

**Service for
Passion Sunday
(Fifth Sunday of Lent)**



St Laurence Church, Downton

21 March 2021

Preparation

Call to Worship

Christ died for all,
so that we may live.

Those who live no longer live for themselves,
but for him who died and was raised for them.

2 Cor 5:15

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Team Rector introduces the service

Hymn: Just as I am, without one plea
(St Martin's Voices)

Just as I am, without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings within and fears without,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve:
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down,
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, of that free love
the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,
here for a season, then above,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871)

Gathering:

Almighty God,
your Son Jesus Christ endured the cross for our sake.
Remove from us all coldness and cowardice of heart,
and give us courage to take up our cross and follow him;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Methodist Worship Book

Prayer:

Look upon us, O Lord,
and let all the darkness of our souls
vanish before the beams of your brightness.
Fill us with holy love,
and open to us the treasures of your wisdom.
All our desire is known to you,
therefore perfect what you have begun,
and what your Spirit has awakened us to ask in prayer.
We seek your face,
turn your face to us and show us your glory.
Then shall our longing be satisfied,
and our peace shall be perfect. **Amen.**

Augustine (354-430)

For those whose lives are broken by distress
May the God of healing restore you.

For those whose lives are broken by fear
May the God of healing restore you.

For those whose lives are broken by anger
May the God of healing restore you.

For those whose lives are broken by pain
May the God of healing restore you.

For those whose lives are broken by illness
May the God of healing restore you.

For those whose lives are broken by sin
May the God of healing restore you.

God of healing
gently touch these lives with your Spirit
Bring warmth and comfort,
life and wholeness
restoration into fractured lives and souls. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings:

Hebrews 5:5-10

John 12:20-33

After each reading:

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Reflection by Bishop Karen

Music: *God so loved the world* - John Stainer
(St Martin's Voices)

Prayers

We are led in a time of prayer

This response is used:

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer is said:

Trusting in the compassion of God
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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,
the power, and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Conclusion

The Collect

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.**

Blessing:

You have been crucified with Christ
and live by faith in the Son of God,
who loved you and gave himself for you.
May he send you out to glory in his cross,
and to live no longer for yourselves but for him,
who died and was raised to life for us;
And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you,
and remain with you always. **Amen.**

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will never die.

Praise to you, O Christ,
King of eternal glory!

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.