



St George's Anglican Church Berlin

29 March 2020 | 5th Sunday of Lent

Passiontide | Morning Prayer

Organ Prelude (Scott Clemons)

Greeting

+ O Lord, open our lips

All and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Let your ways be known upon earth,

All your saving power among the nations.

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.

All Blesséd be God for ever.

A Song of Lamentation (Lamentations 1.12, 16a, b; 3.19, 21-26, 31-33)

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? ♦
Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow,

**Which was brought upon me, ♦
which the Lord inflicted on the day of his fierce anger.**

For these things I weep; my eyes flow with tears; ♦
for a comforter is far from me, one to revive my courage.

**Remember my affliction and my bitterness, ♦
the wormwood and the gall!**

But this I call to mind, ♦ and therefore I have hope:

**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, ♦
his mercies never come to an end;**

They are new every morning; ♦ great is your faithfulness.

**'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul, ♦
'therefore I will hope in him.'**

The Lord is good to those who wait for him, ♦
to the soul that seeks him.

**It is good that we should wait quietly ♦
for the salvation of the Lord.**

For the Lord will not reject for ever; ♦
though he causes grief, he will have compassion,

**According to the abundance of his steadfast love; ♦
for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.**

Opening prayer

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

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.

All Amen.

Psalm 86

Refrain

All nations you have made shall come and worship you, O Lord.
All nations you have made shall come and worship you, O Lord.

Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer me, ♦
for I am poor and in misery.

**Preserve my soul, for I am faithful; ♦
save your servant, for I put my trust in you.**

Be merciful to me, O Lord, for you are my God; ♦
I call upon you all the day long.

**Gladden the soul of your servant, ♦
for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

For you, Lord, are good and forgiving, ♦
abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.

**Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer ♦
and listen to the voice of my supplication.**

In the day of my distress I will call upon you, ♦
for you will answer me.

**Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord, ♦
nor any works like yours.**

All nations you have made shall come and worship you, O Lord, ♦
and shall glorify your name.

**For you are great and do wonderful things; ♦
you alone are God.**

Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; ♦
knit my heart to you, that I may fear your name.

**I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, ♦
and glorify your name for evermore;**

For great is your steadfast love towards me, ♦
for you have delivered my soul from the depths of the grave.

**O God, the proud rise up against me
and a ruthless horde seek after my life; ♦
they have not set you before their eyes.**

But you, Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, ♦
slow to anger and full of kindness and truth.

**Turn to me and have mercy upon me; ♦
give your strength to your servant and save the child of your handmaid.**

Show me a token of your favour, that those who hate me may see it and
be ashamed; ♦
because you, O Lord, have helped and comforted me.

Refrain:

All nations you have made shall come and worship you, O Lord.

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah (31.27-37)

“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will plant the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the offspring of men and of animals. Just as I watched over them to uproot and tear down, and to overthrow, destroy and bring disaster, so I will watch over them to build and to plant,” declares the LORD. “In those days people will no longer say, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge.’ Instead, everyone will die for his own sin; whoever eats sour grapes – his own teeth will be set on edge. “The time is coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,” declares the LORD. “This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after that time,” declares the LORD. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will a man teach his neighbour, or a man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the LORD. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.” This is what the LORD says, he who appoints the sun to shine by day, who decrees the moon and stars to shine by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar – the LORD Almighty is his name: “Only if these decrees vanish from my sight,” declares the LORD, “will the descendants of Israel ever cease to be a nation before me.” This is what the LORD says: “Only if the heavens above can be measured and the foundations of the earth below be searched out will I reject all the descendants of Israel because of all they have done,” declares the LORD.”

Organ Interlude (Scott Clemons)

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St John (12.20-33)

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. 'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say – "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;

All by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.

All We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

We preach Christ crucified the power of God and the wisdom of God.

All By your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;

by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Sermon / The Revd Canon Mark Dimond

Benedictus / Luke 1.68-79

Refrain:

The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing,
but to those who are being saved it is the power of God.

**The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing,
but to those who are being saved it is the power of God.**

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, ♦
who has come to his people and set them free.

**He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, ♦
born of the house of his servant David.**

Through his holy prophets God promised of old ♦
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,

**To show mercy to our ancestors, ♦
and to remember his holy covenant.**

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: ♦
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

**Free to worship him without fear, ♦
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.**

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, ♦
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

**To give his people knowledge of salvation ♦
by the forgiveness of all their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God ♦
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

**To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, ♦
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; ♦
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

**Refrain: The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing,
but to those who are being saved it is the power of God.**

Prayers

Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbours from helping one another. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Be with the leaders of this country, our home countries and all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Jesus Christ, stay with us here in St George's as we endure and trust, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Silence may be kept.

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.

Standing at the foot of the cross, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All 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.

The Conclusion

May Christ, who bore our sins on the cross,
set us free to serve him with confidence and joy.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Organ Postlude (Scott Clemons)