

Word & Prayer – *Good Friday*

GOD WELCOMES US

We come to God

God forbid that I should boast of anything
but the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In him is salvation, life, and resurrection from the dead;
by him we are redeemed and set free.

May God be gracious to us and bless us,
and make his face shine upon us.

We pray the prayer for this day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.
Almighty God,
look mercifully on your family,
for whom our Lord Jesus Christ
was willing to be betrayed
and given up into the hands of sinners,
and to suffer death on the cross.
We ask this through your Son,
Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns
with the you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

We sing LHB 55 O dearest Jesus

GOD SPEAKS TO US

We listen to God's word

Old Testament Reading

Hear the word of the Lord as it is written in Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12
(after the reading)

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 22:1,2,11

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

Why are you so far from helping me?

O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;

and by night, but find no rest.

Do not be far from me, for trouble is near

and there is no-one to help.

Epistle Reading

Hear the word of the Lord as it is written in Hebrews 10:16-25

(after the reading)

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading

Hear the gospel of the Lord as it is written in John 18:1 – 19:42

(after the gospel)

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise be to you, O Christ, Lamb of God.

We sing LHB 52 O sacred head

We listen to the address

GOD LISTENS TO US

We sing LHB 70 Stricken smitten as our offering is received

We pray an offering prayer

Let us pray that we may offer our lives to God and others.

Saving God, strengthen us to trust in your Son, our great High Priest and the sacrifice for our sins. Make us ready to give ourselves in service, to help one another, and to reach out in love to all people.

Amen.

We pray for the church and the world

On this most sacred day when our Lord, who has been lifted up to draw all people to himself, has gone before us to the Father, we his body stand with him before the Father and intercede for his church and his world. Let us pray for the holy church of God throughout the world, that God the almighty Father will grant peace to his church, preserve it in unity, and protect it throughout the world.

(silent prayer)

Almighty Father, you have shown your glory to all nations in Christ your Son: Guide the work of your church; help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring your salvation to people everywhere.
Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the Bishop of our church, John Henderson, and our district Bishop, Robert Bartholomaeus, for all pastors and servants of the church, and for all the people of God.
(silent prayer)

Almighty Father, you guide the church and keep it holy. Help all of us to work faithfully for you.
Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for those who are searching for faith in God or being prepared for baptism, that God will wash them in the waters of new birth, and give them his Holy Spirit.
(silent prayer)

Almighty Father, you continually add new members to your church. Increase the faith and understanding of those being prepared for baptism. Give them new birth by water and the Spirit, and strengthen them by your grace to life eternal.
Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for all Christians, that God will gather us by his Spirit and keep us united in faith and love.
(silent prayer)

Almighty Father, you have made us your holy people by our common baptism. Make us one in our confession of faith, increase our love for each other, and help us to work together in your mission to the people of the world.
Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the Jewish people, to whom God spoke through the prophets, that they will acknowledge Jesus as the Christ foretold by the prophets.
(silent prayer)

Almighty Father, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and his descendants. Grant that your chosen people may share with us the fullness of your redemption.
Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for all who do not yet believe in Jesus Christ, that the light of the Holy Spirit will show them the way of salvation.
(silent prayer)

Heavenly Father, remember those who do not remember you. Have mercy on those who have rejected your grace. Guide those who seek to make sense of their lives, so that they may find their salvation in Jesus Christ.
Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for those who serve us in public office, that God may use them to curb what is evil and work for the wellbeing of our nation.
(silent prayer)

Heavenly Father, guide all the nations of the earth, so that they may promote international justice and peace. Bless our country and all who hold positions of responsibility, our Prime Minister, *(insert name)*, and Premier, *(name)*. Direct the parliaments of our commonwealth and state, so that we may enjoy good government, and live together in freedom and harmony.
Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for all the needy people of the earth, that God will provide for them according to their needs.
(silent prayer)

Heavenly Father, heal those who are physically sick and mentally disturbed. Support those who are aged and dying. Comfort those who are hungry and lonely. Relieve those who are oppressed, and free those who are unjustly imprisoned. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble, so that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

We pray the Lord's Prayer

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask, saying:

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.

We sing LHB 54 When I survey, as the cross is brought into the church

We adore our crucified Lord

Behold the wood of the cross, on which the Saviour of the world was lifted up.
O come, let us worship him.

| We plead to God for mercy

Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O my people? How have I burdened you? Answer me! I led you out from the prison of death, but you led your Saviour to the cross. I freed you from slavery to sin, but you handed him over to be condemned. O my people!

**O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty,
O holy and most merciful God, have mercy on us,
and do not condemn us to eternal death.**

Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O my people? How have I burdened you? Answer me! I led you safely through the desert and brought you to a rich land, but you led your Saviour to the cross. I fed you with bread from heaven and refreshed you with living water, but you have given him gall and vinegar to drink. O my people!

**O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty,
O holy and most merciful God, have mercy on us,
and lead us through death to eternal life.**

Thus says the Lord: What more could I have done for you, O my people, than I have done? Answer me! I planted you as my fairest vine, but you yielded only bitter fruit. I sent my Son to gather your harvest, but you killed him and threw him out of the vineyard. O my people!

**O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty,
O holy and most merciful Saviour, have mercy on us,
and never abandon us.**

O Christ, the Saviour of the world, we praise and adore you for the redemption of the world through your holy cross.

**Jesus, Son of the living God, draw us and all people to yourself.
Amen.**

| We sing LHB 84 There is a green hill

GOD BLESSES US

| We pray for God's blessing

Let us pray.

Lord our God, send down your rich blessing on us as we remember the suffering and death of your Son. Grant us pardon and comfort, so that we may be assured of our eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

| We go with God's blessing

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.