

AN INNOCENT MAN DIES...

SO WHY DO WE CALL IT 'GOOD FRIDAY'?

Good Friday Act of Witness
by Churches Together in the Wallingford Area

It would be helpful if you had playdough, blu-tack or something mouldable for the "Playdough Prayers". If possible, it would also be good if you had a small (palm-size) stone or rock and a felt-tip or Sharpie pen to write on it.

Welcome

Song: In These Days of Darkness

Verse 1

*As we come together
In each house and home
We know God is with us
We are not alone.*

Chorus

*In these days of darkness,
Through the longest night,
We will sing together:
Jesus be our Light.*

Verse 2

*Jesus comes to meet us
In our time of fear,
Reaches out to hold us
We know He is here.*

Bridge

*We will sing together:
Jesus be our Light.*

Verse 3

*As we pray together,
We are not alone,
We will not be shaken.
Jesus, be our Cornerstone.*

Bible Reading: Isaiah 53:1-5

Opening Prayer

All-Age Story

Song: Jesus, Jesus, Here I Am

*Jesus, Jesus, here I am
Jesus, Jesus, take my hand
You give to everyone a love that won't end
Thank you, Jesus
You're my friend*

Song: Jesus, When you Died

Verse 1

*Jesus, when you died
It looked like a failure
All your friends had gone
They thought it was over
Jesus, when you died
You did not deserve it
This was all God's plan
You knew it was worth it*

Chorus

*Thank you!
Jesus, thank you!
That you died for us
We will always
Thank you!
Jesus, thank you!
That you died for us
On the cross*

Verse 2

*Jesus, when you died
There you were forsaken
Through your sacrifice
All our shame was taken
Jesus, when you died
You did it on purpose
You showed us your love
You did it to serve us*

Verse 3

*Jesus, when you died
All our sin was paid for
Now we're free to live
The life we were made for
One with God above
Living as his children
We trust in his words
Knowing you fulfilled them*

Playdough Prayer

Bible Reading: Matthew 27:1-2,11-26

Song: Were you There (1st verse)

*Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

Barabbas Speaks

Song: Were You There (2nd verse)

*Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?*

Bible Reading: Matthew 27:33-51

Poem: The Truth Is

by Revd Neil Thorogood, Principal of Westminster College

Prayer

by Nick Fawcett

Why I Call it Good Friday

Prayers of Intercession

For the health and well-being of our nation,
that all who are fearful and anxious
may be at peace and free from worry:
Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the isolated and housebound,
that we may be alert to their needs,
and care for them in their vulnerability:
Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For our homes and families,
our schools and young people,
and all in any kind of need or distress:
Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For a blessing on our local community,
that our neighbourhoods may be places of trust and friendship,
where all are known and cared for:
Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the mercy and protection of God.

Merciful Father,

***accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.***

The Lord's Prayer

***Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be your name;
Your kingdom come;
Your 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 yours is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.***

Closing Thought

Song: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Verse 1

*When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.*

Verse 2

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.*

Verse 3

*See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

Verse 4

*Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.*

For the Christian Community

We are not people of fear:

we are people of courage.

We are not people who protect our own safety:

we are people who protect our neighbours' safety.

We are not people of greed:

we are people of generosity.

We are your people God,

giving and loving,

wherever we are,

whatever it costs

For as long as it takes

wherever you call us.

by Barbara Glasson, President of the Methodist Conference

Blessing

Notices

At 10am on Easter Sunday 12 April 2020 we call on everybody who wants to celebrate the resurrection to go outside and sing *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* and *Thine be the Glory* at the top of their voices!

<https://ctbi.org.uk/sing-resurrection/>

Extra resources:

Youtube link to the new song "In These Days of Darkness"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5GZpS1PFo0M&feature=youtu.be>