



PREPARATION

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

My trust is in you, O Lord.

I have said, 'You are my God.'

Psalm 31.14

PRAISE

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

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

We glory in your cross, O Lord,
and praise and glorify your holy resurrection:
**for by virtue of the cross
joy has come to the whole world.**

from the Liturgy of Good Friday

PSALM: 70

O God, make speed to save me; ♦

O Lord, make haste to help me.

Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confusion; ♦

let them be turned back and disgraced who wish me evil.

Let those who mock and deride me ♦

turn back because of their shame.

But let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; ♦

let those who love your salvation say always, 'Great is the Lord!'

As for me, I am poor and needy; ♦

come to me quickly, O God.

You are my help and my deliverer; ♦

O Lord, do not delay.

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.**

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: Luke 22:54-71

They seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, 'This man also was with him.' But he denied it, saying, 'Woman, I do not know him.' A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, 'You also are one of them.' But Peter said, 'Man, I am not!' Then about an hour later yet another kept insisting, 'Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.' But Peter said, 'Man, I do not know what you are talking about!' At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, 'Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly.

Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and kept asking him, 'Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?' They kept heaping many other insults on him.

When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. They said, 'If you are the Messiah, tell us.' He replied, 'If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.' All of them asked, 'Are you, then, the Son of God?' He said to them, 'You say that I am.' Then they said, 'What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!'

Silence

RESPONSE

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5.10

PRAYERS

Let us pray to the Father, who loved the world so much that he sent his only Son to give us life:

Simon from Cyrene was forced to carry the cross for your Son. Give us grace to lift heavy loads from those we meet and to stand with those condemned to die.

Lord, hear us:

Lord, graciously hear us.

Your Son watched the soldiers gamble to share his clothes. Transform the hearts of those who make a profit from their victims, and those whose hearts are hardened by their work.

Lord, hear us:

Lord, graciously hear us.

The thief, who was crucified with Jesus, was promised a place in your kingdom. Give pardon and hope, healing and peace to all who look death in the face.

Lord, hear us:

Lord, graciously hear us.

From the cross Jesus entrusted Mary his mother and John his disciple to each other's care. Help us also to care for one another and fill our homes with the spirit of your love.

Lord, hear us:

Lord, graciously hear us.

In Mary and John your Son created a new family at the cross. Fill our relationships, and those of new families today, with mutual care and responsibility, and give us a secure hope for the future.

Lord, hear us:

Lord, graciously hear us.

The centurion was astonished to see your glory in the crucified Messiah. Open the eyes of those who do not know you to see in your Son the meaning of life and death.

Lord, hear us:

Lord, graciously hear us.

Joseph of Arimathaea came to take your Son's body away. Give hope and faith to the dying and bereaved, and gentleness to those who minister to them.

Lord, hear us:

Lord, graciously hear us.

Simon and Joseph, Mary and John became part of your Church in Jerusalem. Bring into your Church today a varied company of people, to walk with Christ in the way of his passion and to find their salvation in the victory of his cross.

Lord of the Church, hear our prayer, and make us one in heart and mind to serve you in Christ our Lord. Amen.

COLLECT OF WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

Lord God, whose blessed Son our Saviour gave his back to the smiters and did not hide his face from shame: Give us grace to endure the sufferings of this present time, with sure confidence in the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

LENT COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A PASSIONTIDE PRAYER

Soul of Christ, sanctify me, body of Christ, save me, blood of Christ, inebriate me, water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me. O good Jesus, hear me: hide me within your wounds and never let me be separated from you. From the wicked enemy defend me, in the hour of my death, call me and bid me come to you, so that with your saints I may praise you for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Anima Christi (14th century)

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 our Saviour give us peace. **Amen.**

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