



## St Edmund's Taverham with St Peter's Ringland Worship for Passion Sunday

**21<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

As we continue our journey through Lent and walk again with Jesus on the road to Jerusalem we come now to Passiontide, the beginning of the final two weeks of Lent. The cross looms large on the horizon and Jesus walks this road in obedience to his Father and out of love for the world.

Our gathering song (Written by Dawn Rodgers and Eric Wyse)

### **Wonderful Merciful Saviour**

Precious Redeemer and Friend  
Who would have thought that a Lamb could  
Rescue the souls of all, Oh You rescue the souls of all

Counsellor, Comforter, Keeper  
Spirit we long to embrace  
You offer hope when our hearts have  
Hopelessly lost the way, Oh we hopelessly lost the way

*You are the One that we praise  
You are the One we adore  
You give the healing and grace our  
Hearts always hunger for, Oh our hearts always hunger for*

Almighty infinite Father  
Faithfully loving Your own  
Here in our weakness You find us  
Falling before Your throne, Oh we're falling before Your throne

### **Call to Worship** (based on Jeremiah 31: 27-34)

Holy One, dwell within us.

**Whisper in our ears;**

Glimmer in our vision;

**Write upon our hearts.**

We wait

**with open ears, open eyes, open hearts.**

**Amen**

~ written by Joanna Harader, and posted on **Spacious**

**Faith.** <http://spaciousfaith.com/2012/01/18/wednesday-worship-piece-isaiah/>

**Song** (Written by John Newton)

**How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear!**

It soothes their sorrows, heals their wounds, and drives away their fear  
It makes the wounded spirit whole, and calms the troubled breast  
'Tis manna to the hungry soul, and to the weary, rest  
And to the weary, rest

Dear Name, the rock on which I build, my shield and hiding-place  
My never-failing treasury filled with boundless stores of grace!  
Jesus! my Shepherd, Brother, Friend, my Prophet, Priest and King  
My Lord, my Life, my Way, my End, accept the praise I bring  
Accept the praise I bring

Weak is the effort of my heart, and cold my warmest thought  
But when I see you as you are, I'll praise you as I ought  
'Til then I would your love proclaim with every fleeting breath  
And may the music of your Name refresh my soul in death  
Refresh my soul in death!

How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear!  
It soothes their sorrows, heals their wounds, and drives away their fear  
And drives away their fear

Our scripture reading this week is written in the gospel of **John chapter 12 verses 20-32**.

20 Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks.  
21 They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' 22 Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. 23 Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. 25 Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 26 Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

27 ' Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—"Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. 28 Father, glorify your name. 'Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again. '29 The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him. '30 Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. 31 Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. 32 And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself. '33 He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

These are hard words, literally words of life and death. They are words that invite us to respond in some way. How might you respond?

You may like to read the thought in the St Ed's newsheet or on the St Peter's webpage.

**Song (The Father's song - written by Matt Redman)**

**I have heard so many songs**

Listened to a thousand tongues  
But there is one that sounds above them all  
The Father's song, the Father's love  
You sung it over me  
And for eternity it's written on my heart

*Heaven's perfect melody  
The Creator's symphony  
You are singing over me  
The Father's song  
Heaven's perfect mystery  
The King of love has sent for me  
And now you're singing over me  
The Father's song*

**Let us pray**

**Gracious Father,**

you gave up your Son  
out of love for the world:  
lead us to ponder the  
mysteries of his passion,  
that we may know eternal peace  
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, who makes all things new,  
new stars, new dust, new life;  
take my heart,  
every hardened edge and measured beat,  
and create something new in me.

I need your newness, God,  
the rough parts of me made smooth;  
the stagnant, stirred;  
the stuck, freed;  
the unkind, forgiven.

And then, by the power of your Spirit,  
I need to be turned toward Love again. Amen.

~ by Pamela C. Hawkins, in *The Awkward Season: Prayers for Lent* (Nashville, TN: Upper Room Books, 2009), 30. Posted on **Prayer and Creeds**, <https://prayersandcreeds.wordpress.com/>

## **Our Father, who art in heaven ....**

**Song** (written by Henry Smith)

### **Give thanks with a grateful heart**

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son

*And now let the weak say, I am strong*

*Let the poor say, I am rich*

*Because of what the Lord has done for us*

*And now let the weak say, I am strong*

*Let the poor say, I am rich*

*Because of what the Lord has done for us, give thanks*

### **Blessing** (inspired by Psalm 51)

May God create in you a clean heart,  
a transformed heart,  
a heart that knows and seeks and loves  
the justice and mercy of the Lord.

May you accept the gift of salvation –  
not your personal possession to be coveted,  
but His work, accomplished in the destruction of Sin  
on the cross of Jesus Christ.

And may you humble yourself before the Lord,  
coming before Him with a broken spirit,  
a contrite heart  
receiving from His hand  
great compassion  
and unfailing love.

~ posted on **Jeff's Blog**. <https://blog.wisch.org/category/benedictions-and-prayers>

## **Song**

### **When I fear my faith will fail**

Christ will hold me fast  
When the tempter would prevail  
He will hold me fast  
I could never keep my hold  
Through life's fearful path  
For my love is often cold  
He must hold me fast

*He will hold me fast  
He will hold me fast  
For my Saviour loves me so  
He will hold me fast*

Those He saves are His delight  
Christ will hold me fast  
Precious in His holy sight  
He will hold me fast  
He'll not let my soul be lost  
His promises shall last  
Bought by Him at such a cost  
He will hold me fast

For my life He bled and died  
Christ will hold me fast  
Justice has been satisfied  
He will hold me fast  
Raised with Him to endless life  
He will hold me fast  
Till our faith is turned to sight  
When he comes at last  
(Keith and Kristen Getty)