

CHICHESTER
CATHEDRAL

**REFLECTIONS
ON THE PASSION**

**GOOD FRIDAY
FRIDAY 3RD APRIL 2026
12.00 NOON**

WELCOME

This booklet contains all you will need to follow the service. Please ask a Steward if you would like a large-print copy.

This service will be live-streamed and broadcast online via the Cathedral's website, YouTube channel and Facebook pages. Typically, services are made available for up to 48 hours, however this period may be longer for special recordings. For further information, please contact:

info@chichestercathedral.org.uk

Photography, filming and audio recordings are not permitted during this service. Please ensure that mobile telephones are switched off or silenced.

An induction loop is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. To use this, please switch your hearing aid to 'T'.

Parents and caregivers are reminded that children remain in their care throughout this service and must not be left unattended or to wander around the Cathedral by themselves.

Toilets and baby-changing facilities can be accessed from the North Transept of the Cathedral. Children using these facilities must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

In the event of an emergency please follow the direction of the Vergers and Stewards.

www.chichestercathedral.org.uk

BETRAYAL

HYMN



Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise,
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.

O loving wisdom of our God!
when all was sin and shame,
a second Adam to the fight
and to the rescue came.

O wisest love! that flesh and blood,
which did in Adam fail,
should strive afresh against the foe,
should strive and should prevail;

And that a higher gift than grace
should flesh and blood refine,
God's presence and his very self,
and essence all-divine.

**O generous love! that he who smote
in Man for man the foe,
the double agony in Man
for man should undergo;**

**And in the garden secretly,
and on the cross on high,
should teach his brethren, and inspire
to suffer and to die.**

**Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise,
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.**

*NEH 439
John Henry Newman (1801-1890)*

*Gerontius
J. B. Dykes (1823-1876)*

READING

Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, 'You also were with Jesus the Galilean.' But he denied it before all of them, saying, 'I do not know what you are talking about.' When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, 'This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.' Again he denied it with an oath, 'I do not know the man.' After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, 'Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.' Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, 'I do not know the man!' At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: 'Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly.

Matthew 26: 69-75

REFLECTION

The Canon Chancellor

I see his blood upon the rose
And in the stars the glory of his eyes,
His body gleams amid eternal snows,
His tears fall from the skies.

I see his face in every flower;
The thunder and the singing of the birds
Are but his voice—and carven by his power
Rocks are his written words.

All pathways by his feet are worn,
His strong heart stirs the ever-beating sea,
His crown of thorns is twined with every thorn,
His cross is every tree.

Joseph Plunkett (1887-1916)

PASSION

HYMN



Glory be to Jesus,
who, in bitter pains,
poured for me the life-blood
from his sacred veins.

Grace and life eternal
in that Blood I find;
blest be his compassion,
infinitely kind.

Blest through endless ages
be the precious stream,
which from endless torment
doth the world redeem.

Abel's blood for vengeance
pleaded to the skies;
but the Blood of Jesus
for our pardon cries.

**Off as it is sprinkled
on our guilty hearts,
Satan in confusion
terror-struck departs.**

**Off as earth exulting
wafts its praise on high,
hell with terror trembles,
heaven is filled with joy.**

**Lift ye then your voices;
swell the mighty flood;
louder still and louder
praise the precious Blood.**

*NEH 83
Italian (author unknown)
tr. Edward Caswall (1814-1878)*

*Caswall
F. Filitz (1804-1876)*

READING

Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I go over there and pray.' He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.' And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, 'My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.' Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, 'So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.' Again he went away for the second time and prayed, 'My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.' Again he came and found them

sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, 'Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.'

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, 'The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.' At once he came up to Jesus and said, 'Greetings, Rabbi!' and kissed him. Jesus said to him, 'Friend, do what you are here to do.' Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, 'Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?' At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, 'Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.' Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Matthew 26: 36-56

REFLECTION

The Canon Treasurer

Philosophers have measur'd mountains,
Fathom'd the depths of seas, of states, and kings,
Walk'd with a staffe to heav'n, and traced fountains:
But there are two vast, spacious things,
The which to measure it doth more behove:
Yet few there are that sound them; Sinne and Love.

Who would know Sinne, let him repair
Unto Mount Olivet; there shall he see
A man so wrung with pains, that all his hair,
His skinne, his garments bloudie be.
Sinne is that presse and vice, which forceth pain
To hunt his cruell food through ev'ry vein.

Who knows not Love, let him assay
And taste that juice, which on the crosse a pike
Did set again abroach; then let him say
If ever he did taste the like.
Love is that liquour sweet and most divine,
Which my God feels as bloud; but I, as wine.

George Herbert (1593-1633)

ABANDONMENT

HYMN



Drop, drop, slow tears,
and bathe those beauteous feet,
which brought from heaven
the news and Prince of Peace.

Cease not, wet eyes,
his mercies to entreat;
to cry for vengeance
sin doth never cease.

In your deep floods
drown all my faults and fears;
nor let his eye
see sin, but through my tears.

NEH 82
Phineas Fletcher (1582-1650)

Song 46
Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

READING

As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.'

Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, 'You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.' In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, 'He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, "I am God's Son."'" The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, 'Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'This man is calling for Elijah.' At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.' Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.

Matthew 27: 32-50

REFLECTION

The Canon Chancellor

I wake and feel the fell of dark, not day.
What hours, O what black hours we have spent
This night! what sights you, heart, saw; ways you went!
And more must, in yet longer light's delay.

With witness I speak this. But where I say
Hours I mean years, mean life. And my lament
Is cries countless, cries like dead letters sent
To dearest him that lives alas! away.

I am gall, I am heartburn. God's most deep decree
Bitter would have me taste: my taste was me;
Bones built in me, flesh filled, blood brimmed the curse.

Selfyeast of spirit a dull dough sours. I see
The lost are like this, and their scourge to be
As I am mine, their sweating selves; but worse.

Gerard Manley Hopkins SJ (1844-1889)

DEVOTION

HYMN



My God, I love thee; not because
I hope for heaven thereby,
nor yet because who love thee not
are lost eternally.

Thou, O my Jesus, thou didst me
upon the Cross embrace;
for me didst bear the nails and spear,
and manifold disgrace,

And griefs and torments numberless,
and sweat of agony;
e'en death itself; and all for one
who was thine enemy.

Then why, O blessèd Jesu Christ,
should I not love thee well,
not for the sake of winning heaven,
or of escaping hell;

Not with the hope of gaining aught,
nor seeking a reward;
but as thyself hast lovèd me,
O ever-loving Lord!

**E'en so I love thee, and will love,
and in thy praise will sing,
solely because thou art my God,
and my eternal King.**

*NEH 73
17th-century Latin
tr. Edward Caswall (1814-1878)*

*St Francis Xavier
John Stainer (1840-1901)*

READING

When the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, 'Truly this man was God's Son!' Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

Matthew 27: 54-61

REFLECTION

The Canon Treasurer

Am I a stone, and not a sheep,
That I can stand, O Christ, beneath Thy cross,
To number drop by drop Thy blood's slow loss,
And yet not weep?
Not so those women loved
Who with exceeding grief lamented Thee;
Not so fallen Peter, weeping bitterly;
Not so the thief was moved;
Not so the Sun and Moon
Which hid their faces in a starless sky,
A horror of great darkness at broad noon –
I, only I.
Yet give not o'er,
But seek Thy sheep, true Shepherd of the flock;
Greater than Moses, turn and look once more
And smite a rock.

Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

***There will be a short break before we begin
the Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 1.30pm***

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EASTER

AT CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

Saturday 4th April – Easter Eve

7.30pm **EASTER VIGIL WITH CONFIRMATION**

In this special service which stands at the high point of the Church's year, we begin our Easter celebrations of Jesus' resurrection from the dead. The service begins outside, where the Paschal (Easter) Candle is lit from a new fire. As we process into the Cathedral, the light from the candle is shared amongst the congregation. We hear the story of creation and salvation in biblical readings. The bishop baptises and confirms new Christians, welcoming them into the family of the Church. With the rest of the congregation, they share in the First Eucharist of Easter.

Celebrant and Preacher: The Lord Bishop of Chichester

Sunday 5th April – Easter Day

We celebrate Jesus' glorious resurrection from the dead in these services:

8.00am HOLY COMMUNION according to the Book of Common Prayer said

9.00am SERVICE FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND CAREGIVERS

10.00am CHORAL MATTINS

11.00am **SUNG EUCHARIST OF EASTER DAY** *livestreamed*

We continue to celebrate the joy of Easter and, on this day of resurrection, members of the congregation who have been baptised are invited to renew the promises that were made at their baptism.

Celebrant and Preacher: The Lord Bishop of Chichester, The Right Reverend Dr Martin Warner

3.00pm **CHORAL EVENSONG WITH BENEDICTION** *livestreamed*

This will be the final service in the Cathedral at which our diocesan bishop, Bishop Martin Warner, will preside.