

AN ORDER OF SERVICE TO COMMEMORATE THE CRUCIFIXION OF OUR LORD

Friday 10th April, 2020

9:00 a.m.



Where is the light that shines in the darkness? Where do we turn when all hope is lost?

**PLEASE LEAVE YOUR MICROPHONES ON MUTE
UNLESS YOU ARE LEADING**

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

We were the hollow echo of hosannas once spoken in love.

Were you in the garden when the disciples fell asleep?

We were the betrayal in Judas's kiss.

Were you in the courtyard when the cock crowed?

We were the denial on Peter's lips.

Were you among the scoffers when Jesus was flogged?

We were the whip in the soldier's hand.

Were you in Pilate's chamber when he washed his hands of Jesus' fate?

We were the hatred of the crowd, and the indifference in Pilate's heart.

Were you with the powers of this world when the soldiers dressed Jesus as a king?

We were the mockery in the crown of thorns.

Were you among the spectators at Golgotha?

We were the nails that pierced Jesus' hands and feet.

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

We were the silence when no bird sang.

Hymn .. VIP 111 (vs 1-3) "Were you there when they crucified my Lord"

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

On this day our Lord was tried before the High Priests, then by Pilate, after which he was tried by Herod, and again by Pilate. He was scourged, mocked, and condemned to death. He was led out to Calvary, and at nine o'clock he was crucified between two criminals. At intervals, he spoke the first "three words from the cross." From twelve o'clock onwards he suffered bitter pain, thirst and desolation, and spoke another "three words from the cross." At three o'clock he spoke his last words, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit," then bowed his head and died.

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look and see if there was any sorrow like my sorrow.

Greater love has no one than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Christ died for our sins, once and for all; the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God.

Hymn ... "At Calvary"

Years I spent in vanity and pride, Caring not my Lord was crucified,
Knowing not it was for me he died, On Calvary.

*Mercy there was great, and grace was free, Pardon there was multiplied to me;
There my burdened soul found liberty, At Calvary!*

By God's word at last my sin I learned; Then I trembled at the Law I'd spurned,
Till my guilty soul imploring turned, To Calvary.

Now I've given to Jesus everything, Now I gladly own him as my King,
Now my raptured soul can only sing, Of Calvary.

O the love that drew salvation's plan, O the grace that brought it down to man,
O the mighty gulf that God did span, at Calvary!

Prayers: Let us pray.

O holy and ever-living God: by the suffering and death of Jesus you saved us from the curse of Adam's fall: Grant, in your mercy, that we may be drawn to the crucified Christ, and by his redeeming love be raised to everlasting life with him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit for ever one God.

Amen.

O Lord, Jesus Christ, as we come under the shadow of your cross, grant that we may understand your sorrow over us, see ourselves as you saw us from the cross, and believe that a new life is possible for us because of your sacrifice. Help us to understand the reason why you died for us; show us where we caused you pain and anguish, and teach us the mystery of your passion. O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Grant us your peace. Amen.

Let us confess our sins to God and pray for forgiveness. Almighty God, we confess our weaknesses and failures, and we acknowledge our need of your pardon and strength. We come to you for deliverance and protection.

Good Lord, pardon and receive us.

From despising the counsels of your wisdom and truth, from neglect of your holy law and contempt of your grace, from thinking and doing what is contrary to the mind of Christ and from grieving your Spirit.

Good Lord, pardon and deliver us.

From sensual and selfish desires, from unholy thoughts, unkind speech and wrong behavior; from all that is uncharitable, and from tempting others to do that which is wrong.

Good Lord, pardon and deliver us.

From needless cares and unholy ambitions, from selfishness and greed, from the godless pursuit of pleasure and gain, from doing wrong to the poor and powerless, and from envying or flattering the rich and powerful.

Good Lord, pardon and deliver us.

From ignorance, error and prejudice; from calling good, evil; and evil, good; from indifference to wrong-doing, compromise with sin, and enthusiasm in evil causes.

Good Lord, pardon and deliver us.

From ingratitude and anxiety, from doubt of the goodness of life and fear of death, from lukewarm faith and mere formality in worship and service, from a desire to please ourselves instead of Christ.

Good Lord, pardon and deliver us.

(Silent Confession)

If we truly confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

O God our Father, we accept your forgiveness in Christ, and pray for the virtues which will make our lives a sacrifice to you. Give us faithfulness, that we may be always true to our friends, to ourselves and to you;

Give us hope, that no setbacks and disappointments may ever drive us to despair; Give us love, that we may feel towards our fellow human beings as you feel to them;

Give us prudence, that we may be wise to choose, not that which is at the moment attractive, but that which is to our ultimate good;

Give us justice, that we may never be swayed by prejudice, but that in honor and honesty we may be fair to all persons; Give us courage, that no cowardly or unworthy fear may ever keep us from doing the right thing and choosing the right path;

Give us self-control, that we may use every impulse and every passion in the service of others and to your glory.

So, Holy Father, let your divine grace make our lives worthy of Christ, who died for us that we might live for you. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer ...

From Tragedy to Triumph ...

Hymn .. VIP 100 .. vs 1 ... "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.

1st Reading: St. Matthew 27: 32 - 35 ..

³² As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. ³³ And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴ they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink

it. ³⁵ And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots

Placing of the Symbol : **Nails** ...

2nd Reading: MHB # 195 vs 1 ...**Sis. Vernie Lake**

Hymn .. VIP 100 .. vs 4 ... "Were the whole realm of nature mine"

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.

Hymn ... VIP # 93 "The Old Rugged Cross"

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suffering and shame;
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

*So I'll cherish the old rugged cross; Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross, And exchange it some day for a crown.*

O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
Has a wondrous attraction for me;
For the dear Lamb of God left his glory above,
To bear it to dark Calvary.

In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
A wondrous beauty I see,
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
To pardon and sanctify me.

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true,
Its shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then he'll call me some day to my home far away,
Where his glory forever I'll share.

PRAYER:

Let us glory in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. We glory in your Cross, O Lord; we praise and glorify your resurrection. Through your Cross, O Lord, joy has come to the whole world. O Saviour of the world, who by your Cross and precious Blood you have redeemed us.

Help, save, pity, and defend us we pray.

If we have died with him, we shall also live with him; if we endure to the end with him, we shall also reign with him.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, for by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

THE REPROACHES: (Sis. Tracy Benn-Roberts & Bro. Anderson James)

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look, see if there is any sorrow like the sorrow, which was brought upon me, which the Lord inflicted on the day of his fierce anger.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

O my people, what have I done to you, or in what respect have I offended you? Testify against me. I led you forth from the land of Egypt and delivered you through the waters of the Red Sea, but you have prepared a Cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

I led you through the desert for forty years, and fed you with manna; I brought you through tribulation and penitence, and gave you my Body, the Bread of heaven, but you have prepared a Cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

What more could I have done for you that I have not done? I planted you, my chosen and fairest vineyard, I made you the branches of my vine; but when I was thirsty, you gave me vinegar to drink and pierced the side of your Savior with a spear.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

I went before you in a pillar of cloud and you have led me to the judgment hall of Pilate, I scourged your enemies and brought you to a land of freedom, but you have scourged, mocked, and beaten me. I gave you the water of salvation from the rock, but you have given me gall and left me to thirst.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

I gave you a royal sceptre, and bestowed upon you the keys to the kingdom, but you have given me a crown of thorns. I raised you on high with great power, but you have hung me on the Cross.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

I gave you peace, which the world cannot give, and washed your feet as a sign of my love, but you have drawn sword to strike in my name and sought high places in my kingdom. I offered you my body and blood, but you scatter and deny and abandon me.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

I sent the Spirit of truth to guide you, and keep close your hearts to the Counselor, I pray that all may be one with me in the Father and the Holy Spirit, but you continue to quarrel and divide. I called you to go and bring forth fruit, but you cast lots for my clothing.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

Hymn ... VIP 110/MHB 187 ... "O come and mourn with me awhile"

O COME and mourn with me awhile; O come ye to the Savior's side;
O come, together let us mourn : Jesus, our Lord, is crucified.

Have we no tears to shed for Him, While soldiers scoff and Jews deride?
Ah ! look how patiently He hangs : Jesus, our Lord, is crucified.

How fast His hands and feet are nailed, His throat with parching thirst is dried!
His failing eyes are dim with woe: Jesus, our Lord, is crucified.

Seven times He spoke, seven words of love; And all three hours His silence
cried
For mercy on the souls of men : Jesus, our Lord, is crucified.

Come, let us stand beneath the Cross; The fountain opened in His side
Shall purge our deepest stains away: Jesus, our Lord, is crucified.

A broken heart, a fount of tears. Ask, and they will not be denied;
A broken heart love's cradle is : Jesus, our Lord, is crucified.

O love of God ! O sin of man ! In this dread act your strength is tried;
And victory remains with love : For He, our Lord, is crucified.

Each Preacher will give a 5-6 minute reflection on a Word from the Cross

Scripture Reading ... St. Luke 23: 26-34 ... **Sis. Condacy Browne**

The **First Word** ... "*Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do*".

Meditation ... **Bishop Everald Galbraith**

(Silent Prayer)

Hymn .. VIP 101 .. "All ye that pass by"

He dies to atone For sins not His own;
Your debt He hath paid, and your work He hath done.
Ye all may receive The peace He did leave,
Who made intercession: My Father, Forgive!

Scripture Reading ... St. Luke 23: 39-43 ... **Bro. Noel Browne**

The **Second Word** ... "*Today you shall be with me in paradise*"

Meditation ... **Rev. Relis Martin-Riley**

(Silent Prayer)

Hymn .. VIP 112a ... "There is a fountain filled with blood"

The dying thief rejoiced to see, That fountain in his day ;
And there may I, though vile as he, Wash all my sins away.

Scripture Reading ... St. John 19: 25 - 27 ... **Sis. Sheredith Weston**

The **Third Word** ... *"Woman, behold your Son! Behold thy mother!"*

Meditation ... **Rev. Janetta James**

(Silent Prayer)

Hymn .. VIP 100 ... "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.

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.

Scripture Reading ... St. Matthew 27: 43-49 ... **Bro. Boris Teague**

The **Fourth Word** ... *"My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?"*

Meditation ... **Sis. Sharlene Samuel**

(Silent Prayer)

Hymn .. VIP 104 ... "In the cross of Christ I glory"

When the woes of life o'er-take me, Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the Cross forsake me : Lo ! it glows with peace and joy.

Scripture Reading ... St. John 19: 28-39 ... **Sis. Carolyn Tonge**

The **Fifth Word** ... *"I Thirst"*.

Meditation ... **Bro. John Francis**

(Silent Prayer)

Hymn .. VIP 108 ... "O sacred head once wounded"

O SACRED Head once wounded, With grief and pain weighed down,
How scornfully surrounded, With thorns, Thine only crown!
How pale art Thou with anguish, With sore abuse and scorn !
How does that visage languish, Which once was bright as morn!

Scripture Reading ... St. John 19: 30 ...

The **Sixth Word** .. *"It is finished"*.

Meditation ... **Re. Caren Richards-St. Rose**

(Silent Prayer)

Hymn ... It is finished!"

There's a line that's been drawn through the ages,
On that line stands the old Rugged Cross;

On that cross the battle is raging, For the gain of man's soul or his loss.

***It is finished! The battle is over, It is finished! There'll be no more war;
It is finished! The end of the conflict, It is finished and Jesus is Lord.***

On one side march the forces of evil, All the demons and devils of hell;
On the other the angels of glory, And they meet on Golgotha's hill.

The earth shakes with the forces of conflict, And the sun refuses to shine;
For there hangs God's Son in the balance, And then through the darkness he
cries.

Then I heard that the King of the ages, He fought all the battles for me;
And victory was mine for the claiming, And now, praise his name, I am free.

Scripture Reading ... St. Luke 23: 44-49 ... **Bro. Nicholas Quashie**

The **Seventh Word** ... ***"Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."***

Meditation ... **Rev. Derek Browne**

(Silent Prayer)

Hymn .. VIP 235 ... "Blessed assurance"

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine: O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God; Born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

Affirmation of Faith - (All standing)

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true Church, Holy, Universal,
and Apostolic, whose faith we now declare:-

(Sis. Patrice Forde on behalf of all)

**We believe that God is Spirit, and that all who worship God must worship
in Spirit and in truth. We believe
that God is light, and that if we walk in the light as God is in the light, we
have fellowship with one another.**

**We believe that God is love, and that everyone who loves is born of God and
knows God.**

**We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that God has given
eternal life through him. We believe
that Jesus is the resurrection and the Life, and that if we believe in him we
shall be raised to eternal life at
the last day.**

**We believe that we are the children of God, and that he has given us the
Holy Spirit. We believe that if we
confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us
from all unrighteousness. We believe
this present age is passing away with all its lusts, but that all who do God's**

Will shall abide forever. Amen.

Hymn ... "At the Cross" (*Offerings & Gifts*)

Alas! And did my Savior bleed? And did my Sov'reign die?
Would he devote that sacred head, For sinners such as I!

*At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light, And the burden of my
heart rolled away,
It was there by faith I received my sight, And now I am happy all the day!*

Was it for crimes that I have done, He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity! Grace unknown! And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide, And shut his glories in,
When Christ, the mighty Maker, died, For man the creature's sin.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay, The Debt of love I owe:
Here, Lord, I give myself away, 'Tis all that I can do!

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION – Rev. Janetta James &

Rev. Janetta James

Dearly Beloved, I ask your prayers for God's family throughout the world, that God will grant to the Church peace and unity, preserving it from evil and guiding and strengthening it in its mission among the nations.

Bro. Bernard Richardson on behalf of all

Almighty and Eternal God, who in Christ Jesus have revealed your glory among the nations: guide and strengthen your Church in this and every land that it may persevere in faith and holiness, in witness and service, in love and unity, and faithfully proclaim the good news of salvation to all people every-where; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Rev. Janetta James

Dearly Beloved, let us pray for all who serve in that branch of the Church to which we belong: For Bishop Galbraith our Connexional President; Bishop Charles Seaton, our District President and all our Ministers. For all our Preachers, Stewards, Class Leaders, Leaders of all organizations, Teachers of our Sunday School, Day School Teachers, Musicians and Choristers, Ushers and those who prepare the sanctuary.

Sis. Wanda Clarke on behalf of all

Almighty and Eternal God, by whose spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified; receive our prayers which we offer for all members of your holy Church that all in their vocation and office may serve you in holiness and godly sincerity to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Rev. Janetta James

Dearly Beloved, I ask your special prayers for those who are in need, for those who are afflicted by sickness and hunger, those who are homeless or in prison, for the aged in institutions and children in orphanages, for homes overshadowed by bereavement, anxiety and distress.

Sis. Lynette Smith Mullin on behalf of all

Almighty and Everlasting God, look in mercy upon all those with special needs. Give strength to the weary, new courage to those who are losing heart, hope to those in despair, that they may see again the new opportunities to live for you. Give strength to the sick; give comfort to the bereaved; give liberty to the captives and a sense of security to the anxious; that they may live in confidence. Give to all your people grace of your Holy Spirit, the knowledge of forgiveness of their sins, and the assurance of salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn ... "Kneel at the Cross"

Kneel at the cross, Christ will meet you there, Come while he waits for you;
List to his voice, leave with him your care, And begin life anew.

*Kneel at the cross, Leave ev'ry care;
Kneel at the cross, Jesus will meet you there.*

Kneel at the cross, There is room for all, Who would his glory share;
Bliss there awaits, harm can ne'er befall Those who are anchored there.

Kneel at the cross, Give your idols up, Look unto realms above;
Turn not away to life's sparkling cup, Trust only in his love.

Benediction ...

Hymn .. VIP 366 ..."When peace like a river"

When peace like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll;
What ever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well, with my soul.

It is well, with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance
control, That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate, and hath shed his own
blood for my soul.

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought! My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more, praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
O my soul!

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back
as a scroll; the trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend, even so, it is
well with my soul.