

Order of Service for Passion Sunday, 29th March 2020

O Lord, open our lips

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Give us the joy of your saving grace

And sustain us with your life-giving Spirit.

We have come together in the name of Christ

To offer our praise and thanksgiving,

To hear and receive God's holy word,

To pray for the needs of the world,

And to seek the forgiveness of our sins,

That by the power of the Holy Spirit

We may give ourselves to the service of God.

God shows his love for us in that,

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Let us then show our love for him

By confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Lord Jesus Christ,

We confess we have failed you as did your first disciples.

We ask for your mercy and your help.

When we take our ease rather than watch with you:

Lord, forgive us. **Christ have mercy.**

When we bestow a kiss of peace yet nurse enmity in our hearts:

Lord, forgive us. **Christ have mercy.**

When we strike at those who hurt us

rather than stretch out our hands to bless:

Lord, forgive us. **Christ have mercy.**

When we deny that we know you for fear of the world and its scorn:

Lord, forgive us. **Christ have mercy.**

May the Father of all mercies

Cleanse us from our sins,

And restore us in his image

To the praise and glory of his name,

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Blessed are you, Lord our God,

Creator and redeemer of all;

To you be glory and praise for ever.

From the waters of chaos you drew forth the world

And in your great love fashioned us in your image.

Now, through the deep waters of death,

You have brought your people to new birth

By raising your Son to life in triumph.

May Christ your light ever dawn in our hearts

As we offer you our sacrifice of thanks and praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

Blessed be God for ever.

Psalm 130

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Christ humbled himself and became obedient to death, even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted him and given him the name that is above every name.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 11:1-45 - The Death of Lazarus

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Reflection

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

Born of the Virgin Mary,

Suffered under Pontius Pilate,

Was crucified, died, and was buried;

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

He ascended into heaven,

He is seated at the right hand of the Father;

And he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

The holy catholic Church,

The communion of saints,

The forgiveness of sins,

The resurrection of the body,

And the life everlasting.

Amen.

Let us bring to the Father our prayers of intercession

Through Christ who gave himself for the life of the world.

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour, and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you. In this time of anxiety, give us strength to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick, and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love, for your name's sake.

Amen.

God of compassion be close to those who are ill, afraid, or in isolation. In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their darkness, be their light; through him who suffered alone on the cross, but reigns with you in glory, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

We pray especially at this time for all in our community who care for the sick and elderly in their homes, in hospital, hospice or in care and residential homes. We thank you for those who care for their neighbour and friend, those who administer online social media groups, and those who give their time to help others.

Amen.

In the sure and certain hope of the Resurrection to eternal life, we commend to God's merciful compassion all who have recently died, especially victims of Covid19. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

We remember all families bereaved at this time that they may know the comfort and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world;
Lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
That we may know eternal peace
Through the shedding of our Saviour's blood.
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

And the love of God,

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,

Be with us all evermore.

Amen.