

~~Wheat Hill Priory Benefice~~
"Jesus Lives: Follow Him"
Good Friday 2020

Welcome to our worship for Good Friday, we begin with When I survey (just verse 1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDkuxElcpdl>)

Our reflections this Good Friday are based upon Christ's body. In years gone by, if people were unable to go to Jerusalem for Holy week they recalled the account of the passion of Christ in meditations, and we're going to do that this year as we remember and recall in our dispersed locations, we will reflect on the wounds Christ bore for our sake. Clive reads the words of Scripture, Jane, the meditations which follow. The service is from 'Together for a season: Lent Holy Week and Easter' © Archbishop's Council 2007

Adoramus te Domine 3 repeats

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R1UOt3kMkF4>

Leader 1 We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy cross you have
redeemed the world.

Leader 2: Place your hands on your head. With your fingers feel your head
and face.

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him
flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown
of thorns and put it on his head and they
dressed him in a purple robe. They kept

coming up to him, saying, 'Hail King of the Jews!' and striking him on the face.

Leader 1. HEAD

We call to mind the cruel crown of thorns pressed
into the brow of Christ;
The cruel words that twist spikes into the mind ...
'Hail, King – if you are a King!'
If ... if ... if ... If only ...
Insidious voices, more barbed than any thorn,
And each doubt, like a blow across the face,
leaves an ugly weal.
'Let this crown pass from me, yet not my will, but yours!'
Christ surrounded; Christ hemmed in on every side.
The thorny thicket and the sacrificial lamb ...
Good seed amongst the choking thorns,
thorns that crowd in and press out life.
As the lily among the thorns, so is my love.
The King of Glory crowned for a while with pain –
a twisted diadem made by mocking hands.
And they plaited a crown of thorns ...
Yet a while, and we shall see Jesus, crowned with glory and honour.

There are many kinds of crown –
crown of pain, crown of glory –
which one will you take hold of?

Adoramus te Domine 3 repeats

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R1UOt3kMkF4>

Hum '*Adoramus te Domine*'

As this is sung for the third time:

Leader 1:

*We adore you, O Christ, and we bless
you because by your holy cross you have
redeemed the world.*

Leader 2:

Take your right hand, hold it, look at it, close your fingers together.

They stripped him and put a scarlet robe
on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown.

They put it on his head.

They put a reed into his right hand and knelt before him
and mocked him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!'

They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head.

Leader 1 *RIGHT HAND*

We call to mind the reed in the hand of Christ.

A palm branch subverted perhaps?

Creation misused to mock its creator!

That it should come to this!

The king acclaimed a few days ago now greeted with hoots of derision,
set round with brutal boot, with scorn and unbowed heads –
rejected for after all he is a most unkingly king.

The hand that held the sceptre, commanding heaven and earth,
is now the object of our mockery and scorn.

Yet a while, and all creation will be subject to his just and gentle rule.

There are many kinds of king.

Which one will you enthrone?

Adoramus te Domine 3 repeats

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R1UOt3kMkF4>

As this is sung for the third time:

Leader 1:

*We adore you, O Christ, and we bless
you because by your holy cross you have
redeemed the world.*

Leader 2: Take your left hand. Hold it, feel your palm and your wrist.

They brought Jesus to a place called Golgotha (which means place of a skull), they offered him drugged wine but he refused to take it. Then they fastened him to the cross.

They shared out his clothes, casting lots to decide what each should have. It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him.

Leader 1 We call to mind Christ's hand of blessing
extended to young and old, men and women.

The hand that touched, caressed, healed, brought sight to the blind,
sent demons fleeing.

The hand extended over water, bread, wine, with power over wind and
weather, with food to nourish all who came; this hand that spangled heaven
with stars and this hand now is bound and stilled –
fastened to the earth, to the wood of the cross.

Yet a while and this hand will reach out to offer salvation to the world.

There is suffering and blessing in this hand.
Will you take hold of it and receive all that it offers?

Adoramus te Domine 3 repeats

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R1UOt3kMkF4>

As this is sung for the third time:

Leader 1:

*We adore you, O Christ, and we bless
you because by your holy cross you have
redeemed the world.*

Leader 2: Look down at your feet. Feel the ground and the weight of your body going down into your feet.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleopas, 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 his disciple. 'Here is your mother.'

And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Leader 1 We call to mind the feet of Christ:

the feet that walked alongside children, women and men.

Tired feet; dancing feet; running feet – running to the tomb of Lazarus – the feet that walked the way of the cross, bitter and slow.

And the people who came to see the crucifixion,
did they run eagerly or creep fearfully to the foot of the cross?

And the women, gathered again at the feet of the Lord, this time weeping and heavy with sorrow; powerless to touch the feet that now are bloody and torn.

Yet a while and we shall kneel again at the feet of Christ.
There are many of us now, kneeling in our hearts around these wounded feet.

Gift or burden –
what is it that you wish to lay there?

Adoramus te Domine 3 repeats

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R1UOt3kMkF4>

As this is sung for the third time:

Leader 1:

*We adore you, O Christ, and we bless
you because by your holy cross you have
redeemed the world.*

Leader 2: Place your hands on your right side, hold
them there and feel the movement of your breath.

They asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the
bodies removed.

Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other
who had been crucified with him.

But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did
not break his legs.

Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood
and water came out.

Leader 2 *SIDE*

We call to mind Christ's riven side –
blood and water ebbing into the dust.

Here is the forgiving blood; the baptismal water;
the cleansing and lifegiving stream.

Life and death; death and life –
the water and the wine, our cup of salvation.

Yet a while and we shall see Christ
by whose wounds we are made whole.

Our wounds, the wounds of our church and our
world are many.

Touching the wounds of Christ, we seek to be washed in the water of life,
to be healed by the blood of the lamb that was slain and to be sent out to
minister life and healing through our own brokenness and wholeness.

Hymn: When I survey the wondrous Cross, all verses

Leader 1: Christ's body bore our sins on the tree.
We are the body of Christ.

We stand now at the cross.

Grant, Lord,
that we who have been baptized into the
death of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,
may continually put to death our evil
desires and be buried with him,
that through the grave and gate of death
we may pass to our joyful resurrection;
through his merits,
who died and was buried and rose again for us,
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

O Love <https://soundcloud.com/beckenhorst-press> Spring 2019 track 14

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven ...

THE CONCLUSION

Leader 1: Christ is our peace.

He has reconciled us to God

in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

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.

All

Amen.

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