

Maundy Thursday Prayer Stations 2021

PAIN

THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him. On reaching the place, he said to them, "Pray that you will not fall into temptation."

He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.

Luke Chapter 22 v 39-44

REFLECTION...

Over the last year we have been through so much. The first national lockdown started on 23rd March 2020 and over the months many of us have experienced pain and grief. Bereavement, illness, isolation, loneliness, redundancy, weddings cancelled, funerals missed...

So much loss.

We have had to drink a bitter cup, a cup we would have wished to avoid.

Jesus experienced this too. His anguish was real.

Draw near to him who fully understands our pain.

Are we able to bring all we have lost to Jesus?

All our tears?

RESPONSE

Take time to reflect and pray.

You may like to write down some of those griefs and sorrows you have experienced.

If you have a cross, place these by it as an act of surrender. If not, fold them closed as you offer them to the Lord in prayer.

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SEPARATION

THE CROSS

From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

“Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?”

which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

Matthew 27 v 45 – 46

REFLECTION...

As he hung on the cross, Jesus experienced three hours of utter darkness. The darkness was spiritual as well as physical because he was separated from his Heavenly Father.

For the first and only time Jesus was without his Father’s love, comfort and presence.

Jesus experienced this separation so that we might not.

For I am convinced that neither death nor life,
neither angels nor demons,
neither the present nor the future,
nor any powers,
neither height nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8 v 38 – 39

RESPONSE

Spend some time reflecting on God’s promises (see overleaf).

In the peace listen to God — what is he saying to you?

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***The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous
and his ears are attentive to their cry.***

Psalm 34 v 15

***The LORD is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.***

Psalm 145 v 18

***He heals the broken-hearted
and binds up their wounds.***

Psalm 147 v 3

***Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest.***

Matthew 11 v 28

***Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed,
for his compassions never fail.***

They are new every morning;

great is your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3 v 22 - 23

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures,

he leads me beside still waters,

he restores my soul.

Psalm 23 v 1 - 3

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UNITY

JESUS PRAYS FOR US

My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

John 17 v 20 – 23

REFLECTION...

During the last evening that Jesus spent with his disciples he prayed for both them and for us. His heart was that all his followers would be in such unity with each other that everyone would see that Jesus is the Son of God.

What a challenge for us!

RESPONSE

As Jesus prayed for us, let us pray for one another.

You may like to spend some time praying for our local churches (see overleaf).

For all of them to be in harmony with one another;

For each of them to reveal Jesus to our community.

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LOCAL CHURCHES

All Saints' Church

Myton Church

Northgate Methodist Church

St. Mary Collegiate

St. Michael's Church

St. Paul's Church

Castle Hill Baptist Church

New Life Church

St. Charles Borromeo

St. Mary Immaculate

St. Nicholas Church

Saltisford Church

PRAYER

Can we serve you by praying for you?

If so, please send us an email (kevin@warwickbaptists.org.uk) Please indicate if you do not want this shared (in the smallest sense – see below)

Anything you share will be held with the level of confidence you express in your message. If you do not say anything, only those who are 'on duty' this Maundy Thursday (max of three people from the Prayer Team) will know of your prayer request as we intend to pray for all unrestricted requests together.