

GOOD FRIDAY REFLECTIONS



GOD'S REPAIR SHOP

**THE PARISH OF ST MARY'S
EASTHAM**

Music: 'Our God is in Control' by Steven Curtis Chapman

Through the prophet Isaiah, God says to his people; "You are precious in my sight and honoured, and I love you."

Isaiah 43:4a

Prayer of approach

God of eternal love,
we approach you with a deep sense of wonder.
Your love reaches out to us in the face of rejection and pain. You suffer in the conflicts and failures which are our lives.
And you still love us.
Open our hearts and minds to contemplate your death.
Assure us again of your forgiveness and acceptance,
and so fill us with your love that we may recognise and answer
the call to share your passion in the world.
This we ask, through him in whom your suffering is revealed,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Assurance of pardon

"But now, thus says the Lord who created you,
he who formed you;
'Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.....
I have carved you onto the palm of my hands.
I glory in you and I delight in you.'"

The Choir will sing *There is a Green Hill far away*

Reading

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

Jeremiah 29:11

Reflection: Karen

Reading

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 3:17-18

Reflection: Simone

Music: *'Be Still'* by Greg Bostock

Prayers of Intercession

Father of the crucified, give us his strength and his love;
that we may be his body on earth
and not fear to go into the darkness,
there to be a light of hope to your people.

Amen

The Choir will sing; Were You There?

Reading:

This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: "Go down to the potter's house, and there I will give you my message." So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him. Then the word of the LORD came to me.

Jeremiah 18:1-5

Reflection: Liz

Reading:

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:8-10

Reflection: Nikki

Reading:

Then John's disciples came and asked him, "How is it that we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?" Jesus answered, "How can the guests of the bridegroom mourn while he is with them? The time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them; then they will fast.

"No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, for the patch will pull away from the garment, making the tear worse. Neither do people pour new wine into old wineskins. If they do, the skins will burst; the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved."

Matthew 9:14-17

Reflection: Beth

Music: *'Forgive Us' by The Many (Hannah Rand, Lenora Rand)*

Silence is kept whilst we pray ourselves before the Cross remembering that God loves us enough to die just for us.

And Finally...the Water and the Spirit

*"You are precious in my sight and honoured,
and I love you."*

Gracious God,
we glimpse the glory of your love,
unexpected light
beckoning us through the darkness,
inviting us to see with different eyes
the possibility of resurrection,
transfigures in the stuff of every day.
Call us now to follow you
into your new life.

Amen.

The Choir will sing Lord of the Dance

Benediction

Go into the day not with grief and sorrow but with hope and even Joy.
It's Friday but Sunday is coming.

Go into the day not in defeat and loss but in awe at what God has done for us.
It's Friday but Sunday is coming.
Go in peace, God has made a way for us.
Go with the assurance of new life and light.
It's Friday but Sunday is coming.
Amen

Credits

Front cover photo by eberhard grossgasteiger on Unsplash, edited.
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