



## 29A Online liturgy Good Friday

	<b>Pre-Service</b> <a href="#">On the Cross</a>
	<b>Greeting</b>  May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ The Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all  <b>and also with us</b>
	<b>We Gather</b>  <i>[Adapted from Isaiah 53:5-6]</i>  5 But he was wounded for our sins, crushed for our wickedness; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his bruises we are healed. 6 We are all like sheep that have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the wickedness of us all. <sup>1</sup>  <i>Let us Pray</i> Insults, torture, mocking, whipping, accusations, beatings, shouts of 'Crucify! Crucify!'  A journey to a hill, the carrying of a cross, wood, nails and human flesh hammered together.  The most awful of days! In the middle of it all, Jesus, the one who was innocent, but the one who died. <b>Amen</b>

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<sup>1</sup> [The Holy Bible: New Revised Standard Version](#). (1989). (Is 53:5–6). Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers.

	<p><b>Hymn/song</b> TIS #345/AHB #261: "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?" <i>verses 1,3,4</i> [Adapted]</p>
	<p><b>Reading (1)</b> "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." Luke 23:34</p>
	<p><b>Let us Pray</b></p> <p>We give thanks that Jesus did as he told others to do, and forgave those who treated him badly. God of grace and immeasurable mercy, help us to overcome any hurts caused by wrongs done to us, and to reach out in reconciling love and to pray with Jesus "forgive them." Amen</p>
	<p><b>Hymn/Song</b> TIS #635/AHB #564: "Forgive our sins as we forgive"</p>
	<p><b>Reading (2)</b> "... today you will be with me in Paradise." Luke 23:43</p>
	<p><b>Let us Pray</b></p> <p>We pray for all those who want to repent and begin a new life, but who feel that it is too late; let us pray that they will learn from the dying thief that Christ is the one nearest to them, and that paradise is as close as he is. Give us the assurance, O God, that whatever we have done, nothing can separate us from your love.</p> <p>And let us, pray as the thief prayed: "Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom".</p>
	<p><b>Hymn/Song</b> TIS #730 : "Jesus remember me..."</p>
	<p><b>Reading (3)</b> "Woman, here is your son." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." John 19:26–27</p>

	<p><b>Let us Pray</b></p> <p>We pray for families known to us who are experiencing difficult times  people whose fears and uncertainties about the future  are causing stress and conflict;  those who suffer fears of disease and isolation  those where relationships and minds are close to breaking point  those who suffer disease, violence or loneliness.</p>
	<p><b>Hymn/song</b></p> <p>“At the cross her vigil keeping” - Josh Bales</p>
	<p><b>Reading (4)</b></p> <p>“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”  Matthew 27:46</p>
	<p><b>Let us Pray</b></p> <p>We pray for all people who feel abandoned;  for young and old, whatever their circumstances;  and for ourselves when we feel forgotten or rejected.  May we never forget that God ‘s love for us is everlasting and genuine.  That he knows us by name.</p>
	<p><b>Hymn/song</b></p> <p>TIS #342 – “When I survey the wondrous cross”  Cliff Richards</p>
	<p><b>Reading (5)</b></p> <p>“I am thirsty.”  John 19:28</p>
	<p><b>Prayer</b></p> <p>There are - right now - countless people  men, women and children in the world  who are homeless, unemployed and feel insecure.  We pray that the Holy Spirit  will empower us to answer the cries  of those who suffer physical and mental distress  through disease, lack of money and access to medical treatment,  both here in this country and throughout the world.</p>
	<p><b>Hymn/song</b></p> <p>Chris Tomlin - Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone [with lyrics]</p>
	<p><b>Good Friday Meditation</b></p>

## MEDITATION FOR GOOD FRIDAY (1)

The shape of God's love  
is a cross.

It did not begin as a cross -  
it began as an act of tenderness towards humanity

As we busied ourselves  
storing up treasures on earth;  
this treasure from heaven in human form taught another way  
the way of love.

The way of love and forgiveness  
of liberty and justice and peace.

He told us not to worry about tomorrow  
He challenged us to be like the lilies of the field  
pure and carefree and clothed  
with the values of God's Kingdom  
where healing and caring and even loving enemies  
is the order of the day.

He lived life from the inside out  
telling stories which conveyed life  
to those who had ears to hear.

He took children  
and gave them places of honour;  
He took women  
and gave them dignity;  
He helped  
the poor and the sick and the marginalised  
with compassion and extravagant love.

He poured out his power like pouring water into a basin  
and washed disciples' feet.

He gave away his power in unexpected ways  
to a woman who touched his robe  
to a child who had ceased to breathe,  
to a man who looked down from a tree.

He used his power to heal and to serve  
to carry the burdens we had been struggling to bear on our own.

He emptied himself of self and filled himself with others.

We tell the story year by year;  
this story of love and grace  
but again and again we are pulled up short  
by the tormented one who betrays.

The one who walked with Christ;  
     a disciple as close as close could be;  
 Judas - Judas Iscariot – was his name  
     but could it be you or be me?

Were his dreams shaped by greed? Prosperity? Power?  
     Was he simply corrupt from the start?  
 Could he not understand that Jesus desired lives totally lived from the heart?

So, how about us?  
     Are we like so many today With Judas-like dreams of greed  
     or the need to prosper to win to succeed?

On today, of all days  
     the day of Christ's death.  
 Where do we really stand  
     who do we truly follow  
 the power-hungry Judas?  
     or the empowering Christ?

This groaning creation  
     starting right here and right now  
 needs to know.  
 Amen

### **Meditation (2)**

Lord Jesus, Good Friday.  
 It happened.  
 Tears and sorrow in the garden.  
 A betrayal with a kiss.  
 Soldiers, swords and clubs.  
 Friends fleeing.  
 Fiery priests, finicky scribes,  
 truths, half-truths, lies. Then fists.  
 Cool Pilate, fearful Pilate,  
 wash your hands Pilate,  
 we don't want this to spread Pilate.  
 Crown of thorns, heavy cross, women weep, soldiers mock.  
 Nail, Nail,  
 King in the sky.  
 Outstretched hands, empty hands, yet you give.  
 To the thief, paradise,  
 To your mother, a son.  
 To all on earth, forgiveness.  
 Then it happened.  
 You breathe. You breathe your last. Death, soldier, darkness,  
 brave friends, tomb.  
 Amen

by Andrew McDonough and his staff at Lostsheep.com.au

	<p><b>Reading (6)</b>          "It is finished."          John 10:30</p>
	<p><b>Prayer</b>          As Jesus said "It is finished",              we give thanks for his life of love and his painful death for us                  and for our world.          Even at the point of death,              he cared about others. We pray,</p> <p>O God, for like minds and as deep a care for others,              as we commit ourselves,                  and all those dear to us,              into your hands.</p> <p>May they know that neither death nor life,              nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers,              nor things present, nor things to come,          shall be able to separate us from your love O God,              revealed so clearly in Jesus Christ our Lord.          Amen</p>
	<p><b>Hymn/song</b>          TIS #602/AHB #525 'O Love that wilt not let me go'</p>
	<p><b>Reading</b>          "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."          Luke 24:46</p>
	<p><b>Prayer</b>          Teach us, O Lord,              to fear death as little as we fear sleep;              and fill our lives with the hope and faith of the resurrection,          in the knowledge that in death our lives              pass into the hands that made the world –              the hands of the Creator.          And may we place our lives in those hands              while life is strong and full and sweet.</p>
	<p><b>We are sent out</b>          Go in peace.          May Jesus Christ,              who for our sake became obedient unto death,                  even death on a cross,          keep you and strengthen you today and forever.</p> <p>And may the Lord bless us and keep us              may his face shine upon us</p>

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	and be gracious unto us. May he lift His countenance upon us and give us peace. Amen

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## On the Cross

On the cross  
On the cross  
as Jesus died  
God's great love  
God's great love  
was realised  
To forgive  
To forgive  
our brokenness

*Love amazing, so divine  
Demands my soul  
My life my all*

Gift of love  
Gift of love  
There in my place  
As "I forgive"  
"I forgive" tears down your face.  
You  
take it all

David MacGregor  
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You take it all  
in wondrous grace

*Love amazing, so divine  
Demands my soul  
My life my all*

On the cross  
On the cross  
Restored with you  
Your faithfulness exemplified:  
what Love can do!  
And I but give  
I but give  
my thanks and praise

*Love amazing, so divine  
Demands my soul  
My life my all*