Monday of Holy Week – 25 March 2024 Audio Service

The Servant King and the Garden of Tears.

Welcome to this audio service for the Monday of Holy Week. At some services during this Holy Week, we will be exploring the theme of 'The Garden of Tears'. You may have begun this Holy Week yesterday by participating in the one of our Palm Sunday services and we now journey with Christ in this Passiontide. The first verse of the hymn 'The Servant King' gives us a focus for this journey:

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.

So we meet in the name of God, **Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

We meet in the presence of God who knows our needs, hears our cries, feels our pain, and heals our wounds.

So let us begin our journey ...

Hymn: The royal banners forward go sung by St Martin's Voices

The royal banners forward go; the cross shines forth in mystic glow; where he in flesh, our flesh who made, our sentence bore, our ransom paid:

Where deep for us the spear was dyed, life's torrent rushing from his side, to wash us in that precious flood where mingled water flowed and blood.

Fulfilled is all that David told In true prophetic song of old. The universal Lord is he, who reigns and triumphs from the tree. On whose dear arms, so widely flung, the weight of this world's ransom hung, the price of humankind to pay and spoil the spoiler of his prey.

To thee, eternal three in one, let homage meet by all be done; whom by thy cross thou dost restore, preserve and govern evermore. Amen.

Venantius Fortunatus (530 – 609) trans. John Mason Neale (1818 – 1866) and others

REFLECTION I: THE GARDEN [8 minutes]

'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.'

Prayer after the Reflection:

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation, to you be praise and glory for ever. As a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief your only Son was lifted up that he might draw the whole world to himself. May we walk this day in the way of the cross and always be ready to share its weight, declaring your love for all the world. Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit: Blessed be God for ever.

Hymn: Father of heaven, whose love profound

sung by St Martin's Voices

Father of heaven, whose love profound a ransom for our souls hath found, before thy throne we sinners bend, to us thy pardoning love extend.

Almighty Son, incarnate Word, our Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, Lord, before thy throne we sinners bend, to us thy saving grace extend.

Eternal Spirit, by whose breath the soul is raised from sin and death, before thy throne we sinners bend, to us thy quickening power extend.

Thrice Holy! Father, Spirit, Son; mysterious Godhead, Three in One, before thy throne we sinners bend, grace, pardon, life to us extend.

Edward Cooper (1770-1833)

REFLECTION 2: TEARS OF GRIEF

[4 minutes 45 seconds] Prayer after the Reflection:

True and humble King, hailed by the crowd as Messiah: grant us the faith to know you and love you, that we may be found beside you on the way to the cross, which is the path of glory. Amen.

Anthem: Drop, drop, slow tears (by Orlando Gibbons) sung by St Martin's Voices

Drop, drop, slow tears, and bathe those beauteous feet which brought from heaven the news and Prince of Peace.

Cease not, wet eyes, his mercy to entreat; to cry for vengeance sin doth never cease.

In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears; nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears.

Phineas Fletcher (1582-1650)

REFLECTION 3: TEARS OF SIN [4 minutes 50 seconds]

Prayer after the Reflection:

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.

Hymn: There is a green hill far away sung by St Martin's Voices

There is a green hill far away, without a city wall, where the dear Lord was crucified, who died to save us all.

We may not know, we cannot tell, what pains he had to bear, but we believe it was for us he hung and suffered there. He died that we might be forgiven, he died to make us good, that we might go at last to heaven, saved by his precious blood.

There was no other good enough to pay the price of sin; he only could unlock the gate of heaven, and let us in.

O dearly, dearly has he loved, and we must love him too, and trust in his redeeming blood, and try his works to do.

> Cecil Frances Alexander (née Humphreys) (1818-1895)

Intercessions

With faith and love and in union with Christ, let us offer prayer before the throne of grace.

Have mercy on your people, for whom your Son laid down his life: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Bring healing and wholeness to people and nations, and have pity on those torn apart by division:

Lord, graciously hear us.

Strengthen all who are persecuted for your name's sake, and deliver them from evil: Lord, graciously hear us.

Look in mercy on all who suffer, and hear those who cry out in pain and desolation: Lord, graciously hear us.

Bring comfort to the dying, and gladden their hearts with the vision of your glory: Lord, graciously hear us.

Give rest to the departed and bring them, with your saints, to glory everlasting: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Let us commend the world, for which Christ died, to the mercy and protection of God. Lord, graciously hear us.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Closing Prayers

To a troubled world peace from Christ. To a searching world love from Christ. To a waiting world hope from Christ.

Loving God, you bring together what is scattered and mend what is broken. Bind up all our wounds and heal us in spirit, that we may be renewed as disciples of Jesus Christ, our Master and Saviour.

Hymn: Jesu, lover of my soul

sung by St Martin's Voices

Jesu, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly, while the gath'ring waters roll, while the tempest still is high: Hide me, O my Saviour, hide, till the storm of life is past; safe into the haven guide, O receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none, hangs my helpless soul on thee; leave, ah, leave me not alone, still support and comfort me. All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring; cover my defenceless head with the shadow of thy wing.

Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin; let the healing streams abound, make and keep me pure within. Thou of life the fountain art, freely let me take of thee, spring thou up within my heart, rise to all eternity.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Blessing

May the eternal Father, who so loved the world that he gave his only Son, bring you by faith to his eternal life. **Amen.**

May Christ, who accepted the cup of sacrifice in obedience to the Father's will, keep you steadfast as you walk with him in the way of his cross. **Amen.**

May the Spirit, who strengthens us to suffer with Christ that we may share his glory, set your minds on life and peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you, as you journey with Christ in his passion, and may he grant you his wholeness, healing and peace. **Amen.**

We continue the theme of 'The Garden of Tears' during Holy Week, as follows:

Wednesday, 7.30 pm Service of Compline Tears of pain and Tears for kindness Good Friday, 1.00 pm Good Friday Service Tears of relief Holy Saturday, Audio service Tears of joy

This Service conducted by

The Revd Kathryn Jackson and The Revd Martin Doe Bible readings read by Elizabeth Moran

<u>Music on audio</u>

The hymns on this audio were recorded by St Martin's Voices. Incidental organ music played by The Revd Martin Doe

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