

**Christ Church  
New Mill**

***GOOD FRIDAY***

**April 18<sup>th</sup> 2003  
7.30pm**



***Meditations on the Cross  
in Music and Words***

## **Welcome to Christ Church, New Mill, for the annual Good Friday service of music and words.**

*You may like to meditate on the words on this page before the service starts.*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3: 16*

For who is Christ, unless that which “in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God”? This Word of God “became flesh and dwelt among us”; for he was incapable of dying for us until he had assumed mortal flesh for us. *St. Augustine*

Seeing the sorrow and desolation of us, he was made sorry through his kindness and love. All the time he could suffer, he did suffer for us, and sorrow too .....

....This is his meaning: “How could I not, out of love for you, do all I can for you ... for love of you I am ready to die often, regardless of the suffering.” *Julian of Norwich*

The sin of Pilate - cowardice and political time-serving; the sin of Caiaphas - spiritual pride and ecclesiastical time-serving; the sin of the soldiers, the crowd - brutality, blood-lust, the blind following the majority. These sins are not museum specimens, impaled on pins in glass cases, strange reactions of long-ago people in far-away places. Far from it. They are the sins of Acacia Avenue and Laburnum Grove - the sins of ordinary people. Your sins and my sins. It is these, the penny-plain treacheries of John Citizen and his unglamorous wife, which flame in the heat of the moment and flare to the sudden murder of God. *P.W. Turner*

*(See: <http://www.dur.ac.uk/StChads/chaplain/why5.htm>)*

*Please stand as the choir processes in. The first hymn follows immediately.*

Hymn

**We sing the praise of him who died,  
Of him who died upon the Cross;  
The sinner's hope let men deride,  
For this we count the world but loss.**

**Inscribed upon the Cross we see  
In shining letters, 'God is Love';  
He bears our sins upon the Tree;  
He brings us mercy from above.**

**The Cross! it takes our guilt away;  
It holds the fainting spirit up;  
It cheers with hope the gloomy day,  
And sweetens ev'ry bitter cup.**

**It makes the coward spirit brave,  
And nerves the feeble arm for fight;  
It takes its terror from the grave,  
And gilds the bed of death with light;**

**The balm of life, the cure of woe,  
The measure and the pledge of love,  
The sinner's refuge here below,  
The angels' theme in heaven above.**

*Thomas Kelly (1769-1854)*

Introduction and Prayer.

Gethsemane

Reading: Luke 22: 39 - 44

*The choir sings Nolo Mortem Peccatoris*

*(Music by Thomas Morley 1577-1602, words from a medieval carol)*

Nolo mortem peccatoris; Haec sunt verba Salvatoris.

*(trans. I wish not the death of a sinner; these are the Saviour's words)*

Father, I am thine only Son, sent down from heaven mankind to save,

Father, all things fulfilled and done according to thy will, I have.

Father, my will now all is this: Nolo mortem peccatoris.

Father, behold my painful smart, taken from man on every side;

Even from my birth to death most tart, no kind of pain I have denied,

But suffered all, and all for this: Nolo mortem peccatoris.

Betrayal, Arrest and Trial

Hymn:

**Jesus in the olive grove,**

(in copyright)

*F. Pratt Green (1903-2000)*

*(Reproduced under licence )*

Reading: John 18: 1 - 5, 12-13, 20-24

### Peter's Denial

Reading: John 18: 25-27

*The choir sings Peter, faithless, thrice denies  
(Music from the "St. John Passion" by J.S. Bach 1685 -1750.)*

Peter, faithless, thrice denies that his Lord he knoweth;  
When he meets those earnest eyes, weeping, forth he goeth.  
Jesus, when we will not turn, look on us in kindness;  
Make our hearts within us burn, rouse us from our blindness.

### Pilate

Reading: John 18: 28-40

Hymn: *(words by Samuel Crossman 1624-83)*

**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 blessed throne,  
Salvation to bestow;  
But men 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!’ is all their breath,  
And for His death they thirst and cry.**

**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.**

**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.**

The Crucifixion

Reading: Mark 15: 21-32

Reading: Luke 23: 39 - 43 *during which the choir sings the Taizé chant* “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom”

*The choir sings* Crux Fidelis

*(Music by John IV King of Portugal, d. 1656; words by Venantius Fortunatus 530-609, tr. J.M. Neale)*

Crux fidelis, inter omnes, arbor una nobilis:

Nulla silva talem profert fronde flore, germine:

Dulce lignum, dulces clavos, dulce pondus sustinet. Amen.

*(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, sweetest iron, sweetest weight is hung on thee.*

*Amen.)*

## The Death of Jesus

Reading: Mark 15: 33-36, John 19: 30, Luke 23: 46-49 *during which the choir sings part of the “Agnus Dei” by Samuel Barber:*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis;

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

*(O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; O lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us peace).*

Hymn:

**O sacred head, surrounded  
by crown of piercing thorn!  
O bleeding head, so wounded,  
so shamed and put to scorn!  
Death's pallid hue comes o'er thee,  
the glow of life decays;  
Yet angel-hosts adore thee,  
and tremble as they gaze.**

**Thy comeliness and vigour  
is withered up and gone,  
And in thy wasted figure  
I see death drawing on.  
O agony and dying!  
O love to sinners free!  
Jesu, all grace supplying,  
turn thou thy face on me.**

**In this thy bitter passion,  
good Shepherd, think of me  
With thy most sweet compassion,  
unworthy though I be:**

**Beneath the cross abiding  
for ever would I rest,  
In thy dear love confiding,  
and with thy presence blest.**

*Paul Gerhardt (1607-76) from 14th C. Latin, tr. H. Baker (1821-77)*

*The choir sings Christus Factus Est  
(Music arranged from ancient plainsong and a spiritual by Geoffrey Lockwood).*

Christus factus est pro nobis obediens usque ad mortem, mortem  
autem crucis.

*(Christ became for us obedient to death, even death on the cross)*

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

O! sometimes it causes me to tremble,

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

..... and all for me, a sinner

Hymn:

**O dearest Lord, thy sacred head**  
(in copyright)

*(H.E. Hardy, 1869-1946 © A.R. Mowbray;  
Tune "Belmont" from Gardiner's "Sacred Melodies", 1812)*

Reading: Romans 5: 12, 15, 18-19; 6: 10-11, Hebrews 9: 27-28

*The choir sings God so loved the world*

*(Music by James W. Morgan. Words John 3: 16)*

God so loved the world that he gave His only-begotten Son that  
whoso believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Hymn:

**It is a thing most wonderful,  
Almost too wonderful to be,  
That God's own Son should come from heaven  
And die to save a child like me.**

**And yet I know that it is true;  
He came to this poor world below,  
And wept, and toiled, and mourned, and died,  
Only because He loved us so.**

**I cannot tell how He could love  
A child so weak and full of sin;  
His love must be most wonderful,  
If He could die my love to win.**

**It is most wonderful to know  
His love for me so free and sure;  
But 'tis more wonderful to see  
My love for Him so faint and poor.**

**And yet I want to love Thee, Lord;  
O light the flame within my heart,  
And I will love Thee more and more,  
Until I see Thee as Thou art.**

*W Walsham How 1823-97*

Hymn *during which the choir recesses.*

**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!**

*Isaac Watts 1674-1748*

*We hope you have enjoyed the service.  
Please join us for tea/coffee.*

**EASTER DAY, April 20th**

**8.30am: Holy Communion (said)**

**11.00am: Sung Eucharist for Easter**

**7.00pm: Festival Choral Evensong.** Responses by Ayleward,  
Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis by Stanford (in A), anthem "Achieved  
is the glorious work" by Haydn.



