



ANGLICAN PARISH OF
GISBORNE

MACEDON | RIDDELLS CREEK | GISBORNE



The Way of the Cross
Service of Ante Communion

29th March, 2024

St Paul's Anglican Church
Gisborne
9 am

Welcome

We extend a very warm welcome to everyone who joins us for worship. Whether you are a visitor or a regular parishioner of the Anglican Church, you are invited to join us in Holy Communion. Please make yourself known to us and if you would like more information about our community and ministry, then please take a copy of our welcome brochure, visit our website or ask one of our sides-persons.

Great and Good Friday

Today, we journey with Jesus from the time of his sentencing to death to his placing in the tomb. It is a solemn and very directed time of meditation on and before the cross. By this same cross on which he died, we remember the most important part of our creeds:

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

As Easter people, we know that this is not the end of the story, but as part of our tradition, we sit with the reality of this moment, and the atoning for our sins at such a cost. On Sunday morning, we gather once again to celebrate the rising of Jesus from the grave, making today truly a great and yet, somber, a Good Friday.

Order of service begins on page 3.

Our Mission Giving for the Season of Lent.

Parishioners are requested to return their special ABM Lent/Good Friday mission envelopes in support of women and children in the Holy Land, either through the offertory or forward to the Parish Office.



ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION
Working for Love, Hope & Justice

*The people gather in silence
After a time of silence, the Presider says the prayer of the day.*
Eternal God,
in the cross of Jesus
we see the cost of our sin
and the depth of your love:
in humble hope and fear
may we place at his feet
all that we have and all that we are,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Ministry of the Word

The people sit for the reading from the Hebrew scriptures.
Isaiah 52.13-53.12

After the Lesson, the reader says
For the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The following responsorial psalm is said.

Psalm 22

Response: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me

All who see me deride me,
they curl their lips, they toss their heads:
'He trusted in the Lord, let God save him
and come to free him if this is God's friend.'

Response

Many dogs have surrounded me,
a wicked hand besets me;
they tear holes in my hands and feet,
and lay me in the dust of death. I can count all my bones. **Response**

They divide my clothes among them,
they cast lots for my robe.
O Lord, do not leave me alone,
my strength, make haste to help me.

Response

I will tell your name to my people
and praise you where they gather.
All you who fear the Lord, sing your praises;
all tribes of Jacob, give your glory.

Response

The people remain seated for the second reading.

Hebrews 10.16—25

After the Lesson, the reader says
For the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The people stand and sing the Gradual hymn.

A time to watch, a time to pray
a day of wonders is today:
the saddest, yet the gladdest too,
that earth or heaven ever knew.

The saddest, for our Saviour bore
his death, that we might die no more:
the agony, the scourge, the fear,
the crown of thorns, the cross, the spear.

And yet the gladdest, for today
our load of sin was borne away:
and hopes of joy that never dies
hang on our Saviour's sacrifice.

O Saviour, how we bless your name!
Yours is the glory, ours the shame;
by all the pain your love endured
let all our many sins be cured.

John Mason Neale (1818-1866)

Sing Praise 63

Shadows and Stones

All you who pass this way

Look and see, the shadow of sin

All you who pass this way

Look and see the weight of the world

All you who pass this way

Look and see, the suffering of our Saviour.

All you who pass this way

Look and see, the sorrow of Jesus Christ

O Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world.

Have mercy on us, dear Lord.

(based on Lamentations 1:12)

Shadow of Condemnation
Luke 23:32-34

Forgiving Christ, when the world condemns us,
when wrong is done to us,
when we carry the weight of things that are too much to forgive,
come alongside us in the darkness,
and give us the grace to be forgiven and forgiving.

Shadow of Separation
Luke 23:35-43

Reconciling Christ,
we are weighed down by sin and separation,
a world that is not at peace,
people who are not whole.
You reached out to the thief,
you welcomed him to God's side.
Come alongside us in the darkness,
and bring grace and peace to everything that is broken.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me
Bb(A) Eb(D) Cm(Bm)
when you come in - to your king - dom. Je - sus, re -
Fm(Em) Bb(A) Bb7(A7) Eb(D)
- mem-ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The musical score is written on three staves in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). The melody is in the treble clef. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom. Je - sus, re - mem-ber me when you come in - to your king - dom." Chord symbols are provided below the notes: Bb(A), Eb(D), Cm(Bm), Fm(Em), Bb(A), Bb7(A7), and Eb(D).

Shadow of Sorrow
John 19:25-27

Loving Jesus,
we carry the weight of the people we love,
concern for their sorrows and suffering.
Our care for them is deep,
and sometimes there is not much we can do.
Come alongside us in the darkness,
and cradle the ones we love in your strong hands.

Shadow of Despair
Mark 5:33-34

Lord Jesus Christ,
you know what it is to feel that God is far away.
You know what it is to call out for God's presence.
**Come alongside us in the darkness,
and help us call out for God.**
Lord Jesus Christ, lover of all,
spread wide the hem of your garment:
bring healing, bring peace.

Shadow of Suffering
John 19:28-30

Suffering Saviour,
in all our thirst,
in all our sickness,
in all our longing, in all our pain,
you are there.
**Come alongside us in the darkness,
and walk with us through all our suffering.**

Shadow of Death
Luke 23:44-49

Dearest Jesus,
even in death, you are there.
When we mourn,
when we are afraid,
when we come to our own end,
you have been there, too.
**Come alongside us in the darkness,
and carry us through death to life.**
Behold the Lamb of God,
behold the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin,
the sin of the world.

Silence

Let us confess our sins
**O Christ, we are stripped bare by your suffering.
You see our dreams, our demons,
and the secrets we keep even from ourselves.**

**Forgive all that needs to be forgiven,
heal all that needs to be healed,
awaken all the good that sleeps in us,
banish all the fears that paralyse us.
Put the power of your cross into our lives for ever,
and clothe us with hope and love.**

The Presider says this absolution.

We have turned our hearts to God in repentance
and our sins are laid bare
before the cross of Jesus Christ.
In the name of the living God,
your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

The Solemn Intercessions

The people may stand or sit for the Solemn Prayers

God sent his Son into the world,
not to condemn the world,
but so that the world might be saved through him.
So let us bring the needs of the whole world
to the foot of the cross of Christ.

Minister

Let us pray for the Church of God throughout the world:
for unity in faith, in witness and in service,
for bishops and other ministers, and those whom they serve,
for Philip our Archbishop, Brad our bishop,
and the people of this diocese,
for all Christians in this place,
for those to be baptised,
for those who are mocked and persecuted for their faith,
that God will confirm his Church in faith,
increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

President

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Minister

Let us pray for God's ancient people, the Jews,
the first to hear his word:
for greater understanding between Christian and Jew,
for the removal of our blindness and bitterness of heart,
that God will grant us grace to be faithful to his covenant
and to grow in the love of his name.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

President

Lord God of Abraham,
bless the children of your covenant, both Jew and Christian;
take from us all blindness and bitterness of heart,
and hasten the coming of your kingdom,
when the Gentiles shall be gathered in,
all Israel shall be saved,
and we shall dwell together in mutual love and peace
under the one God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Minister

Let us pray for those who do not believe the gospel of Christ:
for those who have not heard the message of salvation,
for all who have lost faith,
for the contemptuous and scornful,
for those who are enemies of Christ
and persecute those who follow him,
for all who deny the faith of Christ crucified,
that God will open their hearts to the truth
and lead them to faith and obedience.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

President

Merciful God,
creator of all the people of the earth,
have compassion on all who do not know you,
and by the preaching of your gospel with grace and power,
gather them into the one fold of the one Shepherd;
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Minister

Let us pray for all those who suffer:
for those who are deprived and oppressed,
for all who are sick,
for those in darkness, in doubt and in despair, in loneliness and in fear,
for prisoners, captives and refugees,
for the victims of false accusations and violence,
for all at the point of death and those who watch beside them,
that God in his mercy will sustain them
with the knowledge of his love.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

President

Almighty and everlasting God,
the comfort of the sad, the strength of those who suffer:
hear the prayers of your children who cry out of any trouble,
and to every distressed soul grant mercy, relief and refreshment,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Minister

Let us commend ourselves and all God's children to his unfailing love,
and pray for the grace of a holy life,
that, with all who have died in the peace of Christ,
we may come to the fullness of eternal life
and the joy of the resurrection.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

President

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light,
look favourably on your whole Church,
that wonderful and sacred mystery,
and by the tranquil operation of your perpetual providence
carry out the work of our salvation:
and let the whole world feel and see
that things which were cast down are being raised up
and things which had grown old are being made new,
that all things are returning to perfection
through him from whom they took their origin,
even Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A hymn is sung in preparation for the proclamation and veneration of the cross.

When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small:
love so amazing, so divine
demands my soul, my life, my all.

[TiS 342]

Isaac Watts 1674-1748

The Proclamation of the Cross

The people remain standing for this part of the liturgy.

As the cross is brought into the church, the bearer stops three times, and says:

We adore you, O Christ and we bless you,
because, by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

After the third stop the cross is held by the Presider. The people are invited to come and gather in the sanctuary, and make an act of devotion to the crucified one by kissing or touching the cross and spending a moment of prayer before the cross.

O Saviour of the world,
By your cross and precious blood
you have redeemed us.
**Save us, and help us,
We humbly beseech you, O Lord.**

When all have venerated the Cross, it is placed on the floor of the sanctuary, a visual reminder to us that at the evening hour, Christ rested in the sepulchre.

The Breaking of the Bread and the Communion

The Communion, is prepared as the people say/sing the Agnus Dei.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

The Presider breaks the bread, then says

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

The Presider invites the people to receive the Holy Communion.

Our Lord and Saviour, on the night he was betrayed
instructed us to take bread, break and share it;
and likewise, after blessing a cup of wine, to drink it
in remembrance of this very day.
Come: this is the table, not of the Church but of the Lord.

After Communion is distributed:

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,
**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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil. Amen.**

*A single candle in a red light will be lit at the head of the cross.
All lights are then extinguished.*

The final prayer is said

Lord Jesus Christ,
The story of your suffering is written on our hearts,
and the salvation of the world is in your
outstretched hands.
Keep your victory always before our eyes,
your praise on our lips,
your peace in our lives. **Amen.**

The ministers and people depart in silence.

Our Mission Giving for the Season of Lent.

Parishioners are requested to return their special ABM Lent/Good Friday mission envelopes in support of women and children in the Holy Land, either through the offertory or forward to the Parish Office.

EASTER DAWN SERVICE

5.45 for 6 am | Church of the Resurrection, Macedon

EASTER DAY SERVICE

9 am | St Paul's Church, Gisborne

5 pm | Sunday Arvo @ 5, St John's, Riddells Creek