

DARLING DOWNS PARISH OF THE AELC
TRINITY OAKLEY, ST PAUL'S GREENWOOD, ST JOHN'S AUBIGNY,
BETHLEHEM TOOWOOMBA

5 April 2017

Bulletin for the 6th Lenten Service

HYMNS: 53 338 73 48 v.3

PSALM: O LORD, listen to my prayer! Open Your ears to my pleas for favour!
Answer me in Your faithfulness and in Your righteousness!

Do not bring Your servant into judgment! For in Your sight there is no one alive
who is righteous.

For the enemy has been pursuing my life. He has crushed my life to the ground.

He has been making me live in dark places, like those who have died long ago.

Therefore my spirit inside me has become faint. My heart inside me has been
overcome with numbness.

I remember the days of long ago. I have been meditating on all that You have
done. I am meditating on what Your hands have done.

I have been spreading out my hands to You. My soul is thirsting for You like a
parched land. Selah

Answer me quickly, O LORD! My spirit has been wasting away. Do not hide Your
face from me, or I shall be like those who are going down into the pit!

Cause me to hear about Your mercy in the morning! For I trust in You. Cause me
to know the way on which I should go! For I have been lifting up my soul to You.

Rescue me from my enemies, O LORD! I have come to You to conceal myself
away.

Teach me to do what You desire! For You are my God. May Your good Spirit lead
me on level ground!

For Your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life! In Your righteousness, bring my
soul out of trouble!

In Your mercy You will silence my enemies, and destroy all who are hostile toward
me! For I am Your servant.

Psalm 143

COLLECT: Lord Jesus, You bring light to those who dwell in darkness and make
Your love known to them. Enter not into judgment with Your servants, but
strengthen us in the saving faith and guide us into the land of perfect peace
where with the Father and the Holy Spirit You live and reign, one God, now and
forever. Amen.

SERMON: Mark 14:32-38 Repent: Turn to Jesus when you face temptations

1st Reading: Isaiah 49:1-6

¹ “Listen to Me, you coastlands! Pay attention, you distant nations! The LORD has called Me from the womb. Before My mother gave birth to Me, He made mention of My Name. ² He has made My mouth like a sharp sword and has hidden Me in the shadow of His hand. He has made Me into a polished arrow and has hidden Me in His quiver. ³ He has told Me, ‘You are My Servant, Israel, through whom I shall glorify Myself.’ ⁴ However, I Myself said, ‘I have laboured in vain. I have spent My strength uselessly and for nothing. Yet surely My just cause is with the LORD, and My recompense is with My God.’ ⁵ Now the LORD has spoken — the One who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, to bring Jacob back to Him and to gather Israel to Him, and in order that I may be glorified in the sight of the LORD. My God has also become My Strength —. ⁶ He has said, ‘It is too insignificant for You to be My Servant, to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to bring back those in Israel whom I have preserved. I shall also make You a Light for the Gentiles so that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth.’”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Drawn from the Four Gospels, Part 6

Two other men, who were criminals, were also led out to be executed with Him. When they had come to a place called “Golgotha,” which means “The Place of a Skull,” **they offered Him a drink** of wine mixed with **gall**, but, when He had tasted it, He refused to drink it. At that time two criminals were crucified with Him, one at His right and the other at His left.

Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them! For they do not know what they are doing.”

It was the third hour when they crucified Him.

Pilate also wrote a notice and put it on the cross. It read: “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.”

Therefore many Jews read this notice, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city. The notice had been written in Aramaic, Latin, and Greek. The high priests of the Jews told Pilate, “Do not write: ‘The King of the Jews,’ but: ‘He said, “I am the King of the Jews”!”

Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.”

So when the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took His outer garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier, and also the undergarment. The undergarment was without a seam, woven from the top in one piece. Therefore they said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but let us throw dice for it, to decide who will get it!”

This happened in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled that says: “**They divided My outer garments among them, and they cast lots for My clothing.**”¹

So that is what the soldiers did. Then they sat down there and kept watch over Him.

Those who were going past kept **ridiculing** Him, **shaking their heads**, and saying, “Ha! You who are tearing down the temple and building it in three days, come down from the cross, and save Yourself!”

¹ Psalm 22:18

In the same way the chief priests and the scribes kept **mocking** Him among themselves, saying, “He saved others. He cannot save Himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, now come down from the cross, in order that we may see and believe!”

Those who had been crucified with Him also kept **insulting** Him.²

One of the criminals who hung there was blaspheming Him: “Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!”

However, the other criminal rebuked him. He said, “Do you not even fear God? For you are under the same condemnation. We are also being punished justly. For we are getting what we deserve for what we have done. However, this Man has done nothing wrong.”

Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom!”

Jesus told him, “Truly, I tell you, today you will be with Me in paradise.”³

Jesus’ mother, His mother’s sister, Mary, the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene were standing near the cross of Jesus.

Therefore, when Jesus saw His mother and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, “Woman, there is your son.” Then He said to the disciple, “There is your mother.”

From that time on, this disciple took her into his own home.⁴

At noon darkness came over the whole land and lasted until three in the afternoon. About three o’clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “**Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?**” which means, “**My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?**”

When some of those standing there heard this, they said, “This man is calling Elijah.”

After this, knowing that everything had now been finished, in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled, Jesus said, “**I am thirsty.**”

A jar full of **sour wine** had been placed there. So they put a sponge full of the sour wine on hyssop and lifted it to His mouth.

When Jesus had taken the sour wine, He said, “**It is finished.**”

Jesus cried out aloud, “Father, **into Your hands I commit My spirit.**”

After He had said this, He breathed His last.

Just then the curtain in the temple was torn in two from the top to the bottom. The earth shook and the rocks were split. The tombs were opened and many bodies of the saints who had died were raised. They came out of the tombs, after Jesus had risen, went into the Holy City, and appeared to many people.

When the captain and those who were watching Jesus with him saw the earthquake and the other things that happened, they were terrified. They said, “Truly, this Man was the Son of God!”

When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what had happened, they beat their breasts and went away. Many women were there, watching **from a distance**. They had followed Jesus from Galilee and used to support Him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of Zebedee’s sons.

² Matthew 27:33-44; Mark 15:20-32; Luke 23:26-38; John 19:16-24

³ Luke 23:39-43

⁴ John 19:25-27

Since it was the Day of Preparation, to prevent the bodies from remaining on the cross on the Sabbath, and because that Sabbath day was an important one, the Jews asked Pilate that the men's legs should be broken, and the bodies taken away. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man and those of the other man who had been crucified with Jesus. However, when they came to Jesus and saw that He was dead already, they did not break His legs; but one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. He who has seen it has been testifying about it. His testimony is true, and he knows he is telling the truth, in order that you also may believe. For these things happened in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled: "**None of His bones shall be broken!**" Again another Scripture-passage says: "**They will look at the One whom they have pierced.**"⁵

When evening had already come, since it was the Day of Preparation, which is the day before the Sabbath, Joseph from Arimathea, a prominent member of the Council, who himself also was waiting for the kingdom of God, dared to go in to Pilate and ask for the body of Jesus. Pilate wondered whether Jesus had already died. So he summoned the centurion, and asked him if Jesus was already dead. When he had found from the centurion that this was so, Pilate granted the body to Joseph. Joseph bought linen, took Him down, and wrapped Him in the linen. Nicodemus also came, the man who had come to Jesus by night at the beginning. He brought a mixture of about thirty kilograms of myrrh and aloes.

Therefore they took Jesus' body and wrapped it in strips of linen with the spices according to the Jewish burial-custom.

There was a garden at the place where Jesus was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb, in which no one had yet been laid. So they laid Jesus there, because it was the Jewish Day of Preparation and because the tomb was nearby.

Joseph took the body, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. After he rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb, he went away.

The women who had come with Him from Galilee followed closely behind. They observed the tomb and how His body was laid. When they went back they prepared spices and perfumes. Then they rested on the Sabbath according to the Commandment.⁶

The next day, the one after the Day of Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees met with Pilate. They said, "Sir, we remember how that deceiver said while He was still alive, 'After three days I shall rise.' Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, to keep His disciples from coming and stealing Him, and telling the people, 'He has been raised from the dead!' Then the latter deception will be worse than the former."

Pilate told them, "You have a guard. Go and make it as secure as you know how!"

So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and posting the guard.⁷

P: Here ends the reading.

The congregation stands.

⁵ Matthew 27:45-56; Mark 15:33-41; Luke 23:44-49; John 19:28-40

⁶ Matthew 27:57-61; Mark 15:42-47; Luke 23:50-56; John 19:38-42

⁷ Matthew 27:62-66