

Passiontide Promise

Daily Morning Prayer During the Last Two Week of Lent



St Mary's LINTON

Rooted in God. Rooted in Community



*O, dearly, dearly has he loved, and we must love him too,
And trust in his redeeming blood, and try his works to do (C F Alexander)*

O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.
Let your ways be known upon earth,
your saving power among the nations.

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,
to you be praise and glory for ever.
As a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief
your only Son was lifted up
that he might draw the whole world to himself.
May we walk this day in the way of the cross
and always be ready to share its weight,
declaring your love for all the world.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

**Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom;
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom;**

(Taizé community)

Monday Psalm 43 and a reading from Mark

1 Give judgement for me, O God,
and defend my cause against an ungodly people; ♦
deliver me from the deceitful and the wicked.

2 For you are the God of my refuge;
why have you cast me from you, ♦
and why go I so heavily, while the enemy oppresses me?

3 O send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, ♦
and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling,

4 That I may go to the altar of God,
to the God of my joy and gladness; ♦
and on the lyre I will give thanks to you, O God my God.

5 Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul, ♦
and why are you so disquieted within me?

6 O put your trust in God; ♦
for I will yet give him thanks,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly.

And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

Mark 8.31-35

Reflection

The reflection attempts to set the current Covid-19 situation into our Christian context.
This is just a summary of the main points

As a church community we are responding by praying, staying connected with the isolated and vulnerable, serving others as well as our own families and friends (some of whom will also be isolated and vulnerable).

Many people will be wondering “if there is a God, where is that God in all of this?”.

Jesus’s response to suffering and death (cf. [St John’s Gospel of Passion Sunday](#) – the raising of Lazarus) is to transform it and use it to glorify God. (cf. also the [healing of the blind man in John’s Gospel](#)).

And in these oppressive days of lockdown, we remember that God gave his only Son, to die on the Cross.

Jesus experiences and empathises with us in our suffering.

Perhaps, true empathy is what it is to be God - God suffering *in* us not simply *with* us.

So God is going through this pandemic as well not just with us but in us.

But before Jesus gets to the Cross, there is a sequence of events in which we join spiritually.

The first event is Judgement, Jesus being condemned to death.

Caiaaphas and the council condemning Jesus, Pilate washing his hands.

(Reflection: *DJP-S*)

We acknowledge with penitence the times that we have failed to stand up for the truth through fear or indecision.

We pray for the falsely accused and victims of injustice.

Lord Jesus, strengthen our conscience. Save us from quick and easy judgements on others.

Help us to walk in the way of your justice and truth.

(*Walsingham Pilgrim Manual*)

Jesus about to be struck in front of former High Priest [Annas](#), as in [John 18:22](#) ([Madrado](#), 1803)



By José de Madrazo y Agudo, Public Domain

Monday Week One: I Jesus is condemned to death

*The very air that Pilate breathes, the voice
With which he speaks in judgment, all his powers
Of perception and discrimination, choice,
Decision, all his years, his days and hours,
His consciousness of self, his every sense,
Are given by this prisoner, freely given.
The man who stands there making no defence,
Is God. His hands are tied, his heart is open.
And he bears Pilate's heart in his and feels
That crushing weight of wasted life. He lifts
It up in silent love. He lifts and heals.
He gives himself again with all his gifts
Into our hands. As Pilate turns away
A door swings open. This is judgment day.*







Malcolm Guite

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;
by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.
God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

We preach Christ crucified,
the power of God and the wisdom of God.
By your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.
God forbid that I should glory,
save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;
by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

cf 1 Corinthians 1 and Galatians 6

**The word of the cross is folly
to those who are perishing,
but to those who are being saved
it is the power of God.**

1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, 
who has come to his people and set them free.
2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, 
born of the house of his servant David.
3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old 
to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us,
4 To show mercy to our ancestors, 
and to remember his holy covenant.
5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: 
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
6 Free to worship him without fear, 
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, ♦
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
8 To give his people knowledge of salvation ♦
by the forgiveness of all their sins.
9 In the tender compassion of our God ♦
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, ♦
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.68-79

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**The word of the cross is folly
to those who are perishing,
but to those who are being saved
it is the power of God.**

Intercessions – focused on the current pandemic
Prayers for the front-line workers in the village and beyond,
Shops supplying our essential needs – see order of service for the litany

God of love, hear our prayer

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Standing at the foot of the cross,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

The Conclusion

May Christ, who bore our sins on the cross,
set us free to serve him with joy.

Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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