

Edinburgh: The New Town Church
Order of Service, 24th March 2024
The Place Called Golgotha



Gathering music

Welcome

Call to Worship

I will declare your name to my people;
in the assembly I will praise you.

You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you descendants of Jacob, honour him!

From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly;
before those who fear you I will fulfil my vows.

The poor will eat and be satisfied;
those who seek the LORD will praise him –
may your hearts live for ever!

All the ends of the earth
will remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
will bow down before him.
for dominion belongs to the LORD
and he rules over the nations.

**Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord.**

They will proclaim his righteousness,
declaring to a people yet unborn:
He has done it!

(from Psalm 22)

Hymn 378 Praise to the Holiest in the height

Opening Prayer, Collect and Lord's Prayer

Collect for the Sixth Sunday in Lent

Lord Jesus Christ, on the first Palm Sunday you entered the rebellious city where you were to die. Enter our hearts, we pray, and subdue them to yourself. And as your disciples blessed your coming and spread garments and branches in your way, make us ready to lay at your feet all that we have and are, that we too may bless your coming in the name of the Lord.

**Our Father in heaven.
Hallowed be your name
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Sharing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you
and also with you

Hymn 399 vv. 1-3, 6, 7 My song is love unknown

Scripture Reading *Isaiah 50: 4-9a*

⁴ The Sovereign LORD has given me a well-instructed tongue,
to know the word that sustains the weary.

He wakens me morning by morning,
wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed.

⁵ The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears;
I have not been rebellious,
I have not turned away.

⁶ I offered my back to those who beat me,
my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard;
I did not hide my face

from mocking and spitting.
7 Because the Sovereign LORD helps me,
I will not be disgraced.
Therefore have I set my face like flint,
and I know I will not be put to shame.
8 He who vindicates me is near.
Who then will bring charges against me?
Let us face each other!
Who is my accuser?
Let him confront me!
9 It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me.
Who will condemn me?

Anthem Ave verum corpus W.A. Mozart

Scripture Reading Mark 15: 21-41

21 A certain man from Cyrene, Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus, was passing by on his way in from the country, and they forced him to carry the cross. 22 They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means 'the place of the skull'). 23 Then they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. 24 And they crucified him. Dividing up his clothes, they cast lots to see what each would get.

25 It was nine in the morning when they crucified him. 26 The written notice of the charge against him read: THE KING OF THE JEWS.

27 They crucified two rebels with him, one on his right and one on his left. 29 Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, 'So! You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, 30 come down from the cross and save yourself!' 31 In the same way the chief priests and the teachers of the law mocked him among themselves. 'He saved others,' they said, 'but he can't save himself! 32 Let this Messiah, this king of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe.' Those crucified with him also heaped insults on him.

33 At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. 34 And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, '*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*' (which means 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?').

35 When some of those standing near heard this, they said, 'Listen, he's calling Elijah.'

36 Someone ran, filled a sponge with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. 'Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to take him down,' he said.

37 With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last.

38 The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. 39 And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, saw how he died, he said, 'Surely this man was the Son of God!'

40 Some women were watching from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joseph, and Salome. 41 In Galilee these women had followed him and cared for his needs. Many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem were also there.

Hymn 391 This is your coronation

Sermon

Hymn 403 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Prayers of the People

Hymn 396 And can it be, that I should gain

Sending and blessing

Sending music

Worship Leader: Very Rev Dr Angus Morrison

Scripture Reader: Sheila Adam

Prayers of the people: Sally and Nick Evans

Organist/pianist: David Stewart

Sources:

Image: The Place of a Skull at the Garden Tomb with the bus terminal below it *by* Fritzmb
via Flickr CC BY-NC-ND 2.0 (*image cropped*)

Scripture reading(s) taken from the New Revised Standard Version unless otherwise stated.

All hymns from Church Hymnary 4th Edition unless otherwise stated

Hymns used under licence from CCLI 247862

Streaming licence 351013

and ONE LICENSE #A-734408

Edinburgh: The New Town Church of Scotland. Charity SC008990