

CONCLUDING RITE

The people STAND

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant: Nourished with these sacred gifts,
we humbly beseech you, O Lord,
that, just as through the death of your Son
you have brought us to hope for what we believe,
so by his Resurrection you may lead us
to where you call.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant: May God, the Father of mercies,
who has given you an example of love
in the Passion of his Only Begotten Son,
grant that, by serving God and your neighbour,
you may lay hold of the wondrous gift
of his blessing.

People: **Amen.**

Celebrant: So that you may receive
the reward of everlasting life from him,
through whose earthly Death
you believe that you escape eternal death.

People: **Amen.**

Celebrant: And by following the example of his self-abasement,
may you possess a share in his Resurrection,

People: **Amen.**

Celebrant: And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

People: **Amen.**

Celebrant: Go forth, the Mass is ended.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

FINAL HYMN (79 t 128 ii)

**The royal banners forward go,
The Cross shines forth in mystic glow,
Where he in flesh, our flesh who made,
Our sentence bore, our ransom paid.**

**Where deep for us the spear was dyed,
Life's torrent rushing from his side,
To wash us in that precious flood,
Where mingled water flowed, and blood.**

**Fulfilled is all that David told
In true prophetic song of old,
The universal Lord is he,
Who reigns and triumphs from the tree.**

**O Tree of beauty, Tree of light,
O Tree with royal purple dight,
Elect on whose triumphal breast
Those holy limbs should find their rest!**

**On whose dear arms, so widely flung,
The weight of this world's ransom hung,
The price of humankind to pay
And spoil the spoiler of his prey.**

**O Cross, our one reliance, hail!
So may thy power with us prevail
To give new virtue to the saint,
And pardon to the penitent.**

**To thee, eternal Three in One,
Let homage meet by all be done:
Whom by thy Cross thou dost restore,
Preserve and govern evermore. Amen..**

that is to say, of his Passion and Resurrection.
For it was to accomplish this mystery
that he entered his own city of Jerusalem.
Therefore, with all faith and devotion,
let us commemorate the Lord's entry
into the city for our salvation,
following in his footsteps,
so that, being made by his grace
partakers of the Cross,
we may have a share also
in his Resurrection and in his life.

Celebrant: Let us pray.
Almighty ever-living God,
sanctify these branches with your blessing,
that we, who follow Christ the King in exultation,
may reach the eternal Jerusalem through him.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

The celebrant sprinkles the palms with holy water.



GOSPEL Luke 19:28-40

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Celebrant: At that time: Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" you shall say this: "The Lord has need of it."'

So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' And they said, 'The Lord has need of it.' And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. As he was drawing near already on the way down the Mount of Olives the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, 'Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!' And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, rebuke your disciples.' He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.'

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Celebrant: Dear brothers and sisters,
like the crowds who acclaimed Jesus in Jerusalem,
let us go forth in peace.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN (509)

This hymn is sung during the procession to the church:

**All glory, laud, and honour
To thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.**

**Thou art the King of Israel,
Thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest,
The King and blessed One. All glory . . .**

**The company of Angels
Are praising thee on high,
And mortal men and all things
Created make reply. All glory . . .**



The people of the Hebrews
With palms before thee went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems
Before thee we present. All glory . . .

To thee before thy passion
They sang their hymns of praise;
To thee now high exalted
Our melody we raise. All glory . . .

Thou didst accept their praises,
Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King. All glory . . .

Do thou direct our footsteps
Upon our earthly way,
And bring us by thy mercy
To heaven's eternal day. All glory . . .

Within that blessed City
Thy praises may we sing,
And ever raise hosannas
To our most loving King. All glory . . .

When all have entered the church, this antiphon is sung by the choir:
As the Lord entered the holy city, the children of the Hebrews proclaimed the resurrection of life. Waving their branches of palm, they cried: Hosanna in the Highest. When the people heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they went out to meet him. Waving their branches of palm, they cried: Hosanna in the Highest.

INTROIT HYMN OF THE MASS (511)

Ride on! ride on in majesty!
Hark, all the tribes hosanna cry;
Thy humble beast pursues his road
With palms and scattered garments strowed.

Ride on! ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die:
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin
O'er captive death and conquered sin.

Ride on! ride on in majesty!
The wingéd squadrons of the sky
Look down with sad and wondering eyes
To see the approaching sacrifice.

Ride on! ride on in majesty!
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh;
The Father, on his sapphire throne,
Awaits his own anointed Son.

Ride on! ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die;
Bow thy meek head to mortal pain,
Then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

COLLECT

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty ever-living God,
who as an example of humility
for the human race to follow
caused our Saviour to take flesh
and submit to the Cross,
graciously grant that we may heed
his lesson of patient suffering
and so merit a share in his Resurrection.
Who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen



and graciously grant her peace and unity
in accordance with your will.
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And with your spirit.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Choir: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.

Holy Communion is now given.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Matthew 26:42*

Father, if this cup may not pass but I must drink it, then your will be done.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

The Lamentation - *Edward Bairstow 1874-1946*

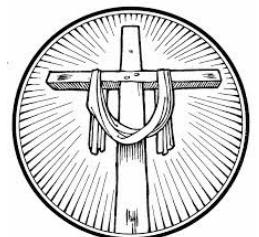
COMMUNION HYMN (90) *Omit v5 form hymn book*

O sacred head, sore wounded,
defiled and put to scorn;
O kingly head surrounded
with mocking crown of thorn:
What sorrow mars thy grandeur?
Can death thy bloom deflower?
O countenance whose splendor
the hosts of heaven adore!

Thy beauty, long-desirèd,
hath vanished from our sight;
thy power is all expirèd,
and quenched the light of light.
Ah me! for whom thou diest,
hide not so far thy grace:
show me, O Love most highest,
the brightness of thy face.

I pray thee, Jesus, own me,
me, Shepherd good, for thine;
who to thy fold hast won me,
and fed with truth divine.
Me guilty, me refuse not,
incline thy face to me,
this comfort that I lose not,
on earth to comfort thee.

In thy most bitter passion
my heart to share doth cry,
with thee for my salvation
upon the cross to die.
Ah, keep my heart thus moved
to stand thy cross beneath,
to mourn thee, well-belovéd,
yet thank thee for thy death.



Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right and just.**

Celebrant: It is truly right and just,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks.
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Christ our Lord.
For, though innocent,
he suffered willingly for sinners
and accepted unjust condemnation to save the guilty.
His Death has washed away our sins,
and his Resurrection has purchased our justification.
And so, with all the Angels, we praise you,
as in joyful celebration we acclaim:

Choir: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Hosts,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people KNEEL

During this prayer, by the Word of God and the power of the Holy Spirit, the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ.

After the Lord's Words of Institution the celebrant sings:

Celebrant: The mystery of faith.

All: **Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.**

Together with all for whom we pray, we are offered to God the Father as part of Jesus' sacrifice of love.

COMMUNION RITE

The people STAND

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant: At the Saviour's command,
and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: **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.**

Celebrant: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that by the help of your mercy
we may always be free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All: **For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.**

RITE OF PEACE

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you:
look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church,

The people SIT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING *Isaiah 50:4-7*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backwards. I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. But the Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 21 (22)*

R. My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

All who see me deride me.
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him:
let him release him if this is his friend.' **R.**

Many dogs have surrounded me,
a band of the wicked beset me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet.
I can count every one of my bones. **R.**

They divide my clothing among them.
They cast lots for my robe.
O Lord, do not leave me alone,
my strength, make haste to help me! **R.**

I will tell of your name to my brethren
and praise you where they are assembled.
'You who fear the Lord give him praise;
all sons of Jacob, give him glory.
Revere him, Israel's sons.' **R.**

THE SECOND READING *Philippians 2:6-11*

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Philippians.

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

The people STAND



THE ACCLAMATION

- v. Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
R. **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**
v. Christ was humbler yet,
even to accepting death, death on a cross.
But God raised him on high,
and gave him the name
which is above all names.
R. **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

THE READING OF THE SACRED PASSION

The Passion is read dramatically as set out below; the people all join in the parts in "Others" in bold type. Those who are able should remain standing.

- Narrator: The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
- When the hour came, Jesus reclined at table, and the Apostles with him. And he said to them.
- Jesus: I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.
- Narrator: And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said,
- Jesus: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.
- Narrator: And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying,
- Jesus: This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!
- Narrator: And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who was going to do this. A dispute also arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. And he said to them,
- Jesus: The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves. You are those who have stayed with me in my trials, and I assign to you, as my Father assigned to me, a kingdom, that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel. Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.
- Narrator: Peter said to him,
- Others: Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death.**
- Narrator: Jesus said,
- Jesus: I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me.
- Narrator: And he said to them,
- Jesus: When I sent you out with no money bag or knap sack or sandals, did you lack anything?.
- Narrator: They said,
- Others: Nothing.**
- Narrator: He said to them,
- Jesus: But now let the one who has a money bag take it, and likewise a knapsack. And let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one. For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in me: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors.' For what is written about me has its fulfilment.
- Narrator: And they said,
- Others: Look, Lord, here are two swords**
- Narrator: And he said to them,
- Jesus: It is enough.
- Narrator: And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. And when he came to the place, he said to them,

That they might lovely be.
O, who am I,
That for my sake
My Lord should take
Frail flesh, and die?

He came from his blest throne,
Salvation to bestow:
But men made strange, and none
The longed-for Christ would know.
But O, my Friend,
My Friend indeed,
Who at my need
His life did spend!

Sometimes they strew his way,
And his sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day
Hosannas to their King.
Then 'Crucify!'
Is all their breath,
And for his death
They thirst and cry.

Why, what hath my Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
He gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries!
Yet they at these
Themselves displease,
And 'gainst him rise.

They rise, and needs will have
My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save,
The Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful he
To suffering goes,
That he his foes
From thence might free.

Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine;
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like thine!
This is my Friend,
In whose sweet praise
I all my days
Could gladly spend.

INVITATION TO PRAYER

Celebrant: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

People: **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Celebrant: Through the Passion of your Only Begotten Son, O Lord, may our reconciliation with you be near at hand, so that, though we do not merit it by our own deeds, yet by this sacrifice made once for all, we may feel already the effects of your mercy.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

had not consented to their decision and action; and he was looking for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, and wrapped it in a linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb cut in stone, where no one had ever yet been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

HOMILY *The people SIT*

PROFESSION OF FAITH *The people STAND*

All: I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
begotten of the Father before all ages,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:

All BOW: and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray for the needs of the Church and the world.

After each of the biddings:

Leader: Lord, hear us.

All: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

At the end of the prayers:

People: **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY HYMN *(86 omit verse 6 in hymn book)*

My song is love unknown,
My Saviour's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown,

Jesus: Pray that you may not enter into temptation.

Narrator: And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, saying,

Jesus: Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.

Narrator: And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, and he said to them,

Jesus: Why are you sleeping? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation.

Narrator: While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, but Jesus said to him,

Jesus: Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?

Narrator: And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said,

Others: Lord, shall we strike with the sword?

Narrator: And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said,

Jesus: No more of this!

Narrator: And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders, who had come out against him,

Jesus: Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness.

Narrator: Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house, and Peter was following at a distance. And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said

Others: This man also was with him.

Narrator: But he denied it, saying,

Others: Woman, I do not know him

Narrator: And a little later someone else saw him and said,

Others: You also are one of them.

Narrator: But Peter said,

Others: Man, I am not.

Narrator: And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying

Others: Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean

Narrator: But Peter said.

Others: Man, I do not know what you are talking about.

Narrator: And immediately, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying 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 in custody were mocking him as they beat him. They also blindfolded him and kept asking him,

Others: Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?

Narrator: And they said many other things against him, blaspheming him. When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together, both chief priests and scribes. And they led him away to their council, and they said,

Others: **If you are the Christ, tell us**

Narrator: But he said to them,

Jesus: If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I ask you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God.

Narrator: So they all said,

Others: **Are you the Son of God, then?**

Narrator: And he said to them,

Jesus: You say that I am.

Narrator: Then they said,

Others: **What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips.**

Narrator: Then the whole company of them arose and brought him before Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying,

Others: **We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king.**

Narrator: And Pilate asked him

Others: **Are you the King of the Jews?**

Narrator: And he answered him,

Jesus: You have said so.

Narrator: Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds,

Others: **I find no guilt in this man.**

Narrator: But they were urgent, saying,

Others: **He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place.**

Narrator: When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him. So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other. Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, and said to them,

Others: **You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore punish and release him.**

Narrator: But they all cried out together,

Others: **Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas.**

Narrator: A man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, but they kept shouting,

Others: **Crucify, crucify him!**

Narrator: A third time he said to them,

Others: **Why? What evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him.**

Narrator: But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their

voices prevailed. So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.

And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. But turning to them Jesus said,

Jesus: Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us', and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?

Narrator: Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said,

Jesus: Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.

Narrator: And they cast lots to divide his garments. And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying,

Others: **He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!**

Narrator: The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying,

Others: **If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!**

Narrator: There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals who were hanged there railed at Jesus, saying,

Others: **Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!**

Narrator: But the other rebuked him, saying,

Others: **Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.**

Narrator: And he said,

Others: **Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.**

Narrator: And he said to him,

Jesus: Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.

Narrator: It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said,

Jesus: Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!

Narrator: And having said this he breathed his last.

ALL KNEEL, and pause awhile, then STAND

Narrator: Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying,

Others: **Certainly this man was innocent!**

Narrator: And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.

Now there was a man named Joseph, from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man, who