

**Good Friday Service**  
**April 10, 2020**  
**St Andrew's and St George's West Church**



**Introduction**

**Call to Worship**

Holy One, we gather to worship you

even as we hear the ragged breathing of the one carrying the cross,

even as we hear him stumble and fall.

Give us strength to hear the story once again.

Do not let us turn away from this bleak day.

Be with us in this darkness.

## Hymn 378 Praise to the Holiest in the height

Praise to the holiest in the height  
And in the depths be praise  
In all his words most wonderful  
Most sure in all his ways

O loving wisdom of our God!  
When all was sin and shame  
A second Adam to the fight  
And to the rescue came

O wisest love! That flesh and blood  
Which did in Adam fail  
Should strive afresh against the foe  
Should strive and should prevail

O generous love! that he who smote  
On Man, for man, the foe  
The double agony in Man  
For man should undergo

And in the garden secretly  
And on the Cross on high  
Should teach his brethren and inspire  
To suffer and to die

Praise to the Holiest in the height  
And in the depth be praise  
In all his words most wonderful  
Most sure in all his ways.

Prayer of Approach

***We stand at the cross and listen***

### **The First Word: Luke 23:32-34**

Reader 1: Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said,

Reader 2: Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.

Reader 1: And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

**Choir: *Father forgive them, for they know not what they do***

### **The Second Word: Luke 23:39-43**

Reader 1: One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus answered him,

Reader 2: I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.

**Choir: *Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.***

### **The Third Word: John 19:25-27**

Reader 1: Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother,

Reader 2: Dear woman, here is your son

Reader 1: and to the disciple,

Reader 2: Here is your mother.

Reader 1: From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

**Choir: *Behold your son: behold your mother***

### **The Fourth Word: Mark 15:33-36**

Reader 1: At the sixth hour darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice

Reader 2: Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?

Reader 1: which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of those standing near heard this, they said, "Listen, he's calling Elijah... Let's see if Elijah comes to take him down."

**Choir: *My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?***

### **Hymn 392 When I survey the wondrous cross**

**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**

**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**

**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**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine  
That were an offering far too small  
Love so amazing, so divine  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.**

**The Fifth Word: John 19:28,29**

Reader 1: Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said,

Reader 2: I am thirsty.

Reader 1: A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips.

**Choir: *I thirst***

**The Sixth Word: Luke 23:44-46a**

Reader 1: it was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out in a loud voice

Reader 2: Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.

**Choir: *Father, into your hands I commit my spirit***

**The Last Word: John 19:30**

Reader 2: It is finished

Reader 1: When he had said this, he breathed his last.

**Choir: *It is finished***

(Silence)

**Luke 23:47**

Reader 1     The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, "Surely this was a righteous man." When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away. But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

**Choir:        Were you there, when they crucified my Lord?**

Were you there, when they crucified my Lord?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble.

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

Were you there?

Music: Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)

Worship led by Rev Dr Rosie Magee

The Seven Last Words were composed by Andrew Carvel

Sung by the Choir of St Andrew's and St George's West, recorded in 2016

Readers: Alison Bruce and Crispin Longden