



The Parish of Newport & Carisbrooke with Gatcombe

IN STILLNESS
EARTH AWAITS
THE RESURRECTION

Mourning Jesus
A Service for Holy Saturday

THE BURIAL OF JESUS

³⁸ 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. ³⁹ Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰ They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹ 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. ⁴² And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

John 19.38-42

A JEWISH PRAYER OF MOURNING

If ever my grief were measured
or my sorrow put on a scale,
it would outweigh the sands of the ocean.
For God has hidden my way
and put hedges across my path.

I sit and gnaw on my grief;
my groans pour out like water.
My worst fears have happened;
my nightmares have come to life.
Silence and peace have abandoned me.

*The Book of Job, translated by Stephen Mitchell,
Berkeley:North Point, 1987*

PSALM 88

A PRAYER FOR HELP IN DESPONDENCY

- ¹ Lord, you are the God who saves me;
day and night I cry out to you.
- ² **May my prayer come before you;
turn your ear to my cry.**
- ³ I am overwhelmed with troubles
and my life draws near to death.
- ⁴ **I am counted among those who go down to the pit;
I am like one without strength.**
- ⁵ I am set apart with the dead,
like the slain who lie in the grave,
whom you remember no more,
who are cut off from your care.
- ⁶ **You have put me in the lowest pit,
in the darkest depths.**
- ⁷ Your wrath lies heavily on me;
you have overwhelmed me with all your waves.

**⁸ You have taken from me my closest friends
and have made me repulsive to them.**

I am confined and cannot escape;

⁹ my eyes are dim with grief.

I call to you, Lord, every day;

I spread out my hands to you.

**¹⁰ Do you show your wonders to the dead?
Do their spirits rise up and praise you?**

¹¹ Is your love declared in the grave,
your faithfulness in Destruction?

**¹² Are your wonders known in the place of darkness,
or your righteous deeds in the land of oblivion?**

¹³ But I cry to you for help, Lord;
in the morning my prayer comes before you.

**¹⁴ Why, Lord, do you reject me
and hide your face from me?**

¹⁵ From my youth I have suffered and been close to
death;

I have borne your terrors and am in despair.

**¹⁶ Your wrath has swept over me;
your terrors have destroyed me.**

¹⁷ All day long they surround me like a flood;
they have completely engulfed me.

**¹⁸ You have taken from me friend and neighbour—
darkness is my closest friend.**

READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom
has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

² For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

³ He was despised and rejected by others;
a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity;
and as one from whom others hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him of no account.

⁴ Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.

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

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

⁸ By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.

⁹ They made his grave with the wicked and his
tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain.
When you make his life an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the Lord shall prosper.

¹¹ Out of his anguish he shall see light;
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.
The righteous one, my servant, shall make many
righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹² Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
because he poured out himself to death, and was
numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin
of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Isaiah 53

ACT OF DEVOTION

**Set me as a seal upon your heart,
as a seal upon your arm.**

**For love is strong as death
passion fierce as the grave;
its flashes are flashes of fire,
a raging flame.**

**Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can the floods drown it.**

**If all the wealth of our house
were offered for love,
it would be utterly scorned.**

From Celebrating Common Prayer

*A new fire is lit at the entrance to the church from
which the Paschal candle is lit and carried inside to the
altar.*

**We kindle a flame for Jesus, our master and our friend.
for the gift of faith,
for the offering of love,
for the birth of hope,
may God's name be praised,
now and for ever. Amen.**

REMEMBERING JESUS

I remember when he came to us by the lakeside,
our hearts raced within us when he called us by name.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember his stories and sayings,
and, how through them, God's kingdom came close.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember his love of the scriptures,
and how they came to life in his hands.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember the boat trips across the waters,
and his talent for sleeping through the fiercest storms.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember when he restored the dignity of the
forgotten ones,
and looked upon them with eyes of compassion.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember when he touched lepers with hands of
kindness,
and cleansed them from their scourge.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember being overwhelmed by God's forgiveness,
as he lifted up my head and revived my soul.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember his miracles of healing,
embracing human need with transforming hands of
love.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember when he taught us to pray,
we learned to call God Father and to share the Father's
heart.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember his delight in children,
and his willingness to learn from their ways.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember his mealtimes and open tables,
when all feasted on the food of friendship and the
wine of gladness.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember when he confounded the pretentious,
with words of wisdom that disclosed their conceit.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember his fascination with nature,
how it spoke to him of the glory of God.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember his friendship and openness,
his genuine concern for the wellbeing of all.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember his passion for truth and justice,
how he challenged the mighty ones in God's name.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember seeing in him the person I longed to be,
and daring to believe that person could live.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember when he told us of his forthcoming death,
and we silenced him, hoping it would never come to
pass.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember when he gathered us together at Passover
time,
and entrusted to us what God had entrusted to him.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember when they came to arrest him,
terror filled our hearts and we were overwhelmed with
fear.

We will remember and give thanks.

I remember when they strung him up on a cross to die,
and seeing God's tears welling within his mother's
eyes.

**We will remember and give thanks, now and always.
Amen.**

PRAYING WITH JESUS

As our saviour taught us so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come Your will be done
On earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin
against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours
now and forever.
Amen**

EMBRACING THE LEGACY OF JESUS

We will honour you, Jesus...
 **through the telling of the stories,
 through the study of the scriptures,
 through the following of the Way
 through the breaking of the bread,
 through the practice of forgiveness,
 through the loving of the people,
 through the prayers of the kingdom,
 through the sharing of the faith.**
**We will honour you, in God's holy name.
Amen.**

BLESSING GOD'S HOLY NAME

Magnified and sanctified be the great name of God in the world which he created according to his will. May he establish his Kingdom in your life and in your days, and in the lifetime of all his people: quickly and speedily may it come; and let us say, Amen!

Amen. Blessed be God for ever!

Blessed, praised and glorified, exalted, extolled and honoured, magnified and lauded be the name of the Holy One; blessed be God! Though he be high above all the blessings and hymns, praises and consolations, which are uttered in the world; and let us say, Amen!

Amen. Blessed be God for ever!

May there be abundant peace from heaven and life for us and for all people; let us say, Amen!

Amen. Blessed be God for ever!

*Celebrating Common Prayer
London: Mowbray, 1992*

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