

# A LITURGY FOR GOOD FRIDAY

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024 9.30am



**OFFICIANT:** Dr Rachel Fisken

This is the wood of the cross, on which hung the Saviour of the World.

## WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Father, hear our prayer and forgive us.

Unstop our ears, that we may receive the gospel of the cross.

Lighten our eyes, that we may see your glory in the face of your Son.

Penetrate our minds, that your truth may make us whole.

Irradiate our hearts with your love, that we may love one another for Christ's sake.

*Minister:* Father, forgive us.

**All:** Father, forgive us.

## MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

**John 19.25-27**

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. (NRSV)

## REFLECTION

*Silence is kept.*

*Minister:* We adore you, O Christ and we bless you. By your holy cross and resurrection,

**All:** You have redeemed the world.

## MARY MAGDALENE

### **Luke 8:1-3**

Soon afterwards he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their resources. (NRSV)

### **John 20.11-16**

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). (NRSV)

## **REFLECTION**

*Silence is kept.*

*Minister:* We adore you, O Christ and we bless you. By your holy cross and resurrection,

*All:* You have redeemed the world.

## SIMON PETER

### **Matthew 26.31-35, 69-75**

Then Jesus said to them, 'You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written,

"I will strike the shepherd,  
and the sheep of the flock will be scattered."

But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.' Peter said to him, 'Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.' Jesus said to him,

‘Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.’ Peter said to him, ‘Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.’ And so said all the disciples.

Now 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. *(NRSV)*

## REFLECTION

*Silence is kept.*

*Minister:* We adore you, O Christ and we bless you. By your holy cross and resurrection,

*All:* You have redeemed the world.

## JUDAS ISCARIOT

### Luke 22.47-53

While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him, ‘Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?’ When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, ‘Lord, should we strike with the sword?’ Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, ‘No more of this!’ And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, ‘Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!’ *(NRSV)*

## REFLECTION

*Silence is kept.*

*Minister:* We adore you, O Christ and we bless you. By your holy cross and resurrection,

***All:* You have redeemed the world.**

## **JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA**

### **John 19.38-42**

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there. (NRSV)

## **REFLECTION**

*Silence is kept.*

*Minister:* We adore you, O Christ and we bless you. By your holy cross and resurrection,

***All:* You have redeemed the world.**

## **JESUS**

### **John 3.16**

‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.’ (NRSV)

## *The Day Love Bore the World's Pain - Justin Farley*

Plunged into the depths of our sin,  
Flogged for our failures,  
Pierced for our pride.  
The blood you sacrificed  
Restores the soul to life.

In your mercy you drank the cup of wrath  
That was destined for our lips.  
Humbly took what we deserved,  
Even as mankind sealed your fate with a kiss.

You did not consider pain a problem  
To be dealt with from the safety of heaven's throne,  
But cast yourself as a suffering servant  
To bear sin's price alone.

We do not serve a king  
Who saw not a glimpse of war,  
But who fought on the front lines.  
We can call him "Abba, Father"  
Knowing he understands the tears in our eyes.

On that day, love bore cold iron nails,  
A crown of thorns,  
And carried the sin of the world upon his shoulders.  
Say what you want about him,  
But the cross prevents you from saying he doesn't love you.

But the cross was not the end.  
It was the beginning.  
A trail was blazed through sin's frontier,  
But the path still stands before us.  
Our own cross waits to be borne and carried.  
Our own flesh waits to be crucified.  
Will you follow him when he calls?  
Will you die to yourself  
So that you may be reborn in spirit?

The Crucifixion stands as the greatest act  
Of love the world will ever know.  
But let us not forget that he didn't give his life  
So that we could ignore action,  
But that we may find the faith to take it.  
Jesus calls us everyday to discipleship.  
It is not enough to be a bystander to the cross.  
Are you willing to follow him?  
Are you willing to pay the cost?

**MUSICAL REFLECTION** Stainer *God so Loved the World* (from *Crucifixion*)

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

**THE REPROACHES**

O my people, O my church,  
what have I done to you,  
or in what have I offended you?

Answer me.

I led you forth from the land of Egypt  
and delivered you by the waters of baptism,  
but you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

**Holy, holy, holy God, holy almighty God, holy, holy almighty God, have mercy upon us.**

I led you through the desert forty years,  
and fed you with manna.

I brought you through tribulation and penitence,  
and gave you my body, the bread of heaven,  
but you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

**Holy, holy, holy God, holy almighty God, holy, holy almighty God, have mercy upon us.**

**THE COLLECT FOR PASSIONTIDE**

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 your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The congregation leaves in silence.*

ST MARY'S CHURCH  
THE LACEMARKET, NOTTINGHAM

**J.S. Bach**

# ST JOHN PASSION

BWV245  
(sung in German)

Nicholas Drew *Evangelist*

Paul Suter *Christus*

The Choir of St Mary's

The 18th Century Sinfonia

Directed by John Keys

**Good Friday**

**29 March, 2024 at 7pm**

Admission free, Retiring collection



*We are most grateful for all donations which are our main source of income.  
Please make use of the QR Code or the contactless donation station by the south porch.  
Alternatively cash/cheques may be placed in the nearby chest, using Gift Aid if you pay UK tax.*

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*This parish is currently in vacancy.*

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