

Welcome to our Palm Sunday Service

28 March 2021

John 19:16-37 - The crucifixion



Welcome: Julian Bidgood

Song:

1. Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice.
All creation rises to rejoice.

*Behold our God seated on His throne.
Come, let us adore Him.
Behold our King—nothing can compare.
Come, let us adore Him!*

2. Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?

Behold our God seated on His throne....

3. Who has felt the nails upon His hands?
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man
God eternal, humbled to the grave
Jesus, Saviour, risen now to reign!

Behold our God seated on His throne....

You will reign forever...
You will reign forever (Let your glory fill the earth)...

Behold our God seated on His throne...

Confession:

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to change what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may act justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen**

Reading: Psalm 34

- ¹ I will extol the Lord at all times;
his praise will always be on my lips.
- ² I will glory in the Lord;
let the afflicted hear and rejoice.
- ³ Glorify the Lord with me:
let us exalt his name together.
- ⁴ I sought the Lord, and he answered me;
he delivered me from all my fears.
- ⁵ Those who look to him are radiant;
their faces are never covered with shame.
- ⁶ This poor man called, and the Lord heard him;
he saved him out of all his troubles.
- ⁷ The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him,
and he delivers them.
- ⁸ Taste and see that the Lord is good;
blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.
- ⁹ Fear the Lord, you his holy people,
for those who fear him lack nothing.
- ¹⁰ The lions may grow weak and hungry,
but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.
- ¹¹ Come, my children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
- ¹² Whoever of you loves life
and desires to see many good days,
¹³ keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from telling lies.
- ¹⁴ Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.
- ¹⁵ The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,
and his ears are attentive to their cry;
- ¹⁶ but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil,
to blot out their name from the earth.
- ¹⁷ The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them;
he delivers them from all their troubles.

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- ¹⁸ The Lord is close to the broken-hearted
and saves those who are crushed in spirit.
¹⁹ The righteous person may have many troubles,
but the Lord delivers him from them all;
²⁰ he protects all his bones,
not one of them will be broken.
²¹ Evil will slay the wicked;
the foes of the righteous will be condemned.
²² The Lord will rescue his servants;
no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.

Reading: John 19:16-37

¹⁶ Finally Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified.

So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. ¹⁷ Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). ¹⁸ There they crucified him, and with him two others – one on each side and Jesus in the middle.

¹⁹ Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. ²⁰ Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. ²¹ The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, ‘Do not write “The King of the Jews”, but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews.’

²² Pilate answered, ‘What I have written, I have written.’

²³ When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.

²⁴ ‘Let’s not tear it,’ they said to one another. ‘Let’s decide by lot who will get it.’

This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said,

‘They divided my clothes among them
and cast lots for my garment.’

So this is what the soldiers did.

²⁵ Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing near by, he said to her, ‘Woman, here is your son,’ ²⁷ and to the disciple, ‘Here is your mother.’ From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

²⁸ Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, ‘I am thirsty.’ ²⁹ A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips. ³⁰ When he had received the drink, Jesus said, ‘It is finished.’ With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

³¹ Now it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a special Sabbath. Because the Jewish leaders did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down. ³² The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. ³³ But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs.

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³⁴ Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water. ³⁵ The man who saw it has given testimony, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe. ³⁶ These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled: 'Not one of his bones will be broken,' ³⁷ and, as another scripture says, 'They will look on the one they have pierced.'

Talk: 'The Crucifixion' - David Horrocks

Prayers

The Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen**

Song:

1. Depth of Mercy, can there be
Mercy reaching even me?
God, the Just, His wrath forbears:
Me, the chief of sinners spares.
So many times my heart has strayed
From His kind and perfect ways,
Making clear my desp'rate need
For His blood, poured out for me.

2. Give me grace, Lord, let me own
All the wrongs that I have done.
Let me now my sins deplore,
Look to you and sin no more.
There for me the Saviour stands,
Holding forth His wounded hands;
Scars which ever cry for me,
Once condemned, but now set free.

Charles Wesley / Bob Kauflin
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Next Week

On Easter Sunday we conclude our Easter series and Julian Bidgood will be speaking on John 19:37-20:10, 'The Resurrection'.



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Email: office@abch.org.uk



Website: www.abch.org.uk