



# CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN CHELMSFORD

## GOOD FRIDAY 2018

### PROCESSION OF WITNESS

[www.chelmsfordchurches.net](http://www.chelmsfordchurches.net)

#### @ Station 1

*Leader* We are invited to accompany Jesus through this day:  
to be witnesses to his suffering,  
to keep silence before his cry of dereliction.  
In our imaginations, let us trudge through Jerusalem,  
until we come to the place of the Cross:  
and then, let us not turn our faces away.

#### **Bible reading: John 19:13b-16**

Pilate brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

**1** There is a Redeemer,  
Jesus, God's own Son,  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,  
Holy One.

**2** Jesus, my Redeemer,  
Name above all names,  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,  
O for sinners slain.

*Thank you, O my father,  
For giving us Your Son,  
And leaving Your Spirit,  
Till the work on Earth is done.*

**3** When I stand in Glory,  
I will see His face,  
And there I'll serve my King forever,  
In that Holy Place.

Melody Green © 1982 Birdwing Music

*Leader* God forbid that I should boast of anything  
*All* **but the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Leader* In him is salvation, life, and resurrection from the dead;  
*All* **by him we are redeemed and set free.**

*Leader* May God be gracious to us and bless us,  
*All* **and make his face shine upon us.**

## @ Station 2

*Leader* In this day lie all the sorrows and failings of a humanity that strives for high success, yet comes up against human limitations, and falls to the ground in despair. A humanity whose peace plans give way to guns, and whose political promises become papers in filing cabinets.

### **Bible reading: John 19:16b-19**

They took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews."

Meekness and majesty, manhood and deity,  
In perfect harmony, the Man who is God.  
Lord of eternity dwells in humanity,  
Kneels in humility and washes our feet

*O what a mystery, meekness and majesty  
Bow down and worship for this is your God  
This is your God*

Father's pure radiance, perfect in innocence  
Yet learns obedience to death on a cross  
Suffering to give us life  
Conquering through sacrifice,  
And as they crucify prays 'Father forgive'

Wisdom unsearchable, God the invisible  
Love indestructible in frailty appears.  
Lord of infinity, stooping so tenderly,  
Lifts our humanity to the heights of His throne.

Graham Kendrick © 1986 Make Way Music

*Leader* From the busy-ness of our lives  
we have come here on a day that is different.

*All* **In the midst of the world  
which holds the promise of spring and new life,  
we have come to share a story of betrayal and execution.**

*Leader* Come and hear the tale, come and share the tragedy,  
come and embrace the darkness.

## @ Station 3

*Leader* Here is a day marked by the brokenness of the world.  
But it is not a day to wallow in misery,  
or to indulge in morbid thoughts about the crucifixion.  
It is simply a sombre, dignified day  
when we remember how it was for Jesus,  
and find at the foot of the cross  
a place to lay down ours and the world's sorrow.

### **Bible reading: John 19:25b-27**

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

From heaven you came, helpless babe,  
Entered our world, your glory veiled;  
Not to be served but to serve,  
And give Your life that we might live.

There in the garden of tears,  
My heavy load he chose to bear;  
His heart with sorrow was torn,  
'Yet not My will but Yours,' He said.

*This is our God, the Servant King,  
He calls us now to follow Him,  
To bring our lives as a daily offering  
Of worship to the Servant King.*

Come see His hands and His feet,  
The scars that speak of sacrifice;  
Hands that flung stars into space  
To cruel nails surrendered.

So let us learn How to serve,  
And in our lives enthrone Him;  
Each other's needs to prefer,  
For it is Christ we're serving.

Graham Kendrick © Kingsway's Thankyou Music

*Leader* Lord Jesus,  
some of your followers stayed with you to the end.

*All* **We want to have that kind of faith.  
Give us the strength to see things through,  
even in the midst of darkness, danger and despair.**

## @ Station 4

*Leader* On grey days it is hard to see clearly,  
difficult to understand things that aren't clear.  
Yet all we are asked to do today is to be present  
to the sacred story as it is retold, and  
to the inexplicable, mysterious, wondrous  
transaction that was, and still is taking place.

### **Bible reading: John 19:28-30**

When Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfil the scripture), "I am thirsty." A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

- 1 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?
- 2 Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? . . .
- 3 Were you there when they pierced him in his side? . . .
- 4 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? . . .

African American spiritual

*Leader* Lord Jesus, you showed us God's abundant hospitality  
and turned water into wine.

*All* **We showed you human hospitality and let things go sour.  
We showed no mercy,  
and yet we ask for your mercy, Lord.**

*Leader* We follow Christ,

*All* **Who says take up your cross.**

*Leader* We follow Christ,

*All* **Who bids us come and offer our lives.**

*Leader* We follow Christ,

*All* **Who summons us to new life.**

