



THREE HOURS' DEVOTION

ON GOOD FRIDAY

THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK

Friday 15 April 2022

12.00 noon–3.00 pm

Introduction

The three addresses by the Archbishop of York are each followed by movements from *Via Crucis*, a devotion for Passiontide, offering a ruminative resource for prayer and reflection on Christ's death. It has a structure that is similar to the Stations of the Cross, used for many centuries.

The service contains a selection of deeply felt, but restrained prayers by Eric Milner-White, a former Dean of York. These are interspersed with descriptive organ pieces by Philip Moore, which act as musical responses to the words, and range from meditative to more dramatic, harrowing moods. Together, the prayers and music combine to provide a fresh perspective on Lenten themes. The music is played by Benjamin Morris.

The starting points for the addresses by the Archbishop are this passage from Mark's Gospel:

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!

MARK 15. 33-39

And this quotation:

In the midst of the unbearable story of the passion of the world we can discover the reconciling story of the passion of Christ.

JURGEN MOLTSMANN

The First Hour

Please stand.

Opening Prayer

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,
we pray thee to set thy Passion, Cross and death
between thy judgement and our souls,
now and in the hour of our death.

Vouchsafe to the living mercy and grace,
to the dead pardon and rest,
to thy holy Church peace and concord,
and to us sinners everlasting life and glory;
who with the Father and the Holy Ghost
livest and reignest world without end.

Amen.

The glorious Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ
bring us to the joys of Paradise.

Amen.

Hymn



1. There is a green hill far away,
without a city wall,
where the dear Lord was crucified,
who died to save us all.
2. We may not know, we cannot tell,
what pains he had to bear,
but we believe it was for us
he hung and suffered there.
3. He died that we might be forgiven,
he died to make us good,
that we might go at last to heaven,
saved by his precious blood.
4. There was no other good enough
to pay the price of sin;
he only could unlock the gate
of heaven, and let us in.
5. O dearly, dearly has he loved,
and we must love him too,
and trust in his redeeming blood,
and try his works to do.

Words Cecil Frances Alexander (1818–95)

Tune HORSLEY, William Horsley (1774–1858)

Address

1. The Agony in Gethsemane

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Prayer

Be thou ever blessed, O Lord Christ, for thy sovereign mercy;
who, though assailed by loneliness, and a dread agony,
didst choose to die for our redemption,
and make both earth and heaven rejoice; and now reignest,
the First and the Last and the Living One,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Musical reflection

2. The Kiss of Judas

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Prayer

O Lamb of God, who with guileless lips
didst gently touch those that were full of deceit:
Receive us thy weak and unfaithful friends with like forbearance,
and by the very kiss of thy pardon convict us of our sin;
who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
God, world without end.

Amen.

Musical reflection

3. Art thou the Christ?

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, who, bound and alone,
didst proclaim the Messiah before the High Priest and elders of thy people:
Make plain, we beseech thee, the perpetual truth amid the transient show;
and open our ears to hear, our eyes to perceive, and our lips to declare,
that thou with the Father and the Holy Ghost
art one only eternal and glorious God,
world without end.

Amen.

Musical reflection

4. The Denial

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, look upon us with those eyes of thine
wherewith thou didst look upon Peter in the hall,
That with Peter we may repent and, by thy same love, be forgiven.
O Lord Jesus Christ, turn thy face from our sins,
but turn it not from us,
for thine endless mercies' sake.

Amen.

Musical reflection

5. Pilate Washes His Hands

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Prayer

Almighty God, the Judge of the whole earth:
Suffer us not to falter in courage
nor to palter with justice after the manner of Pontius Pilate;
who when he saw that a tumult was made, washed his hands of just dealing,
and delivered the guiltless to death,
even thine only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;
who now liveth and reigneth in the glory of the eternal Trinity,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Musical reflection

Silence

The Second Hour

Please stand.

Opening Prayer

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,
we pray thee to set thy Passion, Cross and death
between thy judgement and our souls,
now and in the hour of our death.

Vouchsafe to the living mercy and grace,
to the dead pardon and rest,
to thy holy Church peace and concord,
and to us sinners everlasting life and glory;
who with the Father and the Holy Ghost
livest and reignest world without end.

Amen.

The glorious Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ
bring us to the joys of Paradise.

Amen.

Hymn



Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
O—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?
O—sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble;
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
O—sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble;
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
O—sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble;
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
O—sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble;
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Words Negro spiritual

Tune WERE YOU THERE? NEH 93, American spiritual melody

Address

6. The Scourging

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,
who wast bruised for our iniquities,

yet in thy love and in thy pity didst redeem us:

We beseech thee, restrain us from the sins that scourge thee again,
and others and ourselves no less:

by thy merciful power,

who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit,

God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Musical reflection

7. Bearing the Cross

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Prayer

O Lord, thou lover of men,

who, lifting the Cross upon thy shoulder,

barest in symbol and in truth all the sins of the world:

Strengthen us to heed not the tribulations which are but for a season,

but to bear cheerfully thy yoke unto the glory which passes not away;

where with the Father and the Holy Ghost

thou livest and reignest,

God, world without end.

Amen.

Musical reflection

8. St Simon of Cyrene

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Prayer

Grant, O Lord, that we on whose forehead hath been set the sign of the Cross, may be ready and resolute to bear the Cross itself, in company with Simon of Cyrene and all thy saints that have endured for thee and with thee; who now livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

Amen.

Musical reflection

9. Daughters of Jerusalem

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Prayer

Vouchsafe, O Lord God, that, as we thy sons and daughters look upon the Saviour for our sakes ready to die, we may mourn not for him, whose pains were our glory, but for ourselves, whose shames are his wounds: and may repent unto thee, who with the same thy Son and the Holy Ghost art one God, holy and pitiful, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Musical reflection

10. The Nailing

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who wast silent when men nailed thee to the Cross,
and by pain didst triumph over pain:
Pour thy Spirit on thy servants who suffer,
that in their quietness and courage thou mayest triumph again,
and redeem every sorrow:
who livest and reignest in the glory of the eternal Trinity,
God, world without end.

Amen.

Musical reflection

Silence

The Third Hour

Please stand at the entry of the ministers.

Opening Prayer

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,
we pray thee to set thy Passion, Cross and death
between thy judgement and our souls,
now and in the hour of our death.

Vouchsafe to the living mercy and grace,
to the dead pardon and rest,
to thy holy Church peace and concord,
and to us sinners everlasting life and glory;
who with the Father and the Holy Ghost
livest and reignest world without end.

Amen.

The glorious Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ
bring us to the joys of Paradise.

Amen.

Hymn



- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. 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. | 3. 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? |
| 2. Forbid it, Lord, 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. | 4. His dying crimson like a robe,
spreads o'er his body on the Tree;
then am I dead to all the globe,
and all the globe is dead to me. |
| 5. Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all. | |

Words Isaac Watts (1674–1748)

Tune ROCKINGHAM, NEH 95, adapted Edward Miller (1731–1807)

Address

11. Seven Words

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, who from out thy silence upon the Cross
didst bequeath to thy Church Seven Words:

Grant that we may ponder them as the inexhaustible Gospel
of thy love and of the world's redemption;
and learn likewise both by speech and silence to glorify our Father in heaven;
who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth,
one God, world without end.

Amen.

Musical reflection

12. The Darkness

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Prayer

Grant, O Lord God, that while the darkness cometh up over the whole land
to cover the dying Saviour, thy dear Son,
we may behold the marvellous light that shineth from his Cross,
and be led by it to the kingdom,
where with thee and the Holy Ghost he liveth and reigneth,
God, world without end.

Amen.

Musical reflection

13. The Death of the Lord Jesus

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Prayer

Blessed be thy Name, O Jesu, Son of the most high God;
blessed be the sorrow thou sufferedst
when thy holy hands and feet were nailed to the tree;
and blessed thy love when, the fullness of pain accomplished,
thou didst give thy soul into the hands of the Father;
so by thy Cross and precious Blood redeeming all the world,
all longing souls departed and the numberless unborn;
who now livest and reignest in the glory of the eternal Trinity,
God for ever and ever.

Amen.

Musical reflection

14. The Burial

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Prayer

Gather us, O Father of mercy, round the body of thy dear Son, slain and still;
that by such proof and power of love
we may be drawn into one living body of faith and praise,
close to each other, close to him;
who now livest and reignest with thee and the Holy Ghost,
one God, world without end.

Amen.

Musical reflection

The Conclusion

Standing at the foot of the cross,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
Amen.**

Bury our sins, O blessed Saviour,
in thy grave; and make us to rise up in the life of grace,
and abide and advance in it,
until we come to the city of light and joy;
where with the Father and the Holy Spirit
thou livest and reignest,
God, world without end.
Amen.

Please depart in silence.