

**CONGREGATIONS OF THE AELC**  
**TRINITY OAKEY, ST PAUL'S GREENWOOD, ST JOHN'S AUBIGNY, BETHLEHEM TOOWOOMBA**  
**TRINITY MARBURG, ST JOHN'S MINDEN, OUR SAVIOUR LOWOOD**

10 April 2020  
Bulletin for Good Friday

**ORDER OF SERVICE WITHOUT HOLY COMMUNION**

THE INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

HYMN 59 JESUS, I WILL PONDER NOW

1 Jesus, I will ponder now On Thy holy passion; With Thy Spirit me endow For such meditation. Grant that I in love and faith May the image cherish Of Thy suffering, pain, and death That I may not perish.	3 Show me not alone Thy pain, Torment, and affliction; Let me see the cause and gain Of Thy crucifixion. Ah, my sin caused all the woe That Thou, Lord, hast suffered, Pard'ning grace dost Thou bestow, Gained when Thou wast offered.	5 If my sins give me alarm And my conscience grieve me, Let Thy cross my fear disarm, Peace of conscience give me. Grant that I may trust in Thee And Thy holy passion; If His Son so loveth me, God must have compassion.
2 Make me see Thy great distress, Anguish, and affliction, Bonds, and stripes, and wretchedness, And Thy crucifixion; Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails, did wound Thee, How Thou diedst for man, O God, Who with thorns had crowned Thee.	4 Grant that I Thy passion view With repentant grieving, Nor Thee crucify anew By unholy living. How could I refuse to shun Every sinful pleasure, Since for me God's only Son Suffered without measure.	6 Grant that I may willingly Bear with Thee my crosses, Learning humbleness of Thee, Peace mid pain and losses. May I give Thee love for love; Hear me, O my Saviour, That I may in heaven above Sing Thy praise for ever.

THE CONFESSION

Dear friends in Christ: Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins, and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Our help is in the name of the Lord. **He made heaven and earth.**

I said, I will confess my sins to the Lord. **Then He forgave the guilt of my sin.**

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we confess to You that by nature we are sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy and plead for Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Most merciful God, You have given Your only Son to die for us: Have mercy on us, and for His sake grant us forgiveness of all our sins. By Your Holy Spirit increase our knowledge of You and Your will, and make us obedient to Your Word, so that by Your grace we may come to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He has given the right to become the children of God, and has given them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all. Amen.

THE INTROIT

My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from saving Me, from the Words of My groaning?  
O My God, I cry out by day, but You do not answer, and by night, and I am not silent.  
Nevertheless, You are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.  
Our fathers trusted in You. They trusted and You delivered them.  
They cried to You and were rescued. They trusted in You and were not ashamed.  
However, I am a worm and not a man, scorned by human beings and despised by the people.

All those who see Me ridicule Me. They open their lips wide. They shake their heads, saying, "Commit it to the LORD! Let Him rescue Him! Let Him deliver Him! For He takes pleasure in Him."

Nevertheless, You are the One who brought Me out of the womb, the One who made Me trust while on My mother's breasts. I have been cast on You from the womb. From My mother's womb You have been My God.

Do not be far from Me! For trouble is near, for there is no one to help.

Many bulls have surrounded Me. Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled Me.

They have opened their mouths against Me like a mangling and roaring lion.

I have been poured out like water, and all My bones have separated from each other. My heart has become like wax. It has melted inside my chest.

My strength has dried up like baked clay. My tongue clings to My palate, and You are putting Me on the dust of death. For dogs have surrounded Me. A gang of evil-doers has encircled Me. Like a lion they are at My hands and My feet.

I can count all My bones. People look and stare at Me.

They divide My garments among them, and they cast lots for My clothing.

However, You, O LORD, do not be far away! O My Strength, come quickly to help Me!

Rescue My soul from the sword! Rescue My lonely soul from the power of the dog!

Save Me from the lion's mouth! You have answered Me from the horns of wild oxen.

Let Me declare Your name to My brothers! I shall praise You in the middle of the assembly.

You who fear the LORD, praise Him! All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him! Be afraid of Him, all you descendants of Israel!

For He has not despised or detested the misery of the Wretched One, and He has not hidden His face from Him. Rather, when He cried to Him for help, He heard.

My praise comes from You in the great assembly. I shall fulfil My vows in the presence of those who fear Him.

Humble people will eat and be satisfied. Those who seek the LORD will praise Him. May your hearts live for ever!

All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD. All the families of the nations will worship before You.

For the kingship belongs to the LORD, and He rules over the nations.

All the prosperous people of the earth have been eating and worshipping. All those who go down to the dust will kneel before Him, even the one who could not keep himself alive.

Descendants will serve Him. The coming generation will be told about the Lord.

They will come and tell about His righteousness to a people yet to be born. For He has accomplished it.

Psalm 22

#### THE GLORY TO THE FATHER

**Glory to the Father and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and will be for evermore. Amen.**

#### THE LORD HAVE MERCY

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.

#### THE GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

Glory to God in the highest.

**And on earth peace, among men with whom He is pleased. We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for Your great glory, O Lord God, heavenly king, God, the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer. You are seated at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us. For You alone are holy, You alone are Lord, You alone, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

#### THE COLLECT

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

The First Reading for \_\_\_\_\_ is written in chapter \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, beginning at verse \_\_\_\_\_.

After the reading:

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND READING

The Second Reading is written in chapter \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, beginning at verse \_\_\_\_\_.

After the reading: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Christ humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death; even death on the cross.**

THE GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel is written in the \_\_\_\_\_ chapter of the Gospel according to \_\_\_\_\_, beginning at verse \_\_\_\_\_.

**Glory be to You, O Lord.**

After the Gospel: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

HYMN 61 ALAS! AND DID MY SAVIOUR BLEED

1  
Alas! And did my Saviour bleed,  
And did my sovereign die?  
Would He devote that sacred head  
For such a worm as I?

2  
Was it for crimes that I had done  
He groaned upon the tree?  
Amazing pity, grace unknown,  
And love beyond degree!

3  
Well might the sun in darkness hide,  
And shut his glories in,  
When God, the mighty Maker, died  
For man, the creature's sin.

4  
Thus might I hide my blushing face  
While His dear cross appears,  
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,  
And melt mine eyes to tears.

5  
But drops of grief can ne'er repay  
The debt of love I owe:  
Here, Lord, I give myself away;  
'Tis all that I can do.

SERMON - THE GREATEST BATTLE EVER FOUGHT Matthew 27:45-50

HYMN 404 LORD, AS THOU WILT, DEAL THOU WITH ME

1  
Lord, as Thou wilt, deal Thou with me,  
No other wish I cherish;  
In life and death I cling to Thee,  
O Lord, let me not perish.  
Let not Thy grace from me depart,  
And grant an ever-patient heart  
To bear what Thou dost send me.

2  
Grant honour, truth, and purity;  
Let me Thy Word e'er cherish,  
From error wild keep Thou me free,  
Lest, losing Thee, I perish.  
Grant what will serve my heavenly bliss;  
Preserve me from unrighteousness  
Throughout my earthly journey.

When, at Thy summons, I must leave  
 This world of sin and sadness,  
 Grant me Thy grace, Lord, not to grieve,  
 But to depart with gladness.  
 To Thee my spirit I commend;  
 O Lord, grant me a blessed end  
 Through Jesus Christ my Saviour.

#### THE PRAYER

#### LORD'S PRAYER:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

#### THE BLESSING

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favour, and give us peace. **Amen.**

#### HYMN 81 O PERFECT LIFE OF LOVE

1  
 O perfect life of love!  
 All, all, is finished now;  
 All that He left His throne above  
 To do for us below.

2  
 No work is left undone  
 Of all the Father willed;  
 His toil, His sorrows, one by one,  
 The Scripture have fulfilled.

3  
 No pain that we can share  
 But He has felt its smart;  
 All forms of human grief and care  
 Have pierced that tender heart.

4  
 And on His thorn-crowned head,  
 And on His sinless soul,  
 Our sins in all their guilt were laid,  
 That He might make us whole.

5  
 In perfect love He dies:  
 For me He dies, for me;  
 O all-atoning sacrifice,  
 I cling by faith to Thee.

6  
 In every time of need,  
 Before the judgement-throne,  
 Thy work, O Lamb of God, I'll plead,  
 Thy merits, not my own.

7

Yet work, O Lord, in me  
 As Thou for me hast wrought;  
 And let my love the answer be  
 To grace Thy love has brought.

#### **The Death of a Divine Redeemer Was Necessary**

*Ah, Lord God! People should forever rejoice because of this blessed, comforting article, should rejoice in true faith, without any disputing and doubting. We should sing, praise, and thank God the Father for the unspeakable mercy of letting His dear Son become like us, a man and a brother. But through proud, ambitious, incorrigible people the wretched devil creates such trouble that this precious and blessed joy must be hindered and spoiled. God have mercy! We Christians must know that if God is not in the scale to give it weight, our side of the scale sinks to the ground. What I mean is this: If it cannot be said that God, not a mere man, dies for us, we are lost. But if God's death and a God who has died lie in the balance, His side goes down and ours snaps up as though it were light and empty...*

*But He could not be in the scale without becoming a man like us, so that we could speak of God's dying, God's suffering, of God's blood, God's death. For God in His own nature cannot die; but now, since God and man are united in one Person, the death of the man with whom God is one Thing or Person is justly called the death of God.*

*Martin Luther*