

An hour at the cross



Welcome – Revd Philip Sudell

Eternal God, in the cross of Jesus we see the cost of our sin and the depth of your love: in humble hope and fear may we place at his feet all that we have and all that we are, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

There is a green hill far away 123

Outside a city wall
Where the dear Lord was crucified
Who died to save us all

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

He died that we might be forgiv'n
He died to make us good
That we might go at last to heav'n
Saved by His precious blood

There was no other good enough
To pay the price of sin
He only could unlock the gate
Of heav'n and let us in

O dearly dearly has He loved
And we must love Him too
And trust in His redeeming blood
And try His works to do

Cecil Alexander

First Reading

Isaiah 53:1-12

¹Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

²He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

³He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.

⁴Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted.

⁵But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

⁶We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

⁸By oppression and judgment he was taken away. Yet who of his generation protested? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was punished.

⁹He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand.

¹¹After he has suffered, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his

knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.

¹² Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Reflection

John Lenton

"The Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all"

Psalm

Psalm 22:1-11

My God, my God,
why have you forsaken me?

¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me, • and are so far from my salvation, from the words of my distress? ² O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; • and by night also, but I find no rest.

My God, my God,
why have you forsaken me?

³ Yet you are the Holy One, • enthroned upon the praises of Israel. ⁴ Our forebears trusted in you; • they trusted, and you delivered them. ⁵ They cried out to you and were delivered; • they put their trust in you and were not confounded.

My God, my God,
why have you forsaken me?

⁶ But as for me, I am a worm and no man, • scorned by all and despised by the people. ⁷ All who see me laugh me to scorn; • they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,

My God, my God,
why have you forsaken me?

⁸ 'He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him; • let him deliver him, if he delights in him.' ⁹ But it is you that took me out of the womb • and laid me safe upon my mother's breast.

My God, my God,
why have you forsaken me?

¹⁰ On you was I cast ever since I was born; • you are my God even from my mother's womb. ¹¹ Be not far from me, for trouble is near at hand • and there is none to help.

My God, my God,
why have you forsaken me?

Silence



My song is love unknown, 112
my Saviour's love to me,
love to the loveless shown,
that they might lovely be.
O who am I,
that for my sake
my Lord should take
frail flesh, and die?

He came from his blest throne,
salvation to bestow;
but men made strange, and none
the longed-for Christ would know.
But O, my Friend,
my Friend indeed,
who at my need
his life did spend!

Sometimes they strew his way,
and his sweet praises sing;
resounding all the day
hosannas to their King.
Then 'Crucify!'
is all their breath,
and for his death
they thirst and cry.

They rise, and needs will have
my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save,
the Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful he
to suffering goes,
that he his foes
from thence might free.

Here might I stay and sing:
no story so divine;
never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine!
This is my Friend,
in whose sweet praise
I all my days
could gladly spend.

Second Reading

Hebrews 10.1-18

The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming – not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. ² Otherwise, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshippers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins. ³ But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins. ⁴ It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

⁵ Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said:

'Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,
but a body you prepared for me;

⁶ with burnt offerings and sin offerings
you were not pleased.

⁷ Then I said, "Here I am – it is written
about me in the scroll – I have come to do
your will, my God."

⁸ First he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings,
burnt offerings and sin offerings you did
not desire, nor were you pleased with
them' – though they were offered in
accordance with the law. ⁹ Then he said,
'Here I am, I have come to do your will.' He
sets aside the first to establish the
second. ¹⁰ And by that will, we have been
made holy through the sacrifice of the
body of Jesus Christ once for all.

¹¹ Day after day every priest stands and
performs his religious duties; again and
again he offers the same sacrifices, which
can never take away sins. ¹² But when this
priest had offered for all time one sacrifice
for sins, he sat down at the right hand of
God, ¹³ and since that time he waits for his
enemies to be made his footstool. ¹⁴ For by
one sacrifice he has made perfect for ever
those who are being made holy.

¹⁵ The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about
this. First he says:

¹⁶ 'This is the covenant I will make with
them after that time, says the Lord.

I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will
write them on their minds.'

¹⁷ Then he adds: 'Their sins and lawless
acts I will remember no more.'

¹⁸ And where these have been forgiven,
sacrifice for sin is no longer necessary.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Philip Sudell

"Once and for all"



Song

O Christ, I kneel before your cross
with empty hands and downcast face,
for my rebellious ways have caused
your mortal wounds, this searing pain.
Devotion to my foolish dreams,
my vanity, my heart of stone
have nailed you, broken, to these beams
to bear this agony alone.

Yet, should I dare to lift my gaze
and catch your anguished, tear-filled eye,
what triumph would adorn your face?
You seal my pardon for all time.
As you release your final breath,
your spirit, to the Father's will,
my life is ransomed by your death;
eternal plan of love, fulfilled.

Oh, may I ever cherish, Lord,
your sacrifice of love, divine,
that wins my heart to be your own,
and seals my pardon for all time.

words Keiko Ying/tune David Forrey

Copyright © Keiko Yin/David Forrey/admin Jubilate Hymns Ltd

Silence



O sacred head surrounded 120
By crown of piercing thorn
O royal head so wounded
Reviled and put to scorn
Death's shadows rise before you
The glow of life decays
Yet angel hosts adore you
And tremble as they gaze

Your youthfulness and vigour
Are spent your strength is gone
And in your tortured figure
I see death drawing on
What agony of dying
What love to sinners free
My Lord all grace supplying
O turn your face on me

Your sinless soul's oppression
Was all for sinners' gain
Mine mine was the transgression
But yours the deadly pain
I bow my head my Saviour
For I deserve your place
O grant to me your favour
And heal me by your grace

What language shall I borrow
To thank you dearest Friend
For this your dying sorrow
Your mercy without end
Lord make me yours for ever
Your servant let me be
And may I never never
Betray your love for me

Henry Williams Baker | Paul Gerhardt
© Words: 1982 The Jubilate Group Music

Third Reading

John 19:16-37

¹⁶ Finally Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified. So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. ¹⁷ Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). ¹⁸ There they crucified him, and with him two others – one on each side and Jesus in the middle. ¹⁹ Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: jesus of nazareth, the king of the jews. ²⁰ Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. ²¹ The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, 'Do not write "The King of the Jews", but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews.'

²² Pilate answered, 'What I have written, I have written.'

²³ When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.

²⁴ 'Let's not tear it,' they said to one another. 'Let's decide by lot who will get it.' This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said, 'They divided my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.' So this is what the soldiers did.

²⁵ Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing near by, he said to her, 'Woman, here is your son,' ²⁷ and to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

²⁸ Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, 'I am thirsty.' ²⁹ A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. ³⁰ When he had received the drink, Jesus said, 'It is finished.' With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

³¹ Now it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a special Sabbath. Because the Jewish leaders did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down. ³² The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. ³³ But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴ Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water. ³⁵ The man who saw it has given

testimony, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe. ³⁶ These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled: 'Not one of his bones will be broken,' ³⁷ and, as another scripture says, 'They will look on the one they have pierced.'

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Reflection

John Lenton

"It is finished!"

Silence



Prayers

God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Therefore we pray to our heavenly Father for people everywhere according to their needs.

Let us pray for the Church of God throughout the world: for unity in faith, in witness and in service, for bishops and other ministers, and those whom they serve, for Sarah, Anderson and Ric, our bishops, and the people of this diocese, for all Christians in this place, for those who are mocked and persecuted for their faith, that God will confirm his Church in faith, increase it in love, and preserve it in peace. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Let us pray for the nations of the world and their leaders: for Charles, our King, and the Parliaments of this land, for those who administer the law and all who serve in public office, for all who strive for justice and reconciliation, that by God's help the world may live in peace and freedom.

Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Let us pray for those who do not believe the gospel of Christ: for those who have not heard the message of salvation, for all who have lost faith, for the contemptuous and scornful, for those who are enemies of Christ and persecute those who follow him, for all who deny the faith of Christ crucified, that God will open their hearts to the truth and lead them to faith and obedience.

Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Merciful God, creator of all the people of the earth, have compassion on all who do not know you, and by the preaching of your gospel with grace and power, gather them into the one fold of the one Shepherd; Christ our Lord.

All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Let us pray for all those who suffer: for those who are deprived and oppressed, for all who are sick, for those in darkness, in doubt and in despair, in loneliness and in fear, for prisoners, captives and refugees, for the victims of false accusations and violence, for all at the point of death and those who watch beside them, particularly today we remember the people of Ukraine, those suffering in Gaza and Israel, that God in his mercy will sustain them with the knowledge of his love.

Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, graciously hear us.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Final 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 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.**

When I survey the wondrous cross 127
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the cross of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them through his blood.

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?

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.

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.

EA ST ER

AT ST
PETER'S

10am
Families together
at the cross

12noon
An hour at the cross



Mark 10v15

For even the Son of Man
did not come to be served,
but to serve, and to give his
life as a ransom for many.

**GOOD
FRIDAY**

EASTER DAY

He is not here; he has
risen, just as he said.

Matthew 28v6



9.30am
Holy Communion

11am
Easter Celebration

CCLI: 777478

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England
(2000) material from which is included in this service is copyright © the
Archbishops' Council of the Church of England 2000
Holy Bible, New International Version® Anglicized, NIV® Copyright ©
1979, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights
reserved worldwide.

The week ahead

Sun 20 th	EASTER 9.30am 11am	DAY Holy Communion Easter Celebration
Mon 21 st	BANK	HOLIDAY
Tues 22 nd	9:45-11am 8pm	Chat & Play for pre-schoolers and their parents/minders @ St Peter's Hall Midweek Groups meet
Wed 23 rd		
Thurs 24 th	10-11.30am 12-3pm 3.45-5pm 8pm	Women's Bible Study @ St Peter's Hall Community Café @ St Peter's Hall FAB Club @ St Peter's Hall Midweek groups meet
Fri 25 th	7:15-8am	Friday Prayer @ 163 CHL
Sat 26 th	7pm	Christian Aid Quiz @ St Peter's Church
Sun 27 th	9.30am 11am	Holy Communion Easter Celebration

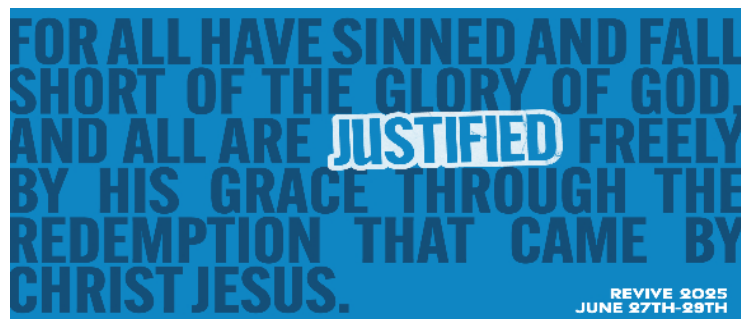
Looking ahead

Sat 26th April – Christian Aid Quiz
Mon 28th April – PCC Meeting
Sun 18th May – Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) after the 11am service
Sun 1st June – Church Family BBQ and farewell to Beth
Fri 27th - Sun 29th June – REVIVE

Regular activities all start back this week!

REVIVE 27-29 June

Sign-ups are still open - Speak to Clare or Beth if you would like to know any more. We can't wait to see you there!



Electoral Roll - New Roll this year!

Every six years it is completely renewed and everyone is asked to enrol. You can do this up to next Sunday, 27th April! – Forms are available on the table at church and we'd love everyone who considers themselves part of



St Peter's to enrol if they are able and qualify – you have to either live in the parish or have been attending regularly for 6 months.



Christian Aid Quiz Sat 26th April

We will be hosting a quiz night for Christian Aid week on Saturday 26th April from 7pm to 9:30pm!

Get a table together (tables of 8) and email the church office to book in.
£10 per ticket inc Ploughmans and donation to Christian Aid

Annual Meetings

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners for the election of Churchwardens (2) and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) for the presentation of the annual reports and the election of up to 9 members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) will take place after the 11am service on Sunday 18th May 2024

Nomination forms will be available from Sunday 27th April