



# GOOD FRIDAY

*Wesley Methodist Parish*

*75 Taranaki St*

*Wellington*

*9.30 am*

*3<sup>rd</sup> April 2026*

*Good Friday*

*Worship Leaders: Rev Joeli Ducivaki*

*Organist: Vivien Chiu*

*Readers: Various*

*Good Morning, Mōrena, Malo lelei, Talo Falava, Namaste, Kiorana and Ni sa Bula Vinaka.*

**BRIEFING & WELCOME**

**INTROIT – TONGAN**

*In the responsive reading, the Leader reads the plain text; the Congregation reads the **bolded** text.*

## **Call to Worship**

Come, you who watch through shadows of injustice

**We gather in the presence of the God who suffers with us**

Come, seekers of truth in the face of denial

**We gather with Christ, who stands before power unafraid**

Come, with hearts heavy and hands open

**We gather to honour the human Jesus, wounded and brave**

Come, to witness the love that was not silenced

**We gather to remember the truth that stands alone**

Come, not for comfort but for courage

**We gather to walk the hard road of faithfulness**

Come, through betrayal, fear, and silence

**We gather with those who still bear unjust crosses**

Come, knowing truth is costly and love is fierce

**We gather to follow Jesus, wherever he leads**

Come, to sit at the foot of a cross not in defeat, but in defiance

**We gather to remember, to mourn, and to rise again**

Come, weary ones, grieving ones, bold ones

**We gather as the Body of Christ, still witnessing**

Come, to see what empire cannot destroy

**We gather to be transformed by grace**

Come, for the truth still lives

**We gather, and we will not turn away. Amen.**

## **LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE**

The sky darkens that day

The wind shifted so the dust

can settle in the valley below  
The hill stood far away  
But a distant light was felt that day  
But seen by those who believed  
From the cross with a crown of thorns  
The guilt that was expressed but the light  
Filled the air with love but expressed in pain  
the promise of God's love kept shining for those who believed

**The light shines with us and within us  
Made possible with Christ because of God's promise.  
Let this light shine, so we can see what it brings.**

(Self-reflection on Jn 3:16)

### **Opening Prayer**

Christ, bearer of truth

**Renew us with your courage**

When power evades responsibility

**Renew us with your courage**

When religion trades compassion for control

**Renew us with your courage**

When truth is inconvenient and costly

**Renew us with your courage**

When love is mocked or met with silence

**Renew us with your courage**

When justice is crucified

**Renew us with your courage**

When fear tempts us to retreat

**Renew us with your courage**

In your suffering and your strength

**Renew us with your courage.**

**In the loving name of Christ. Amen.**

### **HYMN**

### **'O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder**

1. Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,  
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made;  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed:

**Refrain:**

**Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:  
How great thou art! How great thou art!**

- 2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:
- 3 And when I think how God, his Son not sparing,  
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
That on the cross, my burdens gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin:
4. When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation,  
To take me home, what joy will fill my heart!  
Then I will bow in humble adoration,  
And there proclaim, my God, how great thou art!

**Prayer of Approach**

We come, O God, not as spectators but as witnesses  
**Draw us into your truth and love**

We bring the weight of all we do not understand  
**Draw us into your truth and love**

We confess our complicity in silence and fear  
**Draw us into your truth and love**

We come with hearts heavy for the pain of the world  
**Draw us into your truth and love**

We struggle with the story, and yet we stay  
**Draw us into your truth and love**

We bring questions, grief, and holy anger  
**Draw us into your truth and love**

We come seeking a faith that can hold sorrow  
**Draw us into your truth and love**

We turn again toward the cross,  
**Draw us into your truth and love**

***As we kneel at the cross***

**Suffering God,**                    *(Simultaneously Read in your own language below)*  
*forgive me the sorrows I have speared into others; forgive them the wounds they  
pierced into me, for there is much pain from my action and others' reaction.  
Blend my words into your story to ripen the garden of creation  
with the fruits of suffering love. Amen*

**(Tongan)**

Fakamolemole kapau kuo kafo hoku kaungā fononga koe'uhi ko ha  
'aku tō nounou;  
Fakamolemole'i 'a kinautolu kapau kuo nau hoko koe fakatukui'ang  
a 'oe 'ete mo'ui  
Tuku ho'o folofola ke hoko 'o fu'a pea polo'uto he koe 'ofa na'a ke f  
ai 'oku ta'e filifili manako. Amen

**(Samoan)**

**Le Atua puapuagatia,**

fa'amagalo mai a'u mo fa'anoanoaga ua ou sunu'i i loto o isi tagata  
Fa'amagalo i latou mo manu'a ua latou tutu'i mai ia te a'u  
Aua ua tele le tiga ua tupu mai ia matou gaoioiga. ma a matou tali atu  
Fa'afefiloi a matou tala i le tala i lau afio  
Ina ia ave'a ma fatu pula o le fa'atoaga o le foafoaga  
Fa'atasi ma fatu o le alofa puapuagatia. Amen

**(Fijian)**

**Na Kalou Beitaki**

*Vosota na noqu cakacala, au sa cokai iko kina  
Vosoti ira ni ra sa vakamavoataki iko Sa ruilevu na mosi, ia o ni sa  
vosota kece  
Qolou na domoqu, ni sa talanoataka  
Ni cadra mai Iteni na ligamuni loloma  
Oqo na vua ni nomuni yaluma keina mosi. Emeni*

**CLEAN HANDS**

**READING John 18:28-32 (NIRV)**

*Read in Tongan*

**Toni Paonga**  
(Tongan Congregation)

*Jesus before Pilate*

Then the Jewish leaders took Jesus from Caiaphas to the palace of the Roman governor. By now it was early morning, and to avoid ceremonial uncleanness they did not enter the palace, because they wanted to be able to eat the Passover. So, Pilate came out to them and asked, "What charges are you bringing against this man?" "If he were not a criminal," they replied, "we would not have handed him over to you." Pilate said, "Take him yourselves and judge him by your law." "But we have no right to execute anyone," they objected. This took place to fulfill what Jesus had said about the kind of death he was going to die.

**REFLECTION – CLEAN HANDS**

## PRAYER

We think of those who were doing their everyday work on that first Good Friday:

those whose work involved the oppression of others;  
those who were trying to keep the peace;  
those who kept themselves sanitized,  
but permitted for others to do their dirty work.

***Forgive us, O God, that religion has sometimes been an excuse to keep the world and its problems at arm's length instead of a way of living in answer to your call to serve others.***

*(Short silence- Let's reflect onto ourselves and journey)*

## HYMN 'There is a green hill far away'

H&P 178

(English)

1. There is a green hill far away,  
outside a city wall,  
where the dear Lord was  
crucified, who died to save us all.

Le Tupu sili lava ia  
Le Tupu e fa'avavau.

(Tongan)

4. Oku 'ikai fe'unga hā lelei;  
Ke ne 'ave 'etau hia  
Kuo ava 'a e matapā  
Ke ma'u koe ki 'Itāni.

(Fijian)

2. Sa dredre sara me kilai  
Na nona mate ca  
Macala ga ni a lewai  
Eda vukuda ga

(English)

5. Dearly, dearly has He loved,  
And we must love Him too,  
And trust in His redeeming blood,  
And try His works to do.

(Samoan)

3. Ina va'aia ia Iesu  
Ua tautau i le la'au

## BOUND HANDS

**READING John 18:33-38a**

*Read in English*

**Ian Taylor**

10AM Congregation

Sa lako tale yani o Pailato ka kacivi Jisu, ka tarogi koya, "O sa nodra Tui beka na Jiu?"

<sup>34</sup> Sa sauma yani vua o Jisu, "O sa vosa tiko beka ga ena vukumu ena ka oqo, se ra sa tukuna eso tale vei iko na ka oqo me baleti Au?"

<sup>35</sup> Sa vosa mai o Pailato ka vaka: "Oi au beka na Jiu? O ira na kai Nomu, kei ira na bete levu era sa kauti lko mai vei au. Na cava o sa cakava?"

<sup>36</sup> Sa sauma mai o Jisu, "Na noqu matanitu sa sega ni ka ni vuravura oqo. Kevaka sa ka ni vuravura oqo, era na vala na Noqu tamata, Me'u kua ni soli yani kina vei ira na Jiu; sa sega ni ka ni vanua oqo na Noqu matanitu."



2. O safe and happy shelter!  
 O refuge tried and sweet!  
 O trysting-place where heaven's love  
 And heaven's justice meet!  
 As to the holy patriarch  
 That wondrous dream was given,  
 So seems my Savior's cross to me  
 A ladder up to heaven.

3. I take, o cross, your shadow  
 For my abiding place;  
 I ask no other sunshine than  
 The sunshine of His face;  
 Content to let the world go by,  
 To know no gain or loss;  
 My sinful self my only shame,  
 My glory all-the cross

### **HANDS OF POWER**

**READING: John 19:1-16a**

*Read in English*

**Huge Laurenson**

*(Social Committee Rep)*

<sup>1</sup> Ko ia na'e toki tuku 'e Pailato 'a Sisu, ke kau'imaea. <sup>2</sup> Pea na'e fi 'e he kau tau 'ae tatā 'akau talatala, ke 'ai ki hono fofonga, 'onau 'ai kiate ia 'ae pulupulu kulokula. <sup>3</sup> 'O nau lau, "Si'oto'ofa tu'i 'oe kakai Siu!" Pea nau haha ia 'aki honau nima. <sup>4</sup> Ko ia na'e toe 'alu atu ai 'a Pailato, 'o ne tala kiate kinautolu, "Vakai, 'oku ou 'omi ia kiate kimoutolu, koe'uhi ke mou 'ilo 'oku 'ikai te u 'ilo ha'ane kovi." <sup>5</sup> Pea 'alu atu 'a Sisu, kuo 'ai 'ae tatā 'akau talatala, mo e pulupulu kulokula. Pea tala 'e Pailato kiate kinautolu, "Vakai ki he tangata!" <sup>6</sup> Ko ia 'i he mamata 'ae kau taula'eiki lahi mo e kau matāpule kiate ia, na'a nau kalanga, 'o pehē, "Tutuki ki he 'akau, tutuki ki he 'akau." Pea talaange 'e Pailato, kiate kinautolu, Mou 'ave ia, 'o tutuki ki he 'akau: he 'oku 'ikai te u 'ilo ha'ane kovi. <sup>7</sup> Pea talaange 'e he kakai Siu kiate ia, "'Oku ai 'emau fono, pea 'i he'emau fono 'oku totonu 'ene mate, koe'uhi na'a ne ui ia ko e 'Alo 'oe 'Otua." <sup>8</sup> Pea kuo fanongo 'a Pailato ki he lea ko ia, pea 'āsili ai 'ene manavahē; <sup>9</sup> Pea toe 'alu ia ki he fale fakamaau, 'o ne fehu'i kia Sisu, "'Oku ke ha'u mei fē?" Ka na'e 'ikai si'i lea 'a Sisu kiate ia. <sup>10</sup> Pea pehē ai 'e Pailato kiate ia, "'Ikai te ke lea kiate au? 'Ikai te ke 'ilo 'oku 'iate au 'ae mafai ke tutuki koe ki he 'akau, pea 'iate au mo e mafai ke tukuange koe?" <sup>11</sup> Pea talaange 'e Sisu, "'E 'ikai te ke mafai ha me'a kiate au, 'o ka ne 'ikai foaki ia kiate koe mei 'olunga: ko ia foki kuo tukuange au kiate koe, 'oku lahi hake 'ene angahala." <sup>12</sup> Pea talu mei ai mo e fie tukuange ia 'e Pailato: ka na'e kalanga 'ae kakai Siu, 'o pehē, "Kapau te ke tukuange 'ae tangata ni, 'oku 'ikai ko ha kāinga koe 'o Sisa: ko ia 'oku ne pehē, ko e tu'i ia, 'oku lea kovi ia kia Sisa." <sup>13</sup> Pea 'i he fanongo 'a Pailato ki he lea ko ia, na'a ne 'omi 'a Sisu kitu'a, 'o nofo hifo 'i he nofo'a fakamaau, 'i he potu 'oku ui "ko e Falikimaka," ' ka 'i he lea fakaHepelū, ko "Kapata." <sup>14</sup> Pea ko e teuteu ki he kātōanga 'oe Lakaatu, pea ko hono ono nai 'oe feitu'ula'ā: pea pehē 'e ia ki he kakai Siu, "Vakai ko homou Tu'i!" <sup>15</sup> Ka na'a nau

kalanga, “Ave ia, ‘ave ia, tutuki ia ki he ‘akau.” Pea pehē ‘e Pailato kiate kinautolu, “Te u tutuki homou Tu’i ki he ‘akau? Pea talaange ‘e he kau taula’eiki lahi, ‘Oku ‘ikai hamau tu’i ka ko Sisa pē.”<sup>16</sup> Ko ia na’a ne toki tukuange ai ia kiate kinautolu ke tutuki ki he ‘akau. Pea na’a nau ma’u ‘a Sisu ‘o taki atu.

## REFLECTION

### PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, the God of Jesus, we hear again of the power struggles and decision making that sent Jesus to the cross. Behind us are our worthlessness and self-centeredness.

***We pray for ourselves, our leaders, and those who make decisions that affect others.***

***Help us not to choose the easy way out when situations are complex but to seek the way of justice. Amen***

### WOUNDED HANDS

**READING John 19:16b-25a**

*Read in Fijian*

**Tuira Bese**

*(Fijian Congregation)*

### THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha).

There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle. Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. 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. 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.” Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.” 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.

“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. Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

## REFLECTION

### PRAYER

God who sees our pain, we find it hard to understand why innocent people suffer and why pain and suffering are so much part of human life.

***We pray for those whose lives are shaped by pain and all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit.***

***Help us never to be unmoved by the plight of another but to find ways of alleviating suffering in the world.***

**HYMN      “Were you there when they crucified my Lord’**

1. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
O 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 laid him in the tomb? ...
4. Were you there when God raised him from the dead?...

*Reproduced from TiS 345*

**READING John 19:25b-30**

*Read in English*

**Varanises Tokalautawa  
(Office Staff)**

**HANDING OVER**

<sup>25b</sup> Sa tutū latalata ane i le satauro o Iesu lona tinā, ma le uso o lona tinā, o Maria le avā a Kalopa, ma Maria le Makatala. <sup>26</sup> Ua silasila atu Iesu i lona tinā, ma le so’o ua alofaina e ia, ua tutū mai, ona fetalai atu lea o ia i lona tina. “Sema e, fa’auta, o lau tama. <sup>27</sup> Ua fa’apea atu foi i lea so’o, “Fa’auta, o lou tinā”. Talu foi lea itu aso ua ave o ia e lea so’o i lona aiga. <sup>28</sup> Mulimuli ane ua silafia o Iesu ua uma ona taunuu o mea uma, ua ia fetalai ane, “Oute fia inu”; ina ia taunuu ai le Tusi. <sup>29</sup> Sa iai foi le fagu ua tumu i le vineta, ua tu’u i luga i le isopo, ma tu’u atu ai i lona fofoga. <sup>30</sup> Ua talia le vineta e Iesu, ona fetalai ane lea o ia, “Ua taunuu”, ua fa’agaugau lona ao, ona tu’uina atu lea o lona agaga.

**REFLECTION**

**PRAYER**

God of life and death, help us to offer each other the support we need when life is hard.

***We pray for those close to death today.***

***May the company of others bring them comfort and reassurance, and the presence of your loving Spirit bring them peace.***

## HYMN

## 'Nothing is lost on the breath of God' (FFS50)

1. Nothing is lost on the breath of God, nothing is lost forever;  
God's breath is love, and that love will remain, holding the world forever.  
No feather too light, no hair too fine, no flower too brief in its glory,  
no drop in the ocean, no dust in the air, but is counted and told in God's story.
2. Nothing is lost to the eyes of God, nothing is lost forever;  
God sees with love, and that love will remain, holding the world forever.  
No journey too far, no distance too great, no valley of darkness too blinding,  
no creature too humble, no child too small for God to be seeking and finding.
3. Nothing is lost to the heart of God, Nothing is lost forever.  
God's heart is love, and that love will remain, holding the world forever.  
No impulse of love, no office of care, no moment of life in its fulness,  
no beginning too late, no ending too soon, but is gathered and known in its  
goodness.

*Colin Gibson*

## CARING HANDS

### READING John 19:31-42

*Read in Tongan*

**Anaua Havea  
Youth**

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. The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water. 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. These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled: "Not one of his bones will be broken," and, as another scripture says, "They will look on the one they have pierced."

### **THE BURIAL OF JESUS**

Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jewish leaders. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away. He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

## REFLECTION

### PRAYER

Caring God, the story of the cross is not an easy one to hear and our response always seems inadequate. Our hands are tied and we are lost, speechless and overwhelmed.

***Help us to make sense of Jesus' suffering  
and stay with our doubts and disappointed hopes  
until the day of resurrection.***

### HYMN 'When I survey the wondrous cross' H&P 180

*Isaac Watts*

*(English)*

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

*(Fijian)*

2. Sa ka talei na Nona dra,  
Na dra ka a tiri mai na kau.  
I Jisu, au sa qai doka  
Na Nomuni lomani au.

*(Samoan)*

3. E faapena me le pale  
Sa pale a o iona ao,  
Le faafitiga i le fale,  
Le afu toto i le vao.

*(English)*

4. 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.

### DEPARTING WORDS

We are invited into a new way of living, shaped not by fear but by grace.

As we reflect on Jesus' sacrifice today, let our hearts be stirred with gratitude—for the Lamb who was slain; for the Savior who intercedes for us; for the God who loves us beyond comprehension.

May the God who loved the world so deeply that He gave His only Son draw us near to the cross this day. May Christ's sacrifice renew our hearts. Amen.

## BENEDICTION

We stand by the cross of Jesus in wonder and dismay.  
***We stand like the beloved few who watched him die.***

We remember the disciple who moved Jesus' body before sundown.  
***We watch as the day becomes night and the path leads to the grave.***

We see the spices of myrrh and aloe, gifts of great love, as they are born to the grave.  
***We bear to the tomb our love, our fear, our grief, our hope – gifts of our great love.***

We begin the long waiting ... through the night and into another day,  
and yet another night.

***We wait in night's darkness for the light of God's dawn.***  
Go in peace and hope.

**The Grace: (said together)**

**Kia tau ki a tātou katoa  
Te atawhai o to tātou Ariki o Ihu Karaiti  
Me te aroha o te Atua  
Me te whiwhinga tahitanga  
Ki te Wairua Tapu. Āmine.**

*Order of Service sourced from 'Seasons of the Spirit'  
Lenten Journey Book and Toolbox kit– Prepared by Philip Garside  
Methodist Hymn Books as shown  
Fijian, Tongan & Samoan Bible & Hymn Book*

*Need Hymns used covered by CCLI Licence #230381 to keep up to date.*

**Scan this code for the latest 10am Order of Service**

