

The Congregation of Mark the Evangelist  
Passion Sunday A | 29 March 2026

# The Passion of the Christ according to St Matthew

Welcome to this service of worship at Mark the Evangelist!  
Today's service is being live-streamed for the participation of those  
who can't join us physically today

## A Service of Word and Sacrament

**Organ Prelude** JS Bach, *Da Jesus an dem Kreuze stund*

The stone that the builders rejected  
***has become the chief cornerstone.***

This is the Lord's doing;  
***it is marvellous in our eyes.***  
24

*Psalm 118.22-*

Blessed is the kingdom of the Father  
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
***Amen.***

**Isaiah 53** Selected verses

**Prayer of Invocation**

**Hymn 341** My song is love unknown (vv 1-3, 6,7)

**With the Children**

**LITBri:** ...instead of that picture of the Bible as a book held in the hands of a solitary reader alone in a room, have in your mind another kind of picture, one in which somebody is proclaiming God's story to a gathering of diverse people – and all of them asking themselves, and asking one another, "How do we find ourselves in this? How are we going to be renewed together by this reading?"

ROWAN WILLIAMS



## The Passion of the Christ according to St Matthew

Matthew 26.3-27.54

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*The Anointing at Bethany*

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**Psalm 13** *How long, O Lord?*

*ECT Setting*

### Prayer 1

*(Sung: First time by cantor, repeated once by the congregation)*

Music: David Ogden

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and strong,  
Ho - ly and im - mor - tal, Havemercy on us. us.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff is a vocal line in G major, 4/4 time, with lyrics: "Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and strong,". The second staff is a piano accompaniment in G major, 4/4 time, with lyrics: "Ho - ly and im - mor - tal, Havemercy on us. us." The piano part features a simple harmonic accompaniment with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

### **Holy God,**

***holy and strong, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.***

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*The Passover with the Disciples*

*The Institution of the Lord's Supper*

*Peter's Denial Foretold*

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### Prayer 2

*(Sung: once through only)*

Music: David Ogden

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and strong,  
Ho - ly and im - mor - tal, Havemercy on us. us.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff is a vocal line in G major, 4/4 time, with lyrics: "Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and strong,". The second staff is a piano accompaniment in G major, 4/4 time, with lyrics: "Ho - ly and im - mor - tal, Havemercy on us. us." The piano part features a simple harmonic accompaniment with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

### **Holy God,**

***holy and strong, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.***

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*Jesus Prays in Gethsemane*

*The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus*

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### **Psalm 69.6-15** *Answer me, LORD*

PCS p.344 no.8

*The REFRAIN is sung before and after the whole psalm.*

*The psalm text will then be sung responsorially to the TONE below: the first line is sung by the 'half' of the congregation closest to the stained glass windows, the second bold-italic line by the other side*

REFRAIN Hal H. Hopson

Lord, you are my strength, has - ten to help me.

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The musical notation is for a refrain in G major, 2/4 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff is a vocal line with lyrics: "Lord, you are my strength,". The second staff is a piano accompaniment with lyrics: "has - ten to help me." The piano part features a simple harmonic accompaniment with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

TONE

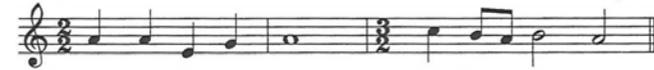


- <sup>6</sup> O God, you | know my foolishness,  
**and my faults are not | hidden from you.**
- <sup>7</sup> Let not those who hope in you be put to shame through me, Lord  
| God of hosts;  
**let not those who seek you be disgraced because of me, O |  
God of Israel.**
- <sup>8</sup> For your sake have I | suffered reproach;  
**shame has | covered my face.**
- <sup>9</sup> I have become a stranger | to my kindred,  
**an alien to my | mother's children.**
- <sup>10</sup> Zeal for your house has | eaten me up;  
**the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen | upon me.**
- <sup>11</sup> I humbled my- | -self with fasting,  
**but that was turned to | my reproach.**
- <sup>12</sup> I put on | sackcloth also  
**and became a | byword a-mong them.**
- <sup>13</sup> Those who sit at the gate | murmur a-gainst me,  
**and the drunkards make | songs ab-out me.**
- <sup>14</sup> But as for me, I make my prayer to | you, O Lord;  
**at an acceptable | time, O God.**
- <sup>15</sup> Answer me, O God, in the abundance | of your mercy  
**and with your | sure sal-va-tion.**
- <sup>16</sup> Draw me out of the mire, that | I sink not;  
**let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of | the  
deep waters.**
- <sup>17</sup> Let not the water flood drown me, neither the deep swal- | -low  
me up;  
**let not the Pit shut its | mouth up-on me.**

- <sup>18</sup> Answer me, Lord, for your loving- | -kindness is good;  
**turn to me in the multitude | of your mercies.**

REFRAIN

Hal H. Hopson



Lord, you are my strength, has - ten to help me.

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Prayer 3

(Sung: once through only)

**Holy God,  
holy and strong, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

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Jesus before the Council

Peter Denies Jesus

Hymn 340 Before the cock crew.

Prayer 4

(Sung: once through only)

**Holy God,  
holy and strong, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

-----  
Jesus before Pilate

The Suicide of Judas

*Pilate Questions Jesus*

*Barabbas or Jesus?*

*Pilate Hands Jesus over to Be Crucified*

*The Soldiers Mock Jesus*

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### Prayer 5

*(Sung: once through only)*

**Holy God,**

***holy and strong, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.***

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*The Crucifixion of Jesus*

*The Death of Jesus*

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**Hymn 497** Let all mortal flesh keep silence

**LITBIT:** ... self-awareness and repentance [are] completely bound up with the nature of what we are doing in the Holy Eucharist: the celebration and the sorrow, the Easter and the cross are always there together. And as we come together as Christians, we come not to celebrate ourselves and how well we are doing, but to celebrate the eternal Gift that is always there, and to give the thanks that are drawn out of us by that Gift.

ROWAN WILLIAMS

### The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts.

***We lift them to the Lord.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

*(The prayer continues...)*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, hea-ven and earth are  
full of your glor-y, ho - san-na in the high - est! Bles-sed is he who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est, ho - san-na in the high - est!

*(The prayer continues...)*

### 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.***

***Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.***

***For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.***

## The Breaking of the Bread

### The Communion

*The Uniting Church recognises this Table as the Lord's and, so, open to all who would normally commune in their home congregations.*

**GATHERING:** *We'll gather in a circle around the table for the distribution of the elements; please wait until all have received and the prayer is said before returning to your seats.*

*If you can't stand or walk to the front but would like to receive communion, please raise your hand if the celebrant has not already noticed you.*

### Offering

**Hymn 353** The glory of our king was seen

### Blessing and Dismissal

**Organ Postlude** JS Bach, Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ

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We'd love to hear your feedback on the service.

Our email address is:

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Our website is:

<http://marktheevangelist.unitingchurch.org.au/>

## NOTICES

Dear Lyrebird friends,

Just a week until Easter! Which also means the end of Daylight Saving for another year - and another Lyrebird Music Society concert. We've been staying with the first Sunday of the month for many years now, so we're sticking with it, and that means the next concert is on Easter Day, Sunday



April 5th. Of course the concert is only an hour or so, leaving plenty of time for Easter egg hunts or whatever else you like to do on the day. Don't forget - it's also the end of Daylight Saving, so the clocks will be going back an hour.

Our guests for this concert are both eminent figures in the early music world and music in general. Hannah Lane is a harpist specializing in the Baroque triple harp but also a dab hand with the single action instruments of Classical and Romantic times. She is also a teacher and an avid researcher, so in some cases we hear music not available or little heard elsewhere. Nicholas Pollock plays more instruments from the Baroque and Renaissance than we've ever heard of, but is also quite comfortable playing guitar in a punk rock band. When these two performers come together the result is uncommon music-making of the highest standard.

We hope you can join us for the concert at Yuma Auditorium on Sunday April 5th at 2pm. There is a rumour that there will be Easter eggs and/or hot cross buns at the afternoon tea table.

The TryBooking link for tickets: <https://www.trybooking.com/DJDYB>

## Holy Week and Easter Services

**Sunday March 29** *The Passion of the Christ according to St Matthew*

**Holy Week:** Daily (Mon-Thur) prayer services in the CTM Chapel, 12.30-12.50pm

**Maundy Thursday Evening:** 7.30pm, in the CTM chapel (Tenebrae Service around St John's Passion)

**Good Friday:** Combined Service with CAN and Northcote UCA, 9.30am at Church of All Nations, 180 Palmerston Street, Carlton

**Easter Vigil** Saturday April 4, 8pm in the Yuma Auditorium

**Easter Day** Sunday April 5, 10.00am as usual!

## UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

*See above for more details on these events*

Holy Week / Easter Services	As detailed above
Church Council	Tue Apr 7, 7.30pm Online
Hotham Mission Board	Fri Apr 17, 3pm hybrid <a href="#">NEW</a>
Quarterly Conversation on the Quarterly Essay	Fri April 24, 1100am in the Library
Hymn-learning session	May 3, after morning tea <a href="#">NEW</a>

### People to commemorate this week

Fred McKay, faithful servant; Maria Skobtsova, martyr

### Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia

### Lectionary Readings | 15 February 2026

Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4 or

Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28:1-10

A Parish Mission of the UCA, MtE is responsible for Hotham Mission

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