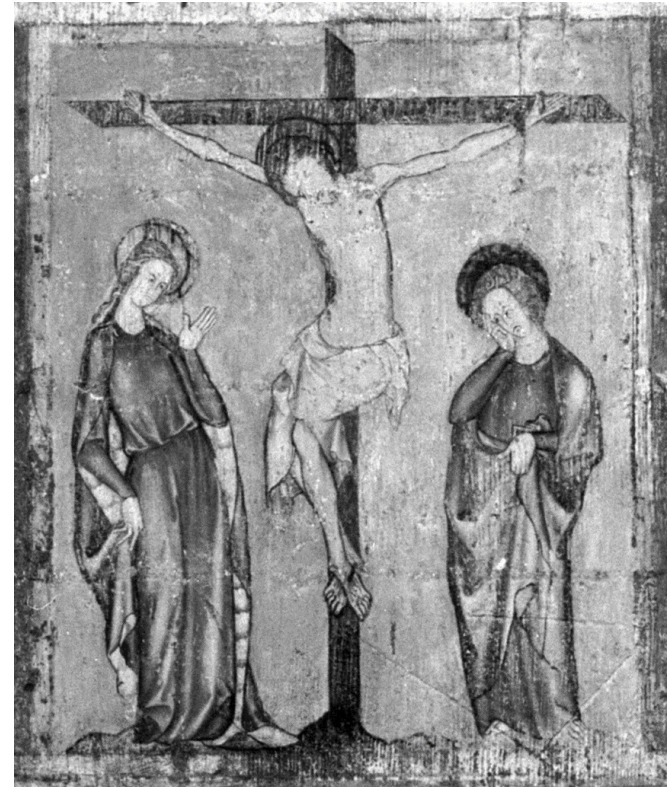


## **A Virtual Service of Music and Readings for Passiontide**



Christ Jesus The Saviour

Palm Sunday  
28 March 2021  
6.30pm

## Welcome to St John's for this on-line Service.

Whether this is your first time you have joined us virtually for this on-line Service at St John's, or you are a regular member of the congregation, you are most welcome. To enter into the atmosphere of the service you might like to light a candle before the service starts and have a cross in front of you - a physical reminder of where Christ bore our sins in his body and made atonement with the Father.

We hope the readings and music will aid your pilgrimage through this Holy Week as we walk with Christ through his final days and recall Jesus as the long awaited Messiah, the healer, and the Saviour of the world.

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*A welcome is given before the Service. Silence is then kept.*

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*Silence is kept.*

### The Lord's Prayer:

We join all these, our prayers and praises together,  
in the prayer our Saviour Christ taught us, saying:

**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.**

### Reading 5: St John 19: 28–30

*It is accomplished*

### The Anthem: Salvator mundi

Salvator mundi, salva nos,  
qui per crucem et sanguinem  
redemisti nos:  
auxiliare nobis, te deprecamur,  
Deus noster.

*O Saviour of the world, save us,  
who by the Cross and the Blood  
have redeemed us:  
help us, we beseech you, our God.*

*Thomas Tallis (c. 1505–85)  
Antiphon at Good Friday Liturgy*

### The Blessing:

Christ crucified draw you to himself,  
to find in him a sure ground for faith,  
a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

### Voluntary:

## The Prayers of Intercession

Let us bring to the Father our prayers of intercession through Christ who gave himself for the life of the world.

That we may know the depth of God's love in our hearts, and be thankful, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For forgiveness for the many times we have denied Jesus, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For grace to be able to accept Christ's forgiveness won for all upon the cross, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Christ's broken body, the Church; that all, regardless of division, may be united under Christ's arms flung wide open upon the cross, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have the courage and honesty to work openly for justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who make our laws, interpret them, and administer them, that our common life may be ordered in justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who still make Jerusalem a battleground, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all in the darkness and agony of isolation, sickness or distress, may find support and encouragement and healing of body, mind or spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who, weighed down with hardship, failure, or sorrow, feel that God is far from them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who are tempted to give up the way of the cross, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

That we, with all who have died in faith, may find mercy in the day of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy**

## Order of Service

*All sing*

### The Hymn: We sing the Praise of him who died

We sing the praise of him who died,  
of him who died upon the cross;  
the sinner's hope let men deride,  
for this we count the world but loss.

The Cross! it takes our guilt away:  
it holds the fainting spirit up;  
it cheers with hope the gloomy day,  
and sweetens every bitter cup.

Inscribed upon the cross we see  
in shining letters, 'God is love;'  
he bears our sins upon the Tree;  
he brings us mercy from above.

It makes the coward spirit brave,  
and nerves the feeble arm for fight;  
it takes its terror from the grave,  
and gilds the bed of death with light:

the balm of life, the cure of woe,  
the measure and the pledge of love,  
the sinner's refuge here below,  
the angels' theme in heaven above.

*Bow Brickhill 138 AMNS*

### The Welcome and Introduction:

Brothers and sisters in Christ,  
during Lent we have been preparing by works of love  
and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection.  
Tonight, as that time draws ever closer,  
we come together in solemn remembrance  
of Christ's gift of himself upon the cross  
for the salvation of the world  
and the forgiveness of our sins.  
As we journey through this liturgy,  
guided by the readings and music,  
may we be reminded of the depth of God's love  
to save sinners like me and you,  
of his forgiveness and power to heal,  
and of his desire to be in relationship with us, his children.

Let us pray.

*Silence is kept.*

**The Collect:**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
 who in your tender love towards the human race  
 sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
 to take upon him our flesh  
 and to suffer death upon the cross:  
 grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,  
 and also be made partakers of his resurrection;  
 through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.****Reading 1: Genesis 3***The Fall*

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.***All sing***The Hymn: It is a thing most wonderful**

It is a thing most wonderful,  
 almost too wonderful to be,  
 that God's own Son should come from  
 heaven,  
 and die to save a child like me.

I sometimes think about the Cross,  
 and shut my eyes, and try to see  
 the cruel nails and crown of thorns,  
 and Jesus crucified for me.

And yet I know that it is true:  
 he chose a poor and humble lot,  
 and wept and toiled and mourned and died  
 for love of those who loved him not.

But even could I see him die,  
 I could but see a little part  
 of that great love which, like a fire,  
 is always burning in his heart.

I cannot tell how he could love  
 a child so weak and full of sin;  
 his love must be most wonderful,  
 if he could die my love to win.

It is most wonderful to know  
 his love for me so free and sure;  
 but 'tis more wonderful to see  
 my love for him so faint and poor.

And yet I want to love thee, Lord;  
 O light the flame within my heart,  
 and I will love thee more and more,  
 until I see thee as thou art.

*Herongate 70 AMNS***Reading 2: St Luke 4: 16b–21***The arrival of the promised Christ***The Anthem: Christus factus est**

Christus factus est pro nobis obediens  
 usque ad mortem, mortem autem  
 crucis.

Propter quod et Deus exaltavit illum,  
 et dedit illi nomen, quod est super  
 omne nomen.

*Christ became obedient  
 for us to death, even death on a  
 cross.*

*Therefore God also highly exalted him  
 and gave him the name that is above  
 every name.*

*Anton Bruckner (1824–96)  
 Philippians 2: 8–9*

**Reading 3: St Luke 5: 17–26***Jesus: the healer**All sing***The Hymn: O sacred head**

O sacred head, sore wounded,  
 defiled and put to scorn;  
 O kingly head, surrounded  
 with mocking crown of thorn:  
 what sorrow mars thy grandeur?  
 can death thy bloom deflower?  
 O countenance whose splendour  
 the hosts of heaven adore.

In thy most bitter passion  
 my heart to share doth cry,  
 with thee for my salvation  
 upon the cross to die.  
 Ah, keep my heart thus movèd  
 to stand thy cross beneath,  
 to mourn thee, well-belovèd,  
 yet thank thee for thy death.

Thy beauty, long-desirèd,  
 hath vanished from our sight;  
 thy power is all expirèd,  
 and quenched the light of light.  
 Ah me! for whom thou diest,  
 hide not so far thy grace:  
 show me, O love most highest,  
 the brightness of thy face.

My days are few, O fail not,  
 with thine immortal power,  
 to hold me that I quail not  
 in death's most fearful hour:  
 That I may fight befriended,  
 and see in my last strife  
 to me thine arms extended  
 upon the cross of life.

*Passion Chorale 90 NEH***Reading 4: St John 3: 1–17***The gift of Christ our Saviour***The Anthem: God so loved the world**

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son,  
 that whoso believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.  
 For God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world;  
 but that the world through him might be saved.

*John Stainer (1840–1901)  
 from The Crucifixion*