

GOOD FRIDAY



APRIL
3
2026

*At any time in the service when we invite you to stand
you are welcome to remain seated if you need to.*

*As we enter the Church
Howard Lu will be playing the cello*

Priest:

Here before us is a labyrinth,
an ancient symbol of the journey
into darkness and into light,
into suffering and into healing,
into death and into resurrection.
It is to be walked.

Here too is a cross,
an ancient symbol of the journey
into fears and into hope,
into endings and beginnings,
into death and into resurrection.
It is to be known.

Both are about transformation.

All:

**With Christ,
who hangs upon the cross
in these dark hours,
we too believe in healing and hope.
May we keep on walking into the unknown
so that we may be known,
opening our hearts,
in spite of our fears.
Amen.**

Please stand.

FIRST HYMN

ALL: O sacred head now wounded,
with grief and shame bowed down;
now scornfully surrounded
with thorns thy only crown.
How art thou pale with anguish,
with sore abuse and scorn!
How does that visage languish
which once was bright as morn.

What language shall I borrow
to thank thee dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow,
thy pity without end?
Let me be thine forever
and should I fainting be,
oh, let me never, never,
outlive my love to thee.

*CHOIR: In this thy bitter Passion
Christ Jesus think of me
with thy most sweet compassion
come now to set me free;
beneath thy cross abiding
for ever would I rest,
in thy dear love confiding,
and with thy presence blest.*

ALL: Be thou my consolation
my peace when I must die;
remind me of thy passion
when my last hour draws nigh.
Mine eyes may thus behold thee,
upon thy cross may dwell,
my heart by faith enfold thee;
and who dies thus, dies well.

*Words: adapt from Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676)
Music: Passion Chorale. TIS 339*

Please be seated.

POEM

What Abides

Jan Richardson

Please stand.

GRADUAL HYMN

**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 now 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.**

Words: adapted from Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Music: Rockingham, melody adapted by Edward Miller (1735-1807). TIS 342

Please be seated.

THE GOSPEL

John 18:1-19:42

SILENCE

The silence will be opened and closed by the ringing of the bell

MEDITATION

Ecce quomodo moritur justus

Jacob Händl (Gallus) (1550-1591)

PRAYER

We thank you, O God,
for your company in the deathly graves of our life,
the vivid courage of your journey down into all our realities,
the bleeding of your life
which mingles with the bleeding of our life
and the echoing down the centuries of this love
beyond all other love.

Gather all of our prayers
into the loving, healing and costly carrying of pain
which lies within your own Body, Jesus Christ.

**We thank you, O God, for the saving power
which lies within your greatest vulnerability
and which is offered to us if we will stay in this moment
and wait for truth and grace.**

In the silence,
we honour all that you have done for us and for all people:

A silence is kept.

Give us faith, O God.

**Give us faith to believe in a love as great as yours,
Jesus Christ.
Wrap our lives in the cherishing shroud of your grace.
Amen.¹**

¹ *Dorothy McRae-McMahon "Liturgies for High Day", p.90*

Please stand.

FINAL HYMN

**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 God should take frail flesh and die?**

**God left the richest throne
salvation to bestow;
but Christ as flesh and bone
the world refused to know.
But, O my friend, my friend indeed,
who at my need did life expend.**

**Sometimes they threw down palms
and sweetest praises sang.
Hosannas and glad psalms
through streets and markets rang.
Then 'Crucify!' is all their breath,
for blood and death they thirst and cry.**

**What has my sovereign done?
What makes this rage and spite?
Christ gave new strength to run,
Restored the gift of sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
Themselves displease, and 'gainst Christ rise.**

**I sing my plain belief,
One song my heart outpours;
never was pain nor grief,
never was love like yours.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend.**

*Words: Samuel Crossman (1624-1684) alt.
Tune: Love Unknown, John Nicholson Ireland (1879-1962). TiS 341*

Please be seated.

ANTHEM

O vos omnes

Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548-1611)

We all leave in silence.

*For 15 minutes following the service
the labyrinth will be available to be walked before being dismantled.*

If you would like to help with the dismantling we would be grateful.

MUSIC NOTES

Ecce quomodo moritur is a poignant and reflective motet by the Slovenian composer Jacobus Gallus. The text, associated with Holy Week, contemplates the death of the righteous. Gallus uses mainly homophonic musical language to create a clear and solemn, restrained style. The motet's expressive depth make it a moving example of late Renaissance sacred writing.

Translation: Behold how the just one dies, and no one takes it to heart: just men are taken away, and no one considers it: the just one is taken away from the face of iniquity, and his memory shall be in peace.

O vos omnes is a deeply expressive motet by Tomás Luis de Victoria, one of the leading composers of the late Renaissance and a central figure of the Counter-Reformation. Victoria spent much of his career in Rome before returning to Madrid. The text, drawn from the Lamentations and associated with Holy Week, reflects on Christ's suffering and Victoria sets this with rich imitative polyphony and expressive dissonance, intensifying the sense of grief.

Translation: All you who pass along this way, take heed and consider if there is any sorrow like my sorrow. Take heed, all you people, and consider my sorrow, if there is any sorrow like my sorrow.

GOOD FRIDAY CONCERT

Today, 5pm

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

Saturday, 4 April, 8pm

EASTER DAY

Sunday, 5 April, 10am

The service is being live streamed - it shows only the altar area.

*We invite you to **keep** this copy of the Service and take it home with you to share with another member of your family, or with a friend
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- 2. use the Tap-n-Go terminal on top of the donation box.*

