

GOOD FRIDAY



18 
APRIL 2025

*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

Solus ad victimam

Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988)

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 Lord should take frail flesh, and die?**

**He was the very one salvation to bestow:
but all 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
the dear Christ made away;
a murderer they save; the Love of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful he to suffering goes
that he his foes from hence 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? Heav'n was his home;
but mine the tomb wherein he lay.**

**Here might I stay and sing the 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.**

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

Please be seated.

ANTHEM

Song

Anthony Ritchie

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

Professor of Composition at the University of Otago Anthony Ritchie is an internationally respected composer who takes much of his inspiration from Aotearoa/New Zealand's history and wildlife. He writes, "'Song' is a setting of a poem by James K. Baxter, one of New Zealand's foremost poets. It tells the story of Jesus of Nazareth and the values of truth, love and mercy he espoused. The gentle regular pulse in the piano suggests the character of Jesus walking into the city."

'Were you there?' is an African-American spiritual, first published in 1899, which at first glance tells the story of the Crucifixion. Underneath this narrative, however, is a metaphor likening Jesus's suffering to the suffering of slaves. The use of first person pronouns in the spiritual reflects a sense of "communal selfhood" formed by African-American slaves in the face of oppression.

GOOD FRIDAY CONCERT

Today, 6pm

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

19 April, 8pm

EASTER DAY

20 April, 8am & 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.*

