Wellington Methodist Parish

# Good Friday

2023

Instruments of the Cross

# ORDER OF SERVICE
# Good Friday – 7th April 2023

We welcome everyone to today's service. Your presence enriches our gathering and contributes to the creative evolution of community.

**Welcome** – Rev Utumau'u Pupulu

**Introit** – Samoan choir

**Gathering** – Rev Nicola Teague Grundy

## Call to Worship

In hope, in longing:
**We're glad to come together.**

In solidarity with those who struggle:
**We're glad to come together.**

In resistance to those who dominate:
**We're glad to come together.**

In memory of all who act with courage:
**We're glad to come together.**

## Opening Hymn – Two Crosses

Words: Norman E. Brookes Tune: Winchester New

The cross that once on Calvary's hill
an anguished broken body bore,
sheds light, stands bright in our night sky,
on this Pacific southern shore.

Amidst this human life of ours
the Calvary cross, a potent sign
of God, the persecuted one
whose love is ever life's design.

Amidst the constellations vast
the Southern Cross, a glorious sign
of Christ, the resurrected Lord,
transcending all of space and time.

Two crosses then: one dark with pain
revealing God on Calvary's hill,
the other, sign of light and hope,
its word: Yes, God is with us still.

Christ is not locked in time gone by,
nor out of reach in realms of space.
These crosses tell us: Christ is here,
believe, and know God face to face.

**Instruments of the Crucifixion**

***Cross***
***Scarlet Cloak***
***Crown of Thorns***

**Hymn – O Sacred head, sore wounded**

Words: Paul Gerhardt, *tr* James Waddell Alexander & Rupert E. Davies

O sacred head, sore wounded,
with grief and pain weighed down,
how scornfully surrounded
with thorns, thine only crown!
How pale art thou with anguish,
with sore abuse and scorn!
How does that visage languish
which once was bright as morn!

O Lord of life and glory,
what bliss till now was thine!
I read the wondrous story,
I joy to call thee mine.
Thy grief and thy compassion
were all for sinners' gain;
mine, mine was the transgression,
but thine the deadly pain.

What language shall I borrow
to praise thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow,
thy pity without end?
Lord, make me thine for ever,
nor let me faithless prove;
O let me never, never
abuse such dying love!

Be near me, Lord, when dying;
O show thy cross to me,
that I, for succour flying,
my eyes may fix on thee;
and then, thy grace receiving,
let faith my fears dispel,
for whoso dies believing
in thee, dear Lord, dies well.

**Instruments of the Crucifixion**

***Wine***

**Reflective Hymn – Follow the way**

Words: Shirley E. Murray;  Music Jenny McLeod

*Please stay seated.*

Follow the Way, the way of the Cross,
Go where the footsteps lead,
Follow the way of sorrow and loss,
Love is its crime and creed.  (repeat x 3)

**Instruments of the Crucifixion**

***Hammer and Nails***
***Sponge***
***Spear***

## Hymn – When I survey the wondrous Cross

Words: Isaac Watts;  Tune Rockingham

When I survey the wondrous cross,
on which the Prince of Glory died,
my richest gain I count by loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

*(Tongan)*
'Oiau he tafe hifo e
'A e toto mahu'inga fau
He ta'ata'a he 'Otua
Lilingi ke huhu'i au

*(Fijian)*
Au beca kecega na ka
Sa noqu ka talei e liu
Au taleitaki Jisu ga
Ka'u soli au me'u nona tu

(*Samoan)*
A ou vaai i le laau
Na faasatauro ai Iesu
Le tupu o le faavavau
Ina ia tatou filemu

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

## Instruments of the Crucifixion

**Indictment**

## Prayer

God of life, God of beginnings and endings,
today we pause to remember the power of death.
Today we have told the story of what happens
when someone angers those in power.

Today we have told a story of betrayal by a friend,
trial by empire, execution as a way of silencing the one who names injustice.
Today we have told a story that happened long ago in a land far away.
Today we told a story that continues to happen today in places close at hand.

As we remember the story today help us to see its truth.
As we tell of Jesus' trial and execution,
remind us of those who are found legally guilty for doing and saying the right things.
As we remember the friends who were conspicuously absent from the cross, remind us how easily we slip away when the struggle for justice becomes dangerous or challenging.

We look at the cross, remembering the power of empire in any age,
and we are reminded of our duty as people of faith to proclaim a different empire, a different kingdom, a new way of living together.

God of endings, today we have heard the agonized words "It is finished".
Today we think of all those things that are stopped before they
come to fruition, of hopes crushed beneath reality's heavy foot,
of promises left unfulfilled, of possibilities that leave us wondering....

God of life and death, beginnings and endings,
today we have paused to remember the power of those in charge to run the world. Today we have remembered the many people near and far who are broken by that power:
those who live in places where peace is just a word,
not a reality, not even a dream;
those who are pushed to the margins
because of their race, their gender, their bank balance,
their marital status, their orientation,
or any of the countless other ways we find to set people apart;
those who live with nothing so that others may live with abundance
those who choose to challenge the injustices in their world
and are crushed beneath the feet of those in charge.

*A silence is kept*

But even as we remember that power,
we remember that day follows night,
hope replaces despair,
and life will conquer death.

Help us remember that every ending is a new beginning,
even if in the depths of The End
we have no way of seeing what that new beginning might be.

We pray in the name of the one who showed us
the depth of his passion for your reign,
who taught us to live in love and justice,
and who taught his friends to pray by saying:

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,**
**Hallowed by 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.**
**Save us from the time of trial**
**And deliver us from evil.**
**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours**
**Now and for ever. Amen.**

## Closing Poem – Good Friday

By Peter Abelard *(language updated)*

***The service is now concluded.***
*When you are ready, please leave the church quietly.*
*We meet again on Easter Sunday to celebrate the resurrection.*

Instruments of the Crucifixion was compiled by Drama Christi and adapted by Daphne Pilaar.

**Instruments**

Cross – *Elisara Manuao*

Scarlet Cloak – *Philomena Nziramasanga*

Crown of Thorns – *Tauamiti Heger*

Wine Jar – Jessemina *Sina*

Hammer and Nails – *Sven Heger*

Sponge and a Bowl – *Hugh Laurenson*

Spear – *Alexander Garside*

Indictment – *Quinnette Manuao*

**Readers**

Narrator – *Alexander Garside*

Man 1–*Philip Garside*

Man 2- *Peter Grundy*

Woman – *Heather Garside*

Person – *Brendan Fanning*