

The Evening Service on Holy Wednesday



St Peter's Cathedral resides on the lands of the Kaurna people. We give thanks for their ancestors and acknowledge the ongoing right and responsibility of their elders to care for this Country. We are committed to work and pray towards a more just settlement for all Indigenous people and pay our respect to First Nations people with us.

*St Peter's Cathedral is a Christ-centred, sacramental, inclusive,
thinking, mission-oriented faith community*

Officiant: The Right Reverend Chris McLeod
Reflection: The Reverend Canon Jenny Wilson
Choir: St Peter's Cathedral Consort
Conductor: Anthony Hunt
Organist: Coby Mellor

TENEBRAE
with Responsories by
Tomás Luis de Victoria

The service of Tenebrae takes its name from the Latin word for ‘darkness’ or ‘shadows.’ It was traditionally celebrated on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of Holy Week, anticipating the night and morning prayers of the following day. Over time it has had a remarkably varied content, but what is consistent in Tenebrae is its solemnity: reflection on the searing events of Holy Week in readings from scripture, psalmody, music and silence.

The most conspicuous feature of the service is the gradual extinguishing of candles and lights until only a single candle – a symbol of the constant presence of Christ, the Light of the World – remains. Even that lighted candle is ultimately taken away – though only hidden from view, not extinguished.

This evening we follow another very long-standing tradition of Tenebrae as we reflect on Jesus’ great emotional and physical pain. At the very end, the single lighted candle is taken out, leaving all in darkness. Then loud noise is made (the *strepitus*), symbolizing the event recorded in St Matthew’s Gospel of the earthquake at the moment of Jesus’ death, when the temple veil was torn apart. The tearing of this veil has a deep meaning: it exposed the Holy of Holies to public view. Jesus’ death made possible direct access to God, no longer requiring the ceremonial acts of the priests for our forgiveness of sin. The sudden noise brings these events to mind with particular force without the need for words.

The bell tolls 33 times, one for each year of Our Lord’s life. We depart in silence.

The choir and ministers enter in silence. All sit for the singing of

The Lamentation

Edward Cuthbert Bairstow 1874-1946

I. "The prophet mourneth for the sins of the people of God"

- 1 How doth the city sit solitary, that was full of people:
how is she become as a widow!
- 2 She that was great among the nations, and princess among the provinces: how
is she become tributary!
- 3 She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears are on her cheeks:
among all her lovers, she hath none to comfort her.
- 4 The ways of Zion do mourn, because none come to the solemn assembly: all her
gates are desolate, and she herself is in bitterness.
- 5 The Lord hath afflicted her for the multitude of her transgressions:
her children are gone into captivity before the enemy. Lam. 1:1-5
- 6 All they that go by clap their hands at her:
they hiss, and wag their head at the daughter of Jerusalem saying,
- 7 "Is this the city that men called the perfection of beauty; the joy of the whole
earth?" Lam. 2:15
- Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

II. "Christ recalleth us to God by his passion"

- 8 For these things I weep: mine eye runneth down with water. Lam. 1:16a
- 9 From on high hath the Lord sent fire into my bones, and it prevaieth against
them: he hath made me desolate and faint all the day. Lam. 1:13a
- 10 My flesh and my skin hath he made old: he hath broken my bones. Lam. 3:4
- 11 He hath builded against me; and compassed me with gall and travail. Lam. 3:5
- 12 He hath made me to dwell in dark places:
as those that have been long dead. Lam. 3:6
- 13 I am become a derision to all my people: and their song all the day. Lam. 3:14
- 14 Let him give his cheek to him that smiteth him:
let him be filled full with reproach. Lam. 3:30
- 15 Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by:
behold and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow. Lam. 1:12a
- 16 Remember mine affliction and my misery: the wormwood and the gall. Lam. 3:19
- Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

III. "The Church repenteth and turneth again"

- 17 Remember, O Lord, what is come upon us: behold and see our reproach. Lam. 5:1
18 The joy of our heart is ceased: our dance is turned into mourning. Lam. 5:15
19 The crown is fallen from our head: woe unto us, for we have sinned. Lam. 5:16
20 For this our heart is faint: for these things our eyes are dim. Lam. 5:17
21 Let us search and try our ways: and turn again unto the Lord. Lam. 3:40
22 Turn thou us unto thee, O Lord, and we shall be turned:
renew our days as of old. Lam. 5:21
23 It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed:
because his compassions fail not. Lam. 3:22
24 They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness. Lam. 3:23
25 The Lord is my portion, saith my soul: therefore will I hope in him. Lam. 3:24
26 O Lord, thou hast pleaded the causes of my soul:
thou hast redeemed my life. Lam. 3:58

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

All remain seated for

The Reflection

The Rev'd Canon Jenny Wilson

I • JESUS GOES TO GETHSEMANE

Reading

After they had eaten the supper, Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples.

John 18.1–2

Silence is kept.

Verses from Psalm 69

Save me, O God, for the waters have come up, even to my neck.

**Let not the water flood drown me, neither the deep swallow me up;
let not the Pit shut its mouth upon me.**

Draw near to my soul and redeem me; deliver me because of my enemies.

**You know my reproach, my shame and my dishonour;
my adversaries are all in your sight.**

Reproach has broken my heart; I am full of heaviness.

**I looked for some to have pity, but there was no one,
neither found I any to comfort me.**

The first candle is extinguished.

The choir sings:

*Amicus meus osculi me tradidit signo:
quem osculatus fuero, ipse est,
tenete eum: hoc malum fecit signum,
qui per osculum ad implevit homicidium.
Infelix praetermisit pretium sanguinis,
et in fine laquaeo se suspendit.
Bonum erat illi,
si natus non fuisset homo ille.*

The sign by which my friend betrayed me
was a kiss: whom shall I kiss, that is he:
hold him fast: he that committed murder
by a kiss gave this wicked sign.
The unhappy wretch returned the price of
blood, and in the end hanged himself.
It had been good for that man
if he had never been born.

The second candle is extinguished.

Silence is kept.

II • THE BETRAYER APPROACHES

Reading

Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons.

John 18.3

Silence is kept.

Verses from Psalm 55

Hear my prayer, O God; hide not yourself from my petition.

Give heed to me and answer me; I am restless in my complaining.

I am alarmed at the voice of the enemy and at the clamour of the wicked;

For they would bring down evil upon me and are set against me in fury.

My heart is disquieted within me, and the terrors of death have fallen upon me.

**Fearfulness and trembling are come upon me,
and a horrible dread has overwhelmed me.**

The third candle is extinguished.

The choir sings:

Unus ex discipulis meis tradet me hodie:

Vae illi per quem tradar ego:

Melius illi erat,

si natus non fuisset.

Qui intingit mecum in paropside,

hic me traditurus est

in manus peccatorum.

One of my disciples will this day betray me.

Woe to him by whom I am betrayed:

It would have been better for him

if he had never been born.

He that dips his hand with me in the dish,

is the man that will deliver me

into the hands of sinners.

The fourth candle is extinguished.

Silence is kept.

III • JESUS IS BETRAYED

Reading

Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, 'For whom are you looking?' They answered, 'Jesus of Nazareth.' Jesus replied, 'I am he.' Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, 'I am he,' they stepped back and fell to the ground.

John 18. 4–6

Silence is kept.

Verses from Psalm 55

For it was not an open enemy that reviled me, for then I could have borne it;

**Nor was it my adversary that puffed himself up against me,
for then I would have hid myself from him.**

But it was even you, one like myself, my companion and my own familiar friend.

**We took sweet counsel together
and walked with the multitude in the house of God.**

My companion stretched out his hands against his friend
and has broken his covenant;

**His speech was softer than butter, though war was in his heart;
his words were smoother than oil, yet are they naked swords.**

The fifth candle is extinguished.

The choir sings:

*Eram quasi agnus innocens,
ductus sum ad immolandum,
et nesciebam:
concilium fecerunt
inimici mei adversum me, dicentés:
Venite, mittamus lignum in panem ejus,
et eradamus eum de terra viventium. Omnes
inimici mei adversum me
cogitabant mala mihi: verbum iniquum
mandaverunt adversum me dicentes:
Venite ...*

I was like an innocent lamb;
I was led to be sacrificed
and I knew it not:
my enemies conspired
against me, saying:
Come, let us put wood into his bread,
and root him out of the land of the living.
All my enemies contrived mischief
against me, They uttered evil speech
against me, saying:
Come ...

The sixth candle is extinguished.

Silence is kept.

IV • NONE SHALL BE LOST

Reading

Again Jesus asked them, 'For whom are you looking?' And they said, 'Jesus of Nazareth.' Jesus answered, 'I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go.' This was to fulfil the word that he had spoken, 'I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me.'

John 18. 7–9

Silence is kept.

Verses from Psalm 31

I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbours,

**an object of dread to my acquaintances;
when they see me in the street they flee from me.**

For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is on every side;

they scheme together against me, and plot to take my life.

But my trust is in you, O Lord. I have said, 'You are my God.'

**My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.**

The seventh candle is extinguished.

The choir sings:

*Seniores populi consilium fecerunt
ut Jesum dolo tenerent et occiderent.*

*Cum gladiis et fustibus exierunt
tamquam ad latronem.*

*Collegerunt pontifices et pharisaei
concilium.*

The elders of the people discussed how they might by craft apprehend Jesus and kill him.

They came out with swords and clubs as against a robber.

Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council.

The eighth candle is extinguished.

Silence is kept.

V • PETER'S DEFIANCE

Reading

Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter, 'Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?'

John 18. 10–11

Silence is kept.

Verses from Psalms 54 and 69

Save me, O God, by your name and vindicate me by your power.

Hear my prayer, O God; give heed to the words of my mouth.

For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless seek after my life;

they have not set God before them.

Those who hate me without any cause are more than the hairs of my head;

those who would destroy me are mighty.

The ninth candle is extinguished.

The choir sings:

*O vos omnes qui transitis per viam:
attendite et videte si est dolor
sicut dolor meus.*

*Attendite, universi populi,
et videte dolorem meum.*

Si est dolor similis sicut dolor meus.

O all you that pass by the way,
attend and see if there be any sorrow
like to my sorrow.

Attend, all you people,
and see my sorrow:

if there be any sorrow like to my sorrow.

The tenth candle is extinguished.

Silence is kept.

VI • JESUS IS ARRESTED

Reading

So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him.

John 18. 12

Silence is kept.

Verses from Psalm 31

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;

**deliver me in your righteousness;
incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**

Be my strong rock, a fortress to save me,

**for you are my rock and my stronghold;
guide me, and lead me for your name's sake.**

Take me out of the net that they have laid secretly for me,
for you are my strength.

**Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.**

The eleventh candle is extinguished.

The choir sings Psalm 51

Chant: Plainsong

HAVE mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness:

according to the multitude of thy mercies do away mine offences.

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness: and cleanse me from my sin.

For I acknowledge my faults: and my sin is ever before me.

Against thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight:

that thou mightest be justified in thy saying, and clear when thou art judged.

Behold, I was shapen in wickedness: and in sin hath my mother conceived me.

But lo, thou requirest truth in the inward parts:

and shalt make me to understand wisdom secretly.

Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean:

thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness:

that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.

Turn thy face from my sins: and put out all my misdeeds.

Make me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from thy presence: and take not thy holy Spirit from me.

O give me the comfort of thy help again: and stablish me with thy free Spirit.

Then shall I teach thy ways unto the wicked: and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, thou that art the God of my health:

and my tongue shall sing of thy righteousness.

Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord: and my mouth shall shew thy praise.

For thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it thee:

but thou delightest not in burnt-offerings.

The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit:

a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt thou not despise.

O be favourable and gracious unto Sion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem.

Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness,

with the burnt-offerings and oblations:

then shall they offer young bullocks upon thine altar.

The twelfth candle is extinguished during the singing of the Psalm.

Silence is kept.

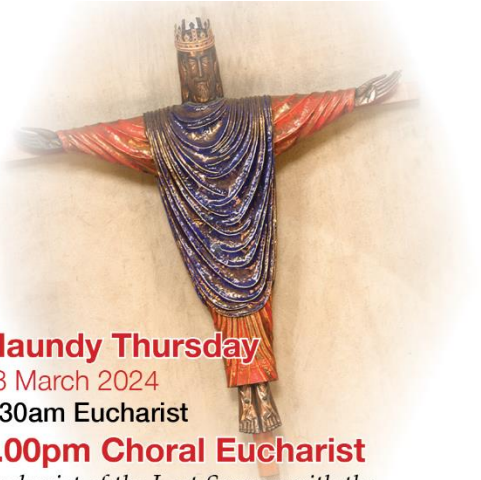
The strepitus is sounded.

The bell is tolled.

The last candle, Christ's light, is carried from the Cathedral.

All leave in silence.

Palm Sunday to Easter



JOURNEY *through* HOLY WEEK 2024

Palm Sunday

24 March 2024

8.00am Eucharist (BCP)

Blessing of Palm Crosses and reading of the Passion according to St Mark.

10.15am Blessing of Palms, Procession and Choral Eucharist

Gather at Pennington Gardens Water Feature for the blessing of Palms and join the procession to the Cathedral. Choral Eucharist at 10.30am with dramatic reading of the Passion according to St Mark.

6.00pm Choral Evensong

Holy Monday

25 March 2024

7.30am Eucharist

6.00pm Eucharist

Holy Tuesday

26 March 2024

7.30am Eucharist

1.00pm Diocesan

Chrim Eucharist

Reaffirmation of Ordination Vows and the Blessing of Oils

6.00pm Eucharist

Holy Wednesday

27 March 2024

7.30am Eucharist

10.00am Eucharist

7.30pm Tenebrae

*Bairstow-The Lamentation
Victoria-Tenebrae Responsories*

Maundy Thursday

28 March 2024

7.30am Eucharist

6.00pm Choral Eucharist

Eucharist of the Last Supper with the Washing of Feet and Vigil.

Good Friday

29 March 2024

10.00am

Good Friday Liturgy

3.00pm

Meditation Concert

*Cathedral Choir
Adelaide Cantata Band
Conductor: Anthony Hunt
Organist: David Heah
Free Entry,
Retiring collection for Charity.*

Holy Saturday

30 March 2024

7.13pm Meditation on Mercy and Shame

Liturgy, music and readings from Jonathan Jackson's book 'The Harrowing of Hell - an epic poem'

Easter Day Services

Sunday 31 March 2024

6.00AM

EASTER VIGIL

*Lighting of the new fire,
Reaffirmation of Vows and
Holy Communion.*

8.00AM

EUCARIST

*Traditional Eucharist from the
Book of Common Prayer with hymns*

10.00AM

CHORAL EUCARIST

*A joyful celebration with glorious
music of the resurrection of Christ.*

6.00PM

CHORAL EVENSONG

*A celebration of Christ's resurrection
in word and music.*

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St Peter's
nurturing spirit and mind
CATHEDRAL