

**Evening Service**

for Good Friday

2nd April 2021 at 19:30

**Welcome to Lichfield Cathedral**

Thank you for being here this evening as we gather as sisters and brothers in Christ to stand together on this Good Friday at the foot of the cross of Christ.

You are most welcome here in the Cathedral for this service of worship and reflection.

**Live Streaming**

The service is livestreamed to YouTube. Please click [here](https://youtu.be/Q5s5xSCWMZQ) for the link.

**Music & Speech**

There is no congregational singing allowed at this time and additionally we are also asked to speak softly. The organ will be played by the Assistant Director of Music, Martyn Rawles. The hymns will be sung by cantors.

*The congregation is invited to join in all the words in* ***bold type.***

*Please stand as the worship leaders enter the crossing sanctuary.*

**Order of Service**

**Welcome**: The Revd Canon Gregory Platten. *Canon Chancellor*

**Introduction**: Robert Mountford

*Quiet*

**First Reading**: *Luke 23:32-34*

Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with Jesus to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

**Reflection**: *“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing”.*

*Quiet.*

**Prayer**

*Refrain:* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,

**for by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Hymn** – *Sung by the Cantors only:* Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

**Second Reading**: *Luke 23: 39-43*

One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” Jesus answered, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise”.

**Reflection**: *“Truly I tell you, today you shall be with me in paradise”.*

*Quiet*

**Prayer**

*Refrain:* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,

**for by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Third Reading**: *John 19:25-27*

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, “Woman, here is your son,” and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

**Reflection**: *“Woman, here is your son...Here is your mother”.*

*Quiet*

**Prayer**

*Refrain:* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,

**for by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Fourth Reading**: *Mark 15: 33-34*

At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried in a loud voice, ‘Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?’ (which means “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”)

**Reflection**: *“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”*

*Quiet*

**Prayer**

*Refrain:* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,

**for by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Hymn** – *Sung by the Cantors only:* O Sacred head sore wounded

**Fifth Reading:** *John 19: 28*

Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.”

**Reflection**: *“I am thirsty”.*

*Quiet*

**Prayer**

*Refrain:* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,

**for by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Sixth Reading**: *John 19:29-30*

A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips. When he had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

**Reflection**: *‘It is finished’.*

*Quiet*

**Prayer**

*Refrain:* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,

**for by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Hymn** – *Sung by the Cantors only:* When I survey the wondrous cross

**Seventh Reading**: *Luke 23: 44-46*

It was about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit”. When he said this, he breathed his last.

**Reflection**: *“Father, into your hands I commit my spirit”.*

*Quiet*

**Prayer**

*Refrain:* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,

**for by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.**

The Lord be with you: **and also with you.**

**The Lord’s Prayer.**

**Blessing**:

May God bless us,

that in us may be found love and humility,

obedience and thanksgiving,

discipline, gentleness and peace. **Amen.**

*Everyone is asked to leave in silence*

*under the direction of the Stewards.*