



Kensington Presbyterian Church

Good Friday

April 10, 2020

Welcome & announcements

For now we are putting out these worship services that you can do at home.¹ This doesn't mean you have to do them alone. You can invite those who live with you, or connect with others through the phone or computer.

If you have any prayer requests, ideas, or just want to talk, please reach out to your elder or Rev. Peter. Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca

Announcements

Each of these **events** will happen through Zoom. This website enables video conferencing and phoning in. You don't need to download their app, just look for the web-browser option. At the set time, go to this web site: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4095620745> or call 438 809 7799 and the put in this meeting #409 562 0745

- **Easter Worship:** Sunday at 10:30 a.m. [many churches are planning this. If it doesn't work, there's always the text version.]
- **Prayer Time:** Wednesday morning prayer at 9 a.m.
- **Zoom Café:** Thursday at 3 p.m.
Join Rev. Peter for coffee (not included):
- **Worship:** Sunday at 10:30 a.m. (There's also the text version.)

If you are interested, but these times don't work, please contact Rev. Peter: Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca

Offering: We now have a '[Donate Now](#)' button on our website.

Please continue to check out the website <https://kensingtonchurch.ca/> or facebook <https://www.facebook.com/KensingtonChurchNDG/> for news of these ideas.

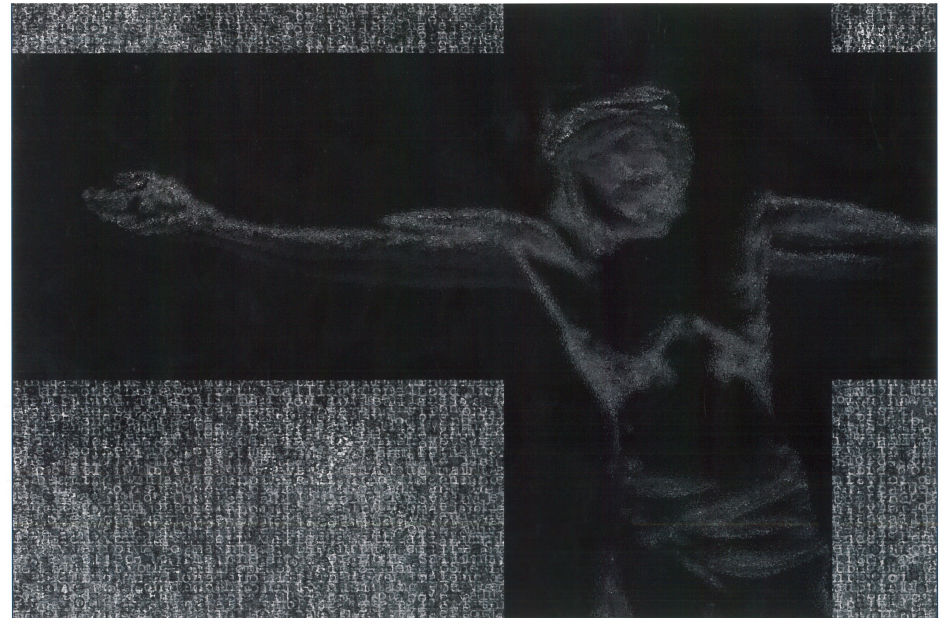
¹ note: that the footnotes are not as thorough as an academic paper.

lighting the candle



Jésus Chris est la lumière du monde.
Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Prelude: Goodbye..... Bobby McFerrin
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=34gyl5FXcGE>



Linda Witte Henke, "Woodruss Love," 2015, 75cm x 50cm x 3.75cm, stretched-canvas print

Call to worship (Isaiah 53:1, 4-5, NRSV)

Who has believed what we have heard?

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

**Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we account him stricken,
struck down by God and afflicted.**

But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.

Prayer

Dearest Jesus,

You never abandoned anybody, even hunting through dangerous mountains to find the lost sheep.

even though you were abandoned by your closest friends.

You never committed a crime,

and yet you died a criminals death.

Today we remember that you could have turned away

and lived a nice quiet life,

but instead you broke all the barriers between us and God.

In Jesus you brought the reality of love to us

and how far you are willing to go to find us.

Today we pray that your Spirit opens us once again to the meaning of the cross.

Amen.²

Dear Lord, please bless the words typed here
and the meditations of our hearts. Amen.

Voices from the crowd

from *Stages on the Way*, by Wild Goose Worship Group, 2012

Larry, the owner of the upper room

Narrator: On the day in which he was betrayed,

Jesus told his disciples to go

to a certain man in the city

with this message:

'My appointed time is near;

I will keep the Passover with my disciple

at your house.'

Larry: I am that man,

my name is Larry;

and last night he came to my house.

It's next to a builder's yard on the south side.

It has a big front room

and I got it ready for him.

I had met him before;

he had challenged me once

about how much money I had

and how little of it I gave away.

He taught me how to be generous.

That's why I was keen to give him the room,

to say, 'It's all yours, Jesus.'

But what can I say now?

Jesus,

you told me to give away everything

and take up my cross.

Maybe if I had done that,

maybe if all of us had done that,

you wouldn't be strung up,

crucified by people

who find you too threatening.

We all could have earned less

and loved more,

and I could have taken you more seriously.

Because I stood back and did nothing,

I helped you onto the cross

and I am deeply,

deeply sorry.

Leader: He was wounded for our sins,

he was crushed by our wrongdoing.

All: We had all strayed like sheep.

We had all gone our own way.

Leader: But the Lord laid on him the guilt of us all.

² inspired by Worship Sourcebook M.1.4.2

Jesus, Remember Me

Chords: Eb, Fm/Eb, Bb, Eb

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Chords: Cm, Fm/Ab, Bb, Eb

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

United Methodist Hymnal 488
 WORDS: Luke 23:42
 MUSIC (REMEMBER ME, Irr.): Jacques Berthier and the Community of Taizé, 1981; © 1981 Les Presses de Taizé, by permission of G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

Rachel, the servant girl

Narrator: After his arrest at Gethsemane,
 Jesus was taken to the high priest's house.
 It was early in the morning.
 Peter followed at a distance
 and then warmed himself
 at a fire in the courtyard.
 He was sitting there when a servant girl confronted him.

Rachel: I am that girl
 and my name is Rachel.
 I work in the priest's house
 so I know everything about everybody.
 That's why I recognized Peter.
 I'd seen him with Jesus.

But I'd never seen anything
 like what happened this morning.
 I arrived at my usual time ...
 about five o'clock.
 I was going to start cleaning the main hall,
 but I couldn't get near it.
 The place was packed out;
 everybody was shouting.
 It was like a madhouse.
 I couldn't say a thing.
 What can I say now?

Jesus,
 you don't deserve any of this.
 The men who hit you and swore at you
 might call themselves religious,
 but they're just scum,
 a pack of liars the lot of them.
 They were jealous of you
 because people listened to you,
 because you said that God loved the poor,
 because you let us see that God could smile
 and heal and even cry;
 while all they could do
 was criticize and condemn people.
 I wish I had spoken up this morning, Jesus.
 I wish I had shouted
 that you were a good man.
 I wish I had told them
 that you had healed my little sister.
 I'm sorry, Jesus,
 that in the face of wicked men,
 I never put in a good word for you.

Leader: He was wounded for our sins,

he was crushed by our wrongdoing.

All: We had all strayed like sheep.

We had all gone our own way.

Leader: But the Lord laid on him the guilt of us all.

All: ♪ Jesus, remember me. When you come into your kingdom

Jesus, remember me. When you come into your kingdom

Barabbas, the criminal

Narrator: When Jesus appeared before Pilate,

Pilate realized he was innocent.

Because he was the Governor,

he had a custom at the Passover of releasing a prisoner,
who could be chosen by the crowd.

But the chief priests and elders

had infiltrated the crowd

and persuaded them to ask for Barabbas,

so that Jesus would be put to death

Barabbas: And I'm Barabbas

and I'm a free man,

though by rights,

I should be hanging on a cross.

Everybody knows me

and knows what I've done

and it's more than keeping pigeons near the railway line.

I was up on a murder charge

and two of grievous bodily harm

with intent to kill.

I've mugged more people

than Pilate's had hot breakfasts.

So it was a great surprise to me

to be sitting on Death Row

and hear the chant going up,

'Barabbas ... Barabbas .. .'

as if I was a film star.

I walked past Jesus' cell on the way out.

I never said anything then.

What can I say now?

Jesus,

either you're off your head

or they're off theirs.

You'd done nothing wrong,

I'd done nothing right,

but they chose me.

You came to the wrong place,

at the wrong time

and your face didn't fit.

That's why the big men went for you.

They say,

that when you landed up

in front of the Governor,

you never said a word.

If that had been me,

I'd have lied until I was blue in the face.

But that's maybe

because I have plenty to lie about.

Well, now I've got something to be straight about:

you've taken my place.

I'm in your debt

and always will be.

Leader: He was wounded for our sins,

he was crushed by our wrongdoing.

All: We had all strayed like sheep.

We had all gone our own way.

Leader: But the Lord laid on him the guilt of us all.

All: ♪ Jesus, remember me. When you come into your kingdom

Jesus, remember me. When you come into your kingdom

Simon, the cross-carrier

Narrator: The soldiers of the Governor took Jesus to his residence.

There they collected the whole company around him.

They stripped him

and dressed him in a scarlet cloak;

they plaited a crown of thorns

and put it on his head,

and placed a stick in his right hand.

Falling on their knees before him,

they jeered at him and shouted,

'Hail, King of the Jews!'

They spat on him

and used sticks to beat him about the head.

When they had finished mocking him,

they stripped him of the cloak

and dressed him in his own clothes.

Then they led him away to be crucified.

On their way out,

they met a man from Cyrene,

Simon by name,

and they compelled him to carry Jesus' cross.

Simon: I am Simon.

I come from Cyrene on the other side of Egypt,

and I would not have been in Jerusalem today

if it had not been for my business.

I was curious as to what the crowd was gathered for,

when there was a shout.

'You ... come here!'

they shouted;

and what can you say to the law?

You jump, or else.

Jesus,

I don't know what all this is about.

I've never seen such degrading cruelty

and the reason is beyond my understanding.

What did you do

to make people hate you?

What did you do

to get hung on a cross?

You never robbed a bank.

You never mugged people.

You never raped women,

swindled money,

planned an armed struggle,

or committed treason.

Actions that, if we're honest, happen a lot.

So, why are you here?

Most people say you were a holy man,

some say you were God's son.

If this is the case,

why are religious people persecuting you?

Leader: He was wounded for our sins,

he was crushed by our wrongdoing.

All: We had all strayed like sheep.

We had all gone our own way.

Leader: But the Lord laid on him the guilt of us all.

All: 🎵 **Jesus, remember me. When you come into your kingdom**

Jesus, remember me. When you come into your kingdom

Cato, the soldier

Narrator: When they reached the place called the Skull,

they crucified him with two criminals,

one on his left, the other on his right.

Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them

for they don't know what they're doing.'

The soldiers shared out his clothes

by gambling for them.

The people stood looking up;
the rulers jeered at him.
Then the soldiers joined in the mockery
and came forward offering him vinegar.

Cato: I'm the one who offered him the vinegar.
My name is Cato.

I just happened to be on execution duty.
We all take our turn.
None of us like it.
You have to deal with women screaming,
children bawling
and the odd drunk
who wants to challenge the victim to a fight.

Today was really unusual.
A lot of people just kept quiet.
The people who made the most noise
were the priests and elders.
It was the 'important people' ...
those who normally keep back from executions,
who were shouting abuse.
And I have to admit
that I was tempted to join in
... just in case they thought I was on his side.
What can I say now?

Jesus ...
I was only doing my job.
I know you've been framed.
I know you shouldn't be up there.
But I can't take you down.
I'm not my own boss.
Yet, this is a lame excuse.
I wonder how many other people
won't help you,

won't speak up for you,
let the worst happen to you,
and then say,
'It's not my fault.
It's got nothing to do with me.
I was only doing my job.'

Leader: He was wounded for our sins,
he was crushed by our wrongdoing.

**All: We had all strayed like sheep.
We had all gone our own way.**

Leader: But the Lord laid on him the guilt of us all.

All: ♪ **Jesus, remember me. When you come into your kingdom
Jesus, remember me. When you come into your kingdom**

Mary, the mother

Narrator: Near the cross on which Jesus hung,
his mother was standing
with his sister and another woman.

Jesus saw his mother
and he saw the disciple he loved
standing near her.

He said to his mother,
'Mother ... there is your son.'
And he said to his disciple,
'There is your mother.'

Mary: And I am his mother.
I am Mary.

When he was a baby,
an old man told me
that one day sorrow would pierce my heart
like a sword.

This is that day
and my heart breaks

as I watch him
who put others before himself,
being put to death
before all the others.

What can I say?

Jesus,
when you were a boy
you once told me
you had to be about your Father's business.
If this is your Father's business
and it has led you to this cross,
may it soon be finished.
And may God
who put you into my hands
now take you into his.

Leader: He was wounded for our sins,
he was crushed by our wrongdoing.

All: **We had all strayed like sheep.
We had all gone our own way.**

Leader: But the Lord laid on him the guilt of us all.

All: ♪ **Jesus, remember me. When you come into your kingdom
Jesus, remember me. When you come into your kingdom**

Narrator: After all the mocking,
all the torture,
all the pain
and in front of those who watched from the crowd,
Jesus said,
'It is finished.'
Then he bowed his head
and gave up the spirit.

♪ moment for meditation: Miserere (The Mission)... E. Morricone
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3TmVCVnNtAo>



Golgotha - Munch

Prayers of the people

Note: if you would like specific prayers included here (like with our prayer book), please send an email to: prayer@Kensingtonchurch.ca

Dearest Jesus,
We are so grateful for you,
and so sorry for what was done.
We are grateful that you came - showing us how your love,
the love of God, the creator of the universe,
is willing to cross anything to reach us.
We are sorry for all the ways
that we have contributed to driving you from the world
...to your crucifixion,
...to your death.

Please forgive us. . .

May your Living Spirit fill our souls with your presence,
with your love,
and help us to walk with you - supporting your way;
helping your kingdom come.

We come to you with our concerns and anxieties,
just as you did as a human in the garden before being taken.
Because of what happened next,
we know that you are not afraid of pain, or sorrow, or injustice, or
tragedy.

We come to you with our concerns for our leaders...
and for our communities. . .
neighbours...
church...
family...
and for those who are sick
with COVID19, and with all the other things that plague us. . .
and for those who are suffering mental strain in this time. . .
and for those who are looking after them,
helping to bring healing & reintegration. . .

May your presence be felt,
and your healing bring peace. . .

We thank you,
for the depths that you will go for us. . .

As we remember what you left us,
we remember the prayer you gave us to live.

Let us say together the Lord's prayer...

Lord's prayer (feel free to use another version/translation)

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is 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 forever. Amen.



♪ Hymn: Were you there...

Were You There

E^b $Fm7$ B^b7 E^b A^b E^b

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? *Were you there?*
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 3 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 4 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? *Were you there?*

B^b A^b B^b

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? *Were you there?*
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? *Were you there?*

E^b A^b E^b $G7$ Cm A^b E^b A^b B^b

Oh, some - times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

Cm Fm E^b/B^b $Fm7$ B^b7 E^b A^b E^b

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? *Were you there?*
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? *Were you there?*

Words: African American spiritual, P.D.
 Music (WERE YOU THERE 10.10.14.10): African American spiritual; harm. C. Winfred Douglas, 1940, P.D.

Reading

[Matthew 27: 45-55](#)

Sending:

Death is an end.

In the face of it, and so much else, life can feel hopeless.

Jesus was there.

but the story continues on Sunday. . .

Postlude: Abîme des oiseaux by Messien

note: This is part of the 'Quartet for the end of time' and in this movement the birds represent the joy that is coming as time ends with the upcoming return of Jesus. It was written while Messien was interred in a WW2 concentration camp.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3UwLWvjBcj4>

FaithTalk

These are some questions for you to discuss with somebody... or many somebodies.

Memories: How are your actions similar to the people who encounter Jesus leading up to the crucifixion?

Values: Why do you did/do you do those things.

Wonder: What would it be like to change?

Actions: Pick something you would like to change about yourself, and share this so that you will be help accountable.