

Thought for the day: Ian Ward

Crucifixion was a barbarous form of execution. It was designed to humiliate, torture and then kill. Nothing unusual about the barbarity of Jesus' death. On one occasion a local king had had 800 of his opponents crucified while their families were killed in front of them.

So why do we remember the death of just one man. Is today simply a memorial to the brutal end to a remarkable life? How did this act of horror and failure become such a powerful symbol of hope?

Those authorities wanted to put a stop to Jesus once and for all. On that cross all those years ago Jesus took on the greatest challenge and fear of all. Jesus met death head on and turned it inside out.

Sunday is coming, and you can't keep a good man down.

Who, O Lord, could save themselves,
their own soul could heal?

Our shame was deeper than the sea;
Your grace is deeper still.

You alone can rescue, You alone can save.

*You alone can lift us from the grave.
You came down to find us, led us out of death.*

To You alone belongs the highest praise.

You, O Lord, have made a way,
The great divide You healed;
For when our hearts were far away,
Your love went further still.

Yes, Your love goes further still!
We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes;
You're the giver of life
We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes,
You're the giver of life.

Matt Redman & Jonas Myrin © 2009 Thankyou Music/Said And Done Music

Hallelujah, my Father,
for giving us Your Son;
Sending Him into the world,
to be given up for men.
Knowing we would bruise Him
and smite Him from the earth.

Hallelujah, my Father,
in His death is my birth;
Hallelujah, my Father,
In His life is my life.

Tim Cullen © 1975 Celebration/Kingsway's Thankyou Music

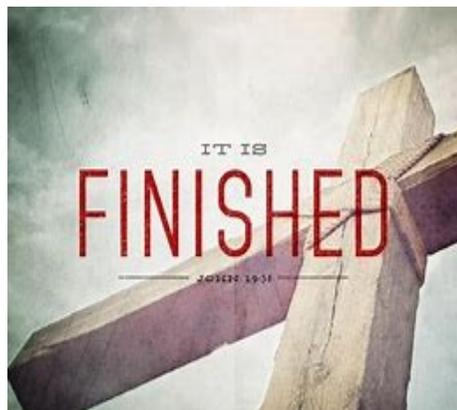
When I Survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ my God:
all the vain things that charm me
most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head His hands His feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down:
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown.

Were the whole realm of nature
mine,
that were an offering far too small,
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul my life my all.

Isaac Watts



HolyTrinity
Boston

*'Loving Jesus
Serving others'*

Maundy Thursday 1st April 2021 at 7.30pm



Opening prayer: God our Father, you have invited us to share in the supper which your Son gave to his Church to proclaim his death until he comes: may he nourish us by his presence, and unite us in his love; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Reading: Luke 22:7-22 ⁷Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. ⁸Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover." ⁹"Where do you want us to prepare for it?" they asked. ¹⁰He replied, "As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, ¹¹and say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹²He will show you a large room upstairs, all furnished. Make preparations there." ¹³They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover. ¹⁴When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. ¹⁵And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfilment in the kingdom of God." ¹⁷After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. ¹⁸For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." ¹⁹And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you." ²¹But the hand of him who is going to betray me is with mine on the table. ²²The Son of Man will go as it has been decreed. But woe to that man who betrays him!" ²³They began to question among themselves which of them it might be who would do this.

Thought for the day: Paula Sargeant

For the last year, our sharing in Holy Communion, The Lord's Supper, The Eucharist, or however we choose to describe it, has looked very different, as have most elements of our corporate worship! Even in 'normal' times, there are such diversities of liturgical practice, of theological interpretation, not to mention valid presidency, it's even confusing for those on the inside, never mind what it looks like to those we are trying to introduce to Jesus! What, then, are the essentials of our gathering and sharing together and why did Jesus ask us to remember him in the way that he did? Is it the way in which we remember or the remembering itself that matters? Or both? How has our faith been affected by being unable to remember in the ways to which we've become accustomed and what lessons can we learn if, heaven forbid, we find our gatherings similarly compromised in the future?

Come, now is the time to worship,

come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship,
come, just as you are before your God, come.

*One day every tongue will confess You are God.
One day every knee will bow.
Still the greatest treasure remains for those
Who gladly choose you now.*

Brian Doerksen
© 1998 Vineyard Songs (UK/Eire)

**From heaven You came,
helpless babe,**

Entered our world, Your glory veiled;
Not to be served but to serve,
and give Your life that we might live.

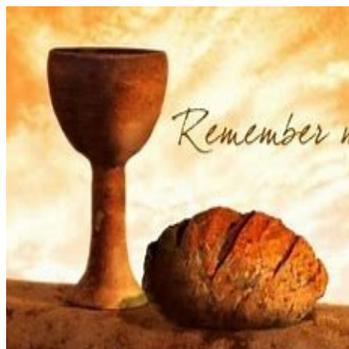
*This is our God, the Servant King,
He calls us now to follow Him,
To bring our lives as a daily offering
Of worship to the Servant King.*

There in the garden of tears,
My heavy load He chose to bear;
His heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not My will but Yours,' He said.

Come see His hands and His feet,
The scars that speak of sacrifice;
Hands that flung stars into space
To cruel nails surrendered.

So let us learn how to serve,
And in our lives enthrone Him;
Each other's needs to prefer,
For it is Christ we're serving.

Graham Kendrick
© 1983 Kingsway's Thankyou Music



Make me a channel of your peace.

Where there is hatred let me bring your love;
Where there is injury your pardon, Lord;
And where there's doubt true faith in you.

*Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope;
Where there is darkness, only light;
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
In giving to all men that we receive;
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Words and Music Sebastian Temple
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**Good Friday
2nd April 2021 at 12 noon**



Opening prayer:

Eternal God, in the cross of Jesus we see the cost of our sin and the depth of your love: in humble hope and fear may we place at his feet all that we have and all that we are, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Reading: Luke 23:26-43

²⁶As the soldiers led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. ²⁸Jesus turned and said to them, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹For the time will come when you will say, 'Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' ³⁰Then "they will say to the mountains, "Fall on us!" and to the hills, "Cover us!" ³¹For if people do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?" ³²Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. ³³When 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. ³⁴Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. ³⁵The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One." ³⁶The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar ³⁷and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." ³⁸There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. ³⁹One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? ⁴¹We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."