

“Within these walls let no-one be a stranger”

25th March 2016

Good Friday



Prelude:

Chorale preludes based on *O Sacred Head*, D. Buxtehude, E. Pepping, F. Peeters
Adagio, S. Barber

Welcome

Call to Worship

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.

**The joy of our hearts has ceased;
our dancing has been turned to mourning.**

**The crown has fallen from our head;
woe to us, for we have sinned!** *Lamentations 1:12; 5:15.16*

Hymn 380

There is a green hill far away

Prayer, ending with the Lord's Prayer

(but please say this in whichever language or version you prefer.)

Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil

For thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Gospel reading 1: Luke 22:54-71;

Hymn 399 (verses 1-2)

My song is love unknown

Gospel reading 2: Luke 23: 1-25

Hymn 399 (verses 3-5) *Sometimes they strew his way*

Gospel reading 3: Luke 23:26-43

Hymn 399 (verses 6-7) *In life, no house, no home*

Gospel reading 4: Luke 23:44-56

Silence

Choir

Go to Dark Gethsemane, T.T. Noble

A People on Trial (based on Micah 6):

Stand up and let the case begin
in the hearing of the mountains,
and let the hills hear what you have to say.
Listen, you mountains, to God's accusation;
give ear, you foundations of the earth,
for God is accusing God's people,
pleading against the world.

Voice 1: My people, what have I done to you?
And have I been a burden to you? Answer me!
I created a world of beauty and goodness;
I created nature in all its delicate balance.
I gave you one another for love and co-operation.
I gave you enough food for all to share;
I gave you season for planting and for reaping.

Voice 2: But you have plundered the earth,
poisoning and disfiguring it;
you have upset its balance so that
it threatens to destroy you.
You have created weapons of mass destruction;
while some accumulate wealth and riches
others starve and only I hear their cry.

Lord, have mercy

Voice 1: My people, what have I done to you?
Have I been a burden to you? Answer me!

Voice 2: I have never left you ignorant of the truth.
I sent you prophets and teachers,
Given you wisdom and understanding
and shown you how to live.
I have reached out to you
and called you to return to me

Voice 1: But you spurn my truth,
rejecting my messengers,
hiding in the darkness from the light,
turning your faces away,
closing your ears,
twisting the truth into a lie
and hardening your hearts.

Lord, have mercy

Voice 1: My people, what have I done to you?
Have I been a burden to you? Answer me!

Voice 2: In the fullness of time I sent my Son
that you might listen to him;
that he might lead you back to me.

Voice 1: Have you forgotten the broken cup,
the Garden of Gethsemane;
the actions of the chief priests and the scribes
and of Herod and of Pilate,
the crowd and the call to crucify;
the cross and the world plunged into darkness:
curses, desolation, fear, helplessness, death, despair?

Lord, have mercy

Voice 1: With what gift shall I come before the Lord,
and bow before the God on high?

What is it that the God asks of us?

What answer can we give God?

What worship shall we offer?

Voice 2: This is what the Lord requires,
this is what God seeks and longs for, only this:
that you act justly, show loving kindness,
and walk humbly with your God.

Voice 1: Hear that Jesus our Lord was delivered to death
for our misdeeds and raised to life
to put us right with God.

**Believe the good news that by faith in him
we have peace with God and the gift of new life.**

Voice 2: Accept God's grace and goodness;
accept Christ with open hands and open hearts
and act upon the word of Jesus as he says to you,
"If you want to be a follower of mine, leave self
behind, take up your cross and follow me."

Silence

Hymn 382

O Sacred Head! sore wounded

Sermon *At the cross*

Silence

Hymn 775

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom

Prayer

Choir

At the Cry of the First Bird, W. Sisson

Offering

Solo: Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Dedication

Hymn 392 I

When I survey the wondrous cross

The blessing

The congregation are asked to remain in place until the Minister has left the church.

Please turn off your mobile phone during the service.

The Service is conducted by our minister, Revd Dr Lance Stone.

The readers are Nora Coers and Nick Thomas.

Consistory on duty are Peggy Krol and Thorsten König.

Soloist is Margaret Richards, mezzo soprano.

Remaining Holy Week & Easter Services

Saturday March 26th, 9 pm: Easter service of light and renewal
of baptismal vows

Sunday March 27th, 10.30 pm: Easter Sunday service with
Holy Communion

Our Congregation

Our congregation was founded on 4 February 1607 to serve the English speaking population of Amsterdam. We welcome worshippers from many countries, backgrounds and walks of life. Founded within the Reformed Tradition we are part of the Church of Scotland (Presbyterian) and the Protestant Church of the Netherlands.

The first church in the Begijnhof was built as a private chapel in about 1390; it was destroyed by fire and rebuilt in the 1490s. The church was closed by the Town Council in the Reformation and lay unused for 30 years till in 1607 it was given to English-speaking worshippers in Amsterdam.



The English Reformed Church, Amsterdam

A congregation of the **Church of Scotland**

and the **Protestant Church of the Netherlands (PKN)**
