

Our meditation today will continue unannounced and is based around all that took place during Holy Week as witnessed through the eyes of the Apostle John.

We suggest that you do not use the church Bibles for the readings, but use the opportunity to listen anew and wonder afresh.

Please use the meditation and times of silence to both reflect and allow God's spirit to speak to your hearts and minds.

At the close of our meditation, the church will remain open, stay as long as you wish, but please leave in silence.

Gathering

All Heavenly Father,

We gather in this place today in sorrow and in shame.

We look for forgiveness, strength and mercy -

though we know we deserve none.

We gather to remember what took place when our Saviour died.

We gather together to mourn, and to try to understand what

happened on that terrible day.

The day that Jesus showed the depth of his love for us by suffering

and dying in our place.

Leader Heavenly Father,

Our hearts are heavy as we gather in the name of our crucified Lord:

All Jesus, who died for our sins.

Leader We remember with horror Him hanging on the cross:

All Jesus, who died for our sins.

Leader We remember the evil in the world around him:

All Jesus, who died for our sins.

Leader We remember too, Father, that have we denied our Lord:

All Jesus, who died for our sins.

Leader We remember that we, too, have betrayed our Lord:

All Jesus, who died for our sins.

All Forgive us, Lord, and love us still. AMEN.

John's Story of the Cross

Jesus Is Betrayed And Arrested
John 18:1-11

Jesus Before The High Priest

Peter's Denies Jesus John 18:15-18 &25-27.

Jesus Before Pilate John 18:28-40

Jesus Is Sentenced
John 19:1-6

Jesus Is Crucified
John 19:19-27

Jesus Gives Up His Spirit
John 19:28-30

Jesus Is Taken From The Cross And Buried
John 19:31-42

Final Thoughts

At the end of each meditation, a candle will be extinguished and the following words will be said:

Leader These things are written that you may believe:

All That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing we may have life in his name (John 20:31).

From Isaiah 53

Leader He took our in firmities and carried our sorrows,

yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten and afflicted.

All But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our

iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him,

by His wounds we are healed.

Leader We all, like sheep have gone astray; each of us has turned to our own

way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

All He was oppressed and afflicted, yet He did not open his mouth.

He was led like a lamb to the slaughter and as a sheep before her

shearers is dumb, He did not open his mouth.

Song

'O Love That Will Not Let Me Go'

Rob Halligan

Closing Prayer

Leader Lord Jesus Christ, as we leave this place today, help us to reflect in our

hearts on who You are and what You have done for us.

Help us to understand, and in understanding, help us to accept

Your love and forgiveness.

Make us a people who have Your faith and Your courage in times of

darkness and trial.

A people who, like You, walk in humble obedience to the Father's will.

All Lord Jesus Christ,

We thank for the cruel pains and insults you bore on our behalf.

We thank you for the love you showed to us on the cross.

Lord Jesus Christ, Redeemer, Friend and Brother;

May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly,

and follow you more nearly, day by day. AMEN.

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