

Salford Methodist Circuit



Good Friday - 2nd April 2021
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Good Morning and welcome to our Good Friday Worship.

This morning we journey with our Saviour Jesus Christ on His Way to the Cross where He releases us all from our sins and As he dies the veil of the Temple was torn in two giving the people of God direct access to pray to God.

Bible Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18

For the message of the Cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction!

But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God.

The Cross the power of God through His son we are forgiven never separated from His love.

We are saved we put our trust and our faith in Him in confidence in the power and strength of God.

Hymn: 'My Song Is Love Unknown'

*My song is love unknown,
my Saviour's love to me,
love to the loveless shown,
that they might lovely be.*

*O who am I,
that for my sake
my Lord should take
frail flesh and die?*

*He came from his blest throne,
salvation to bestow;
but they made strange, and none
the longed-for Christ would know
But O my Friend,
my Friend indeed,
who at my need
his life did spend!*

*Sometimes they strew his way,
and his sweet praises sing;
resounding all the day
hosannas to their King.
Then 'Crucify!'*

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*is all their breath,
and for his death
they thirst and cry.*

*Why, what has my Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries!
Yet they at these
themselves displease,
and 'gainst him rise.*

*They rise, and needs will have
my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save,
the Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful he
to suffering goes,
that he his foes
from thence might free.*

*In life no house, no home,
my Lord on earth might have;
in death, no friendly tomb
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say?
Heaven was his home;
but mine the tomb
wherein he lay.*

*Here might I stay and sing,
no story so divine:
never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine!
This is my Friend,
in whose sweet praise
I all my days
could gladly spend.*

Now we come to our opening prayers. Let us pray.

Loving God
You have done so much for us
Giving us a world rich in wonder
And filling our lives with so much that is special
Receive our thanks.



But above all today we come to thank you
For your most precious gift of all
The great love you have shown to us in Christ
Receive our thanks.

In Him you came and lived amongst us
You opened the way through His death and resurrection
To forgiveness and eternal life.
Receive our thanks.

Forgive us for giving you so little in return
For shying away from discipleship
Forgive us when we put ourselves before others
Forgive us when we find it hard to offer anything of ourselves.
Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for this day
Help us to hear its message and respond to its challenge.

Lord in your mercy
hear our prayer for in your name we ask it
Amen

We now say together the Lord's Prayer.

*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 in to temptation
But deliver us from evil
For thine is the Kingdom
The Power and the Glory
Forever and ever
Amen*

Hymn: 'There Is A Green Hill'

*There is a green hill far away,
outside a city wall,
where the dear Lord was crucified,*



who died to save us all.

*We may not know, we cannot tell,
what pains he had to bear,
but we believe it was for us
he hung and suffered there.*

*He died that we might be forgiven.
He died to make us good,
that we might go at last to heaven,
saved by his precious blood.*

*There was no other good enough
to pay the price of sin;
he only could unlock the gate
of heaven, and let us in.*

*O dearly, dearly has he loved,
and we must love him too,
and trust in his redeeming blood,
and try his works to do.*

Stations of the Cross

Luke 22 verses 39 to 44, Jesus prays alone:

Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives. His disciples followed him. When they reached the place, Jesus spoke. "Pray that you won't fall into sin when you are tempted," he said to them. Then he went a short distance away from them. There he got down on his knees and prayed. He said, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup of suffering away from me. But do what you want, not what I want." An angel from heaven appeared to Jesus and gave him strength. Because he was very sad and troubled, he prayed even harder. His sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.

Matthew 26 verse 47 to 56, Jesus is arrested:

While Jesus was still speaking, Judas arrived. He was one of the 12 disciples. A large crowd was with him. They were carrying swords and clubs. The chief priests and the elders of the people had sent them. Judas, who was going to hand Jesus over, had arranged a special signal with them. "The one I kiss is the man," he said. "Arrest him." So Judas went to Jesus at once. He said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" And he kissed him.

Jesus replied, "Friend, do what you came to do."

Then the men stepped forward. They grabbed Jesus and arrested him. At that moment, one of Jesus' companions reached for his sword. He pulled it

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out and struck the slave of the high priest with it. He cut off the slave's ear.

"Put your sword back in its place," Jesus said to him. "All who use the sword will die by the sword. Do you think I can't ask my Father for help? He would send an army of more than 70,000 angels right away. But then how would the Scriptures come true? They say it must happen in this way."

At that time Jesus spoke to the crowd. "Am I leading a band of armed men against you?" he asked. "Do you have to come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in the temple courtyard teaching. And you didn't arrest me. But all this has happened so that the words of the prophets would come true." Then all the disciples left him and ran away.

***Lord Jesus Christ,
you have come to us,
you are one with us,
Mary's Son;
cleansing our souls from all their sin,
pouring your love and goodness in;
Jesus, our love for you we sing,
living Lord.***

Mark 14 verse 61 to 64, the Sanhedrin tries Jesus:

But Jesus remained silent. He gave no answer.

Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah? Are you the Son of the Blessed One?"

"I am," said Jesus. "And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One. You will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven."

The high priest tore his clothes. "Why do we need any more witnesses?" he asked. "You have heard him say a very evil thing against God. What do you think?"

They all found him guilty and said he must die.

John 18 verses 33 to 37, Pilate tries Jesus:

Then Pilate went back inside the palace. He ordered Jesus to be brought to him. Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

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"Is that your own idea?" Jesus asked. "Or did others talk to you about me?"

"Am I a Jew?" Pilate replied. "Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?"

Jesus said, "My kingdom is not from this world. If it were, those who serve me would fight. They would try to keep the Jewish leaders from arresting me. My kingdom is from another place."

"So you are a king, then!" said Pilate.

Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, that's the reason I was born. I was born and came into the world to be a witness to the truth. Everyone who is on the side of truth listens to me."

Mark 15 verses 6 to 15, Pilate sentences Jesus:

It was the usual practice at the Passover Feast to let one prisoner go free. The people could choose the one they wanted. A man named Barabbas was in prison. He was there with some other people who had fought against the country's rulers. They had committed murder while they were fighting against the rulers. The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did.

"Do you want me to let the king of the Jews go free?" asked Pilate. He knew that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him because they wanted to get their own way. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd. So the crowd asked Pilate to let Barabbas go free instead.

"Then what should I do with the one you call the king of the Jews?" Pilate asked them.

"Crucify him!" the crowd shouted.

"Why? What wrong has he done?" asked Pilate.

But they shouted even louder, "Crucify him!"

Pilate wanted to satisfy the crowd. So he let Barabbas go free. He ordered that Jesus be whipped. Then he handed him over to be nailed to a cross.

**Lord Jesus Christ,
now and every day,
teach us how to pray,
Son of God.
You have commanded us to do
this, in remembrance, Lord, of you;**

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***into our lives your power breaks through,
living Lord.***

John 19 verse 5, Jesus wears the crown:

Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Then Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!"

John 10 verses 17 to 18, I lay it down of my own accord:

The reason my Father loves me is that I give up my life. But I will take it back again. No one takes it from me. I give it up myself. I have the authority to give it up. And I have the authority to take it back again. I received this command from my Father."

Luke 23 verse 26, Simon carries the cross:

As the soldiers led Jesus away, they took hold of Simon. Simon was from Cyrene. He was on his way in from the country. They put a wooden cross on his shoulders. Then they made him carry it behind Jesus.

Luke 23 verse 27 to 31, Jesus speaks to the women:

A large number of people followed Jesus. Some were women whose hearts were filled with sorrow. They cried loudly because of him. Jesus turned and said to them, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me. Weep for yourselves and for your children. The time will come when you will say, 'Blessed are the women who can't have children! Blessed are those who never gave birth or nursed babies!' It is written,

*"The people will say to the mountains, "Fall on us!"
They'll say to the hills, "Cover us!"' (Hosea 10:8)*

People do these things when trees are green. So what will happen when trees are dry?"

***Lord Jesus Christ,
you have come to us,
born as one of us,
Mary's Son;
led out to die on Calvary,
risen from death to set us free;
living Lord Jesus, help us see
you are Lord.***

Luke 23 verses 33 and 34, Jesus is crucified:

The soldiers brought them to the place called the Skull. There they nailed Jesus to the cross. He hung between the two criminals. One was on his right and one was on his left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them. They don't know what they are doing." The soldiers divided up his clothes by casting lots.



Luke 23 verses 39 to 43, Criminals speak to Jesus:

One of the criminals hanging there made fun of Jesus. He said, "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself! Save us!"

But the other criminal scolded him. "Don't you have any respect for God?" he said. "Remember, you are under the same sentence of death. We are being punished fairly. We are getting just what our actions call for. But this man hasn't done anything wrong."

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

Jesus answered him, "What I'm about to tell you is true. Today you will be with me in paradise."

John 19 verses 25 to 27, Jesus speaks to Mary and John:

Jesus' mother stood near his cross. So did his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. Jesus saw his mother there. He also saw the disciple he loved standing nearby. Jesus said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son." He said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, the disciple took her into his home.

John 19 verses 28 to 34, Jesus dies on the cross:

Later, Jesus knew that everything had now been finished. He also knew that what Scripture said must come true. So he said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there. So they soaked a sponge in it. They put the sponge on the stem of a hyssop plant. Then they lifted it up to Jesus' lips. After Jesus drank he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and died.

It was Preparation Day. The next day would be a special Sabbath day. The Jewish leaders did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath day. So they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down. The soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus. Then they broke the legs of the other man. But when they came to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead. So they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers stuck his spear into Jesus' side. Right away, blood and water flowed out.

**Lord Jesus Christ,
we would come to you,
live our lives for you,
Son of God.**

**All your commands we know are true;
your many gifts will make us new;
into our lives your power breaks through,**



living Lord.

John 19 verses 38 to 42, Jesus is laid in tomb:

Later Joseph asked Pilate for Jesus' body. Joseph was from the town of Arimathea. He was a follower of Jesus. But he followed Jesus secretly because he was afraid of the Jewish leaders. After Pilate gave him permission, Joseph came and took the body away. Nicodemus went with Joseph. He was the man who had earlier visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought some mixed spices that weighed about 75 pounds. The two men took Jesus' body. They wrapped it in strips of linen cloth, along with the spices. That was the way the Jews buried people. At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden. A new tomb was there. No one had ever been put in it before. That day was the Jewish Preparation Day, and the tomb was nearby. So they placed Jesus there.

Now we pray for others, our prayers of intercession. Let us pray:

God of mercy and love let us serve you in our world
We pray for desert people,
who live in a dry, parched land
who lack water
We pray that those who work on climate change
may find solutions so that the erosion of soil may be halted or reversed.
God of mercy and love let us serve you in our world.

We pray for countries where justice seems far away,
where human rights are ignored.
We pray that the dignity of life is respected
and remember those who have lost that dignity
through age or infirmity or neglect.
May we act to challenge injustice
and seek to affirm your love for all humankind.
God of mercy and love let us serve you in our world.

We pray for those who have no peace -
for those who are troubled and torn apart by lack of self-esteem.
May they learn of your love
and come to newness of life.
God of mercy and love let us serve you in our world.

Loving Lord let us not stand aside and tolerate
lack of basic human resources,
Give us strength to act and challenge hatred,
and instead bring your justice and mercy.
In your name we humbly ask that we may be a channel for your peace and love.



Amen.

Hymn: In Christ Alone

*In Christ alone my hope is found,
he is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
here in the love of Christ I stand.*

*In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones he came to save:
till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied
for every sin on him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.*

*There in the ground his body lay,
light of the world by darkness slain:
then bursting forth in glorious Day
up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am his and he is mine -
bought with the precious blood of Christ.*

*No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from his hand;
till he returns or calls me home,
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!*

A reading of confidence; Hebrews 10:16 to 25

*This is the covenant that I will make with them
After those days says the Lord:
I will put my laws in their hearts,
And I will write them on their minds.*



*He also adds,
I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.
Where there is forgiveness of these,
There is no longer any offering for sin.*

Thanks be to God

Hymn: Just As I Am Without One Plea

*Just as I am, without one plea
but that you died to set me free,
and at your bidding, 'Come to me!'
O Lamb of God, I come!*

*Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings within and fears without,
O Lamb of God, I come!*

*Just as I am, you will receive,
will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve:
because your promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come!*

*Just as I am - your love unknown
has broken every barrier down -
now to be yours, yes, yours alone,
O Lamb of God, I come!*

*Just as I am, of that free love
the breadth, length, depth and height to prove,
here for a time and then above,
O Lamb of God, I come!*

So thank you for joining us this morning, and as we leave we have our blessing.

Our worship has not ended
It has only just begun
For God is with us every moment of every day
Let us go then and offer the worship He desires
To do Justice
To love kindness
And to walk humbly with Him
Every step along the way.
Amen.

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My Song Is Love Unknown - Samuel Crossman

There Is A Green Hill - Bryn Haworth and Sally Haworth

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