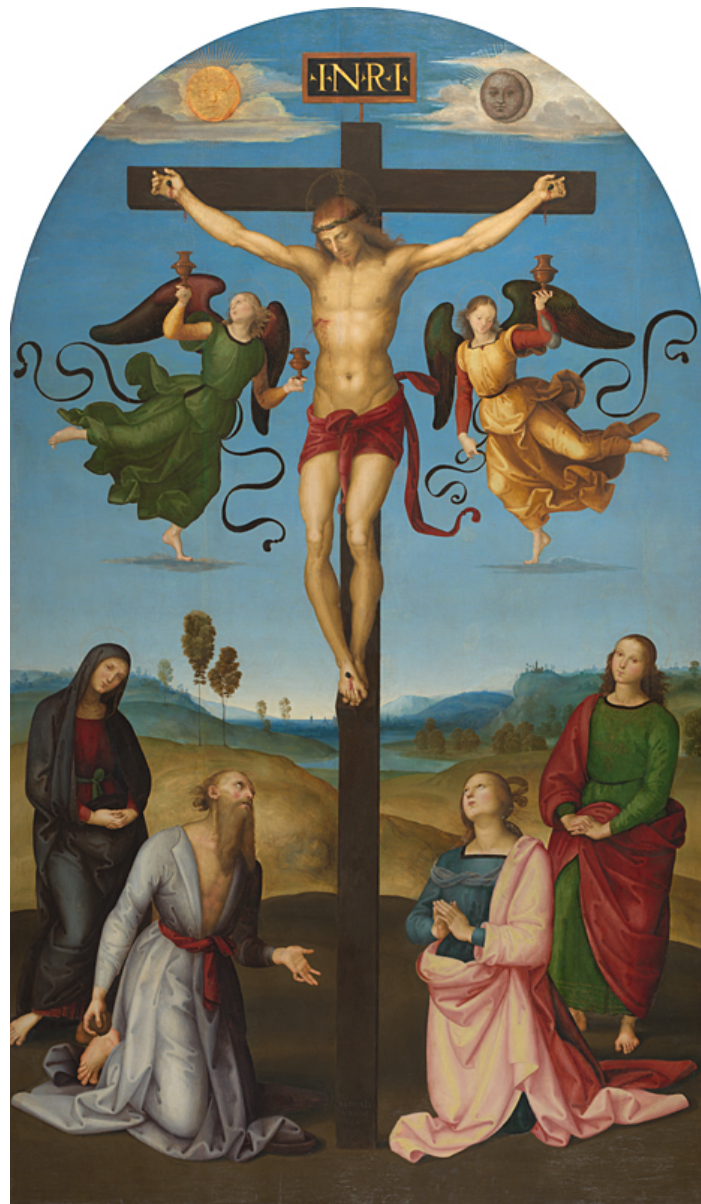


St John the Evangelist Palmers Green



The Liturgy of Good Friday

From Good Friday : the first 12 Stations of the Cross

by Malcolm Guite

Station XII : Jesus dies on the cross

The dark nails pierce him and the sky turns black
We watch him as he labours to draw breath
He takes our breath away to give it back,
Return it to it's birth through his slow death.
We hear him struggle breathing through the pain
Who once breathed out his spirit on the deep,
Who formed us when he mixed the dust with rain
And drew us into consciousness from sleep.
His spirit and his life he breathes in all
Mantles his world in his one atmosphere
And now he comes to breathe beneath the pall
Of our pollutions, draw our injured air
To cleanse it and renew. His final breath
Breathes us, and bears us through the gates of death.

Please use link below for
Malcolm Guite's website,
to read and listen to *12 Sonnets for Stations of the Cross*:

<https://malcolmguite.wordpress.com/2026/04/03/good-friday-the-first-12-stations-of-the-cross-10/>

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The Liturgy of Good Friday

The Gathering

Reflective Chant

Jesus, remember me (Taizé)

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

The priest enters, followed by a time of silent prayer.

The Collect

All stand and the priest says the Collect

Eternal God,
in the cross of Jesus
we see the cost of our sin
and the depth of your love:
in humble hope and fear
may we place at his feet
all that we have and all that we are,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah 52.13 - end of 53

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (A&M 184)

- 1** Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble;
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
- 2** Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble;
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
- 3** Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble;
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
- 4** Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble;
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
- 5** Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble;
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

New Testament Reading

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Hebrews 10.16-25

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Hymn

○ Sacred Head (Tune: A&M 181)

- | | |
|---|---|
| ○ Sacred head, sore wounded,
Defiled and put to scorn; | In thy most bitter passion
My heart to share doth cry, |
| ○ kingly head, surrounded
With mocking crown of thorn: | With thee for my salvation
Upon the Cross to die. |
| What sorrow mars thy grandeur?
Can death thy bloom deflower? | Ah, keep my heart thus movèd
To stand thy Cross beneath, |
| ○ countenance whose splendour
The hosts of heaven adore. | To mourn thee, well-belovèd,
Yet thank thee for thy death. |

The Passion Reading

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

John 18.1 - 19.37

At the end

This is the Passion of the Lord.

No response is made.

Silence is kept.

Sermon

Reflective Chant

Jesus, remember me (Taizé)

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

The Proclamation of the Cross

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

All **Come, let us worship.**

Anthem I

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?
Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow
which was brought upon me.

All **Holy God,
Holy and mighty,
Holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

O my people, O my Church,
what have I done to you,
or in what have I offended you?
Testify against me.
I led you forth from the land of Egypt,
and delivered you by the waters of baptism,
but you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

All **Holy God,
Holy and mighty,
Holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

I led you through the desert forty years,
and fed you with manna.
I brought you through tribulation and penitence,
and gave you my body, the bread of heaven,
but you prepared a cross for your Saviour.

All **Holy God,
Holy and mighty,
Holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

What more could I have done for you
that I have not done?
I planted you, my chosen and fairest vineyard,
I made you the branches of my vine;
but when I was thirsty, you gave me vinegar to drink,
and pierced with a spear the side of your Saviour.

All **Holy God,
Holy and mighty,
Holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

I went before you in a pillar of cloud,
and you have led me to the judgement hall of Pilate.
I scourged your enemies and brought you
to a land of freedom,
but you have scourged, mocked and beaten me.
I gave you the water of salvation from the rock,
but you have given me gall and left me to thirst.

**All Holy God,
 Holy and mighty,
 Holy and immortal,
 have mercy upon us.**

I gave you a royal sceptre,
and bestowed the keys of the kingdom,
but you have given me a crown of thorns.
I raised you on high with great power,
but you have hanged me on the cross.

**All Holy God,
 Holy and mighty,
 Holy and immortal,
 have mercy upon us.**

My peace I gave, which the world cannot give,
and washed your feet as a sign of my love,
but you draw the sword to strike in my name,
and seek high places in my kingdom.
I offered you my body and blood,
but you scatter and deny and abandon me.

**All Holy God,
 Holy and mighty,
 Holy and immortal,
 have mercy upon us.**

I sent you the Spirit of truth to guide you,
and you close your hearts to the Counsellor.
I pray that all may be one in the Father and me,
but you continue to quarrel and divide.
I call you to go and bring forth fruit,
but you cast lots for my clothing.

**All Holy God,
 Holy and mighty,
 Holy and immortal,
 have mercy upon us.**

I came to you as the least of your brothers and sisters;
I was hungry and you gave me no food,
I was thirsty and you gave me no food,
I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,
naked and you did not clothe me,
sick and in prison and you did not visit me.

All **Holy God,
Holy and mighty,
Holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

Acclamations

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
All **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.
All **Come, let us worship.**

O Saviour of the world,
who by your cross and precious blood have redeemed us,
All **save us and help us, we humbly pray.**

The Veneration of the Cross

The Veneration of the Cross could include:

making the sign of the cross

bowing or kneeling before the cross

lighting a candle

There is no need to hurry in your devotions.

Hymn

Faithful Cross! above all other (*Pange Lingua*)

Chorus *Faithful Cross! above all other,
One and only noble tree!
None in foliage, none in blossom,
None in fruit thy peer may be;
Sweetest wood and sweetest iron,
Sweetest weight is hung on thee.*

1 Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle,
Sing the ending of the fray,
O'er the Cross, the victor's trophy,
Sound the loud triumphant lay:
Tell how Christ, the world's Redeemer,
As a Victim won the day.

5 Bend thy boughs, O Tree of Glory,
Thy too rigid sinews bend;
For awhile the ancient rigour
That thy birth bestowed, suspend,
And the King of heavenly beauty
On thy bosom gently tend.

2 God in pity saw man fallen,
Shamed and sunk in misery,
When he fell on death by tasting
Fruit of the forbidden tree:
Then another tree was chosen
Which the world from death should free.

6 Thou alone wast counted worthy
This world's Ransom to sustain,
That a shipwrecked race might ever
Thus a port of refuge gain,
With the sacred blood anointed
From the Lamb for sinners slain.

3 Therefore when the appointed fulness
Of the holy time was come,
He was sent who maketh all things
Forth from God's eternal home:
Thus he came to earth, incarnate,
Offspring of a maiden's womb.

7 He endured the nails, the spitting,
Vinegar and spear and reed;
From that holy Body piercèd
Blood and water forth proceed:
Earth and stars and sky and ocean
By that flood from stain are freed.

4 Thirty years among us dwelling,
Now at length his hour fulfilled,
Born for this, he meets his Passion,
For that this he freely willed,
On the Cross the Lamb is lifted,
Where his life-blood shall be spilled.

8 To the Trinity be glory,
To the Father and the Son,
With the co-eternal Spirit,
Ever Three and ever One,
One in love and one in splendour,
While unending ages run. Amen

Latin, *Venantius Fortunatus* 530-609
Tr Percy Dearner 1867-1936 and
J. M. Neal 1818-66+

Hymn

When I survey the wondrous Cross (A&M 157)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>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.</p> | <p>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?</p> |
| <p>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.</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>5 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.</p> | |

Isaac Watts 1674-1748

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 *N and N* our bishops, 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.

Silence is kept.

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.

All Amen.

+ + +

Let us pray for the nations of the world and their leaders:
for Charles our King and the Parliaments 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.

Silence is kept.

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.

All 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.

Silence is kept.

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 will be saved,
and we shall dwell together in mutual love and peace
under the one God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All 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.

Silence is kept.

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.

All Amen.

+ + +

Let us pray for 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.

Silence is kept.

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.

All 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 fulness of eternal life
and the joy of the resurrection.

Silence is kept.

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.

All Amen

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Lord's Prayer

Standing at the foot of the cross,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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

Jesus is 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 body of Christ, broken for you.
Amen.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

Reflective Chant

Jesus, remember me (Taizé)

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

The Conclusion

O Lord Jesus Christ,
Son of the living God,
set you 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.

The Gospel of the Burial of Jesus

John 19.38-42

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. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now 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. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

The priest departs in silence.