

Sunday 26 March 2023

#### Notices

- Mardles available
  - Hethel Teas – 2-5pm TODAY!
- Tenebrae – change of date – Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> April
  - Oxford Pilgrims – Tue 4<sup>th</sup> April
- Maundy Thursday Communion, 7:30pm, 6<sup>th</sup> April
  - Walk with Cross – 10am, Fri 7<sup>th</sup> April
  - Village Hall EGM – Tue 18<sup>th</sup> April, 7:30pm

#### Passion Sunday

**We have come together in the name of Christ  
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,  
to hear and receive God's holy word,  
to pray for the needs of the world,  
and to seek the forgiveness of our sins,  
that, by the power of the Holy Spirit  
we may give ourselves to the service of God.  
Amen.**

#### Saying Sorry

Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'"

Let us return to the Lord and say to him, as the prodigal son did:

**Father, we have sinned against heaven and against you.**

**We are not worthy to be called your children.**

**We turn to you again.**

**Have mercy on us,**

**bring us back to yourself**

**as those who once were dead**

**but now have life through Christ our Lord.**

**AMEN**

#### Receiving Forgiveness

May God who loved the world so much  
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour,  
forgive us our sins and make us holy to serve him in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

#### Collect for Passion Sunday

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection  
of your Son,

Jesus Christ, delivered  
and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him  
who suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power  
of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

### Sung Creed

#### John 11:1-45 (NIV)

Now a man named Lazarus was ill. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup> (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay ill, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) <sup>3</sup> So the sisters sent word to Jesus, 'Lord, the one you love is ill.'

<sup>4</sup> When he heard this, Jesus said, 'This illness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it.' <sup>5</sup> Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. <sup>6</sup> So when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed where he was two more days, <sup>7</sup> and then he said to his disciples, 'Let us go back to Judea.'

<sup>8</sup> 'But Rabbi,' they said, 'a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?'

<sup>9</sup> Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the day-time will not stumble, for they see by this world's light. <sup>10</sup> It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light.'

<sup>11</sup> After he had said this, he went on to tell them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up.'

<sup>12</sup> His disciples replied, 'Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better.' <sup>13</sup> Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.

<sup>14</sup> So then he told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead, <sup>15</sup> and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.'

<sup>16</sup> Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

<sup>17</sup> On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. <sup>18</sup> Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, <sup>19</sup> and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. <sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

<sup>21</sup> 'Lord,' Martha said to Jesus, 'if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.'

<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.'

<sup>24</sup> Martha answered, 'I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.'

<sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; <sup>26</sup> and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?'

<sup>27</sup> ‘Yes, Lord,’ she replied, ‘I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.’

<sup>28</sup> After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. ‘The Teacher is here,’ she said, ‘and is asking for you.’ <sup>29</sup> When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup> When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there.

<sup>32</sup> When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’

<sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. <sup>34</sup> ‘Where have you laid him?’ he asked. ‘Come and see, Lord,’ they replied.

<sup>35</sup> Jesus wept.

<sup>36</sup> Then the Jews said, ‘See how he loved him!’

<sup>37</sup> But some of them said, ‘Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?’

<sup>38</sup> Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. <sup>39</sup> ‘Take away the stone,’ he said.

‘But, Lord,’ said Martha, the sister of the dead man, ‘by this time there is a bad odour, for he has been there four days.’

<sup>40</sup> Then Jesus said, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?’

<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, ‘Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.’

<sup>43</sup> When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ <sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, ‘Take off the grave clothes and let him go.’

<sup>45</sup> Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

## **Passion Sunday Reflection**

Adrian Miller

[All I once held dear](#)

[Sharing Journeys](#)

[To be in Your Presence](#)

[I will offer up my life](#)

[Our Prayers](#)

led by Rachel

### The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we 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.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom,  
the power and glory are yours  
now and forever.  
Amen.**

### When I survey the wondrous cross

#### The Sending Out

We believe that by his dying  
Christ destroyed death for ever.

**AMEN**

We have been crucified with Christ  
and live by faith in the Son of God,  
who loved us and gave himself for us.

**AMEN**

May he send us out to glory in his cross,  
and live no longer for ourselves  
but for him,  
who died and was raised to life for us.

**AMEN**

#### Closing Blessing

Now may the peace of God,  
which passes understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of His Son, Jesus Christ  
our Lord.

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you,  
now and always. **Amen.**