

## GOOD FRIDAY

### Morning Prayer

O God come to our aid.

**O Lord make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end.**

**Amen.**

### Hymn

1. Sing my tongue, the glorious battle,  
Sing the ending of the fray;  
To the Cross, our noble trophy,  
Here a fitting tribute pay,  
Telling how the world's Redeemer,  
Slain as victim, won the day.

2. Tell how, when at length the fullness  
Of the appointed time was come,  
He, the Word, was born of woman,  
Left for us his Father's home,  
Showed to men the perfect manhood,  
Shone as light amidst the gloom.

3. Now the thirty years are ended  
Which on earth he willed to see,  
Willingly he meets his Passion,  
Born to set his people free;  
On the Cross the Lamb is lifted,  
There the sacrifice to be.

4. Faithful Cross, above all other,  
One and only noble Tree,  
None in foliage, none in blossom,  
None in fruit thy peer may be;  
Sweet the wood and sweet the iron,  
And the load, most sweet is he.

5. Unto God be praise and glory:  
To the Father and the Son,  
To the eternal Spirit, honour  
Now and evermore be done;  
Praise and glory in the highest,  
While the timeless ages run.

**Antiphon:** God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all.

**Psalm 50 (51)**

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin.

My offences truly I know them;  
my sin is always before me.  
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;  
what is evil in your sight I have done.

That you may be justified when you give sentence  
and be without reproach when you judge,  
O see, in guilt I was born,  
a sinner was I conceived.

Indeed you love truth in the heart;  
then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom.  
O purify me, then I shall be clean;  
O wash me, I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me hear rejoicing and gladness,  
that the bones you have crushed may revive.  
From my sins turn away your face  
and blot out all my guilt.

A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help;  
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,  
that I may teach transgressors your ways  
and sinners may return to you.

O rescue me, God, my helper,  
and my tongue shall ring out your goodness.  
O Lord, open my lips  
and my mouth shall declare your praise.

For in sacrifice you take no delight,  
burnt offering from me you would refuse,  
my sacrifice, a contrite spirit.  
A humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn.

In your goodness, show favour to Sion:  
rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.  
Then you will be pleased with lawful sacrifice,  
holocausts offered on your altar.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
**Amen.**

**Antiphon: God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all.**

**Antiphon 2:** Jesus Christ showed his love for us and freed us from our sins with  
his life's blood.

## **Canticle**

### **Habakkuk 3**

Lord, I have heard of your fame,  
I stand in awe at your deeds.  
Do them again in our days,  
in our days make them known!  
In spite of your anger, have compassion.

God comes forth from Teman,  
the Holy One comes from Mount Paran.  
His splendour covers the sky  
and his glory fills the earth.  
His brilliance is like the light,  
rays flash from his hands;  
there his power is hidden.

You march out to save your people,  
to save the one you have anointed.  
You made a path for your horses in the sea,

in the raging of the mighty waters.  
This I heard and I tremble with terror,  
my lips quiver at the sound.  
Weakness invades my bones,  
my steps fail beneath me  
yet I calmly wait for the doom  
that will fall upon the people who assail us.

For even though the fig does not blossom,  
nor fruit grow on the vine,  
even though the olive crop fail,  
and fields produce no harvest,  
even though flocks vanish from the folds  
and stalls stand empty of cattle,

Yet I will rejoice in the Lord  
and exult in God my saviour.  
The Lord my God is my strength.  
He makes me leap like the deer,  
he guides me to the high places.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

**Amen.**

**Antiphon: Jesus Christ showed his love for us and freed us from our sins  
with his life's blood.**

**Antiphon 3:** We venerate your Cross, Lord; we praise and glorify your holy  
resurrection. Because of the tree joy has come into the whole world.

### **Psalm 147 (147B)**

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!  
Sion, praise your God!

He has strengthened the bars of your gates  
he has blessed the children within you.  
He established peace on your borders,  
he feeds you with finest wheat.

He sends out his word to the earth  
and swiftly runs his command.  
He showers down snow white as wool,  
he scatters hoar-frost like ashes.

He hurls down hailstones like crumbs.  
The waters are frozen at his touch;  
he sends forth his word and it melts them:  
at the breath of his mouth the waters flow.

He makes his word known to Jacob,  
to Israel his laws and decrees.  
He has not dealt thus with other nations;  
he has not taught them his decrees.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

**Amen.**

**Antiphon: We venerate your Cross, Lord; we praise and glorify your holy resurrection. Because of the tree joy has come into the whole world.**

### **Scripture Reading**

Isaiah 52:13-15

See, my servant will prosper, he shall be lifted up, exalted, rise to great heights. As the crowds were appalled on seeing him – so disfigured did he look that he seemed no longer human – so will the crowds be astonished at him, and kings stand speechless before him; for they shall see something never told and witness something never heard before.

### **Short Responsory**

**Christ humbled himself for us and, in obedience, accepted death, even death on a cross**

## **Benedictus**

**Antiphon:** Over his head was placed the charge against him:  
‘This is Jesus, the Nazarene, the King of the Jews.’

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!  
He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour  
in the house of David his servant,  
as he promised by the lips of holy men,  
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
So his love for our fathers is fulfilled  
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us,  
that free from fear, and saved from the hands of our foes,  
we might serve him in holiness and justice  
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child,  
you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord  
to prepare his ways before him.

To make known to his people their salvation  
through forgiveness of all their sins,  
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God  
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,  
those who dwell in the shadow of death,  
and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.

**Antiphon:** Over his head was placed the charge against him:  
‘This is Jesus, the Nazarene, the King of the Jews.’

## **Intercessions:**

Let us pray to our Redeemer, who suffered for us, was buried, and rose from the dead.

**Lord, have mercy on us.**

Lord and master, for us you became obedient even to death;

**keep us faithful to God's will in the darkness of our lives.**

Jesus, our life, by dying on the cross you destroyed hell and death;

**grant that we may die with you and rise with you in glory.**

Christ, our king, you were the scorn of the people, a worm not a man;

**teach us to tread your path of humility.**

Jesus, our Saviour, you laid down your life for your friends;

**let us love one another as you have loved us.**

Jesus, our hope, you stretched out your hands on the cross to embrace all ages of men;

**gather all God's scattered children into the kingdom of salvation.**

## **Our Father**

## **Concluding Prayer**

Be mindful, Lord, of this your family,  
for whose sake our Lord Jesus Christ, when betrayed,  
did not hesitate to yield himself into his enemies' hands  
and undergo the agony of the cross.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
(one) God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

May the Lord bless us and keep us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**