

SHARON & DUNSCOMBE
Moravian Churches - Barbados

HOLY WEEK

PASSION WEEK AND EASTERTIDE

Readings from the Gospels

Wednesday, April 5, 2023

7:00 p.m. Online

Watchword for the Week — *And being found in human form, Jesus humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Philippians 2:7, 8*



ORDER OF SERVICE

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

OPENING SONG: — *Here I Am To Worship*

READING OF THE DAILY TEXT — Wednesday, April 5, 2023

Watchword: *The Lord loves righteousness and justice. Psalm 33:5*

Pray justice may come rolling down
as in a mighty stream,
with righteousness in field and town
to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore
an earth where conflicts cease,
a world that was created for
a harmony of peace. (696*)

Doctrinal Text: *You know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. 2 Corinthians 8:9*

He left his Father's throne above—
so free, so infinite his grace—
emptied himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam's helpless race!
What mercy this, immense and free,
for, O my God, it found out me!
What mercy this, immense and free,
for, O my God, it found out me! (773)

Prayer: Thank you, justice-loving God. Seeing our hungry bodies and empty hearts, you give us your commandments and show us the way to live in harmony with one another. Knowing we need still

more, you show us that self-sacrificing love—yours and ours—enriches your world with mercy and peace. Amen.

HYMN — *The Power of Your Love*

READING FROM PASSION WEEK AND EASTERTIDE:

THE READING FOR WEDNESDAY

THE FAITHFUL SERVANT

— **Sis Shirley Cadogan**

“What sort of servant then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their food at the proper time? Happy the servant if his master’s arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you solemnly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the dishonest servant who says to himself, ‘My master is taking his time’ and sets about beating his fellow-servants and eating and drinking with drunkards, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

THE TEN BRIDESMAIDS

— **Sis Candace Barker**

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, ‘The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him.’ At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, ‘Give us some of your oil, our lamps are going out.’ But they replied, ‘There may not be enough for us and you, you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves.’ They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later, ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us.’ But he replied, ‘I

tell you solemnly, I do not know you.' So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.

150: vv. 1,2,4

12.12.12.7. With Refrain.

It may be at morn, when the day is awaking,
When sunlight through darkness and shadow is breaking,
That Jesus will come in the fullness of glory,
To receive from the world 'His own.'

*O Lord Jesus, how long?
How long e're we shout the glad song?—
Christ returneth, Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Amen! Hallelujah! Amen!*

2 It may be at midday, it may be at twilight,
It may be, perchance, that the darkness of midnight
Will burst into light in the blaze of His glory,
When Jesus receives 'His own.'

4 Oh, joy! Oh, delight! should we go without dying;
No sickness, no sadness, no dread, and no crying;
Caught up through the clouds with our Lord into glory,
When Jesus receives 'His own.'

1878. H. L. Turner.

THE TALENTS

— Sis Deborah Inniss

It is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now a long time later, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more.

'Sir,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness.' Next the man with the two talents came forward. 'Sir,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness.' Last came forward the man who had the one talent. 'Sir,' said he, 'I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents, For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for the good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.'

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S.M.

Teach me, my God and King,
In all things thee to see,
And what I do in anything
To do it as for thee.

2 For those who look on glass,
On it may stay their eyes;
Or if they pleaseth, through it pass,
And then the heaven espy.

3 All may of thee partake;
Nothing can be so mean,
Which with this tincture, 'For thy sake,'

Will not grow bright and clean.

4 A servant with this clause
Makes drudgery divine;
Who sweeps a room, as for thy laws,
Makes that and the action fine.

5 This is the famous stone
That turneth all to gold;
For that which God doth touch and own
Cannot for less be told.

G. Herbert, d. 1632.

THE SHEEP AND THE GOATS

— Bro. Beverton Hinds

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, ‘Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me.’

“The virtuous will say to him in reply, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?’

“And the King will answer, ‘I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me.’

“Next he will say to those on his left hand, ‘Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me.’

“Then it will be their turn to ask, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?’

“Then he will answer, ‘I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me.’

And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.”

HYMN: *Let There Be Love Shared Among Us*

CONSPIRACY AGAINST JESUS

— **Sis Etwin Parris**

Jesus had now finished all he wanted to say, and he told his disciples, “It will be Passover, as you know, in two days’ time, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified.”

Then the chief priests and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, and made plans to arrest Jesus by some trick and have him put to death. They said, however, “It must not be during the festivities; there must be no disturbance among the people.”

Then one of the Twelve, the man called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and the officers of the guard to discuss a scheme for handing Jesus over to them. They were delighted and agreed to give him money.

And he said to them, “What are you prepared to give me if I hand him over to you?”

They paid him thirty pieces of silver, He accepted, and from that moment he looked for an opportunity to betray him to them without the people knowing.

PASSOVER PREPARATIONS

— **Bro. Junior Boyce**

It was before the festival of the Passover, and Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to pass from this world to the Father. He had always

loved those who were his in the world, but now he showed how perfect his love was.

And the disciples came to him to say, "Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the passover?"

So he sent two of his disciples, Peter and John, saying to them, "Go into the city and as you enter you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him into the house he enters and tell the owner of the house, 'The Master says: My time is near. It is at your house that I am keeping Passover with my disciples.' He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations there."

The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them; they did what Jesus told them and prepared the Passover.

166: vv. 1-3

L.M.

It is a thing most wonderful,
Almost too wonderful to be,
That God's own Son should come from heaven,
And die to save a child like me.

2 And yet I know that it is true:
He chose a poor and humble lot,
And wept and toiled and mourned and died,
For love of those who loved him not.

3 I cannot tell how he could love
A child so weak and full of sin;
His love must be most wonderful,
If he could die my love to win.

1873. W.W. How.

THE FOOT-WASHING

— Bro. Neville Legall

When evening came he arrived with the Twelve, A dispute arose between them about which should be reckoned the greatest, but he said to them, "Among pagans it is the kings who lord it over them, and those who have

authority over them are given the title 'Benefactor', This must not happen with you. No, the greatest among you must behave as if he were the youngest, the leader as if he were the one who serves, For who is the greater, the one at table or the one who serves? The one at table, surely? Yet here am I among you as one who serves!"

They were at supper and the devil had already put it into the mind of Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray him. Jesus knew that the Father had put everything into his hands, and that he had come from God and was returning to God, and he got up from the table, removed his outer garment and, taking a towel, wrapped it round his waist; he then poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel he was wearing. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

Jesus answered, "At the moment you do not know what I am doing, but later you will understand."

"Never" said Peter. "You shall never wash my feet."

Jesus replied, "If I do not wash you, you can have nothing in common with me."

"Then, Lord," said Simon Peter, "not only my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

Jesus said, "No one who has taken a bath needs washing, he is clean all over. You too are clean, though not all of you are." He knew who was going to betray him; that was why he said, "though not all of you are."

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77.77.

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2 Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of thy love;
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for thee.

- 3 Take my voice, and let me sing,
Always, only, for my King;
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from thee.
- 4 Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect, and use
Every power as thou shalt choose.
- 5 Take my will, and make it thine;
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is thine own;
It shall be thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasured store;
Take myself, and I will be,
Ever, only, all for thee.

1874. Frances R. Havergal.

A NEW COMMANDMENT

— Bro. Anthony Ifill

So when he had washed their feet and put on his clothes again, he went back to the table. “Do you understand,” he said, “what I have done to you? You call me Master and Lord, and rightly; so I am. If I, then, the Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you should wash each other’s feet. I have given you an example so that you may copy what I have done to you. I tell you most solemnly, no servant is greater than the man who sent him. Now that you know this, happiness will be yours, if you behave accordingly. My little children, I shall not be with you much longer. You will look for me, and, as I told the Jews, where I am going you cannot come. I give you a new commandment: love one another; just as I have loved you, you must also love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples.”

Simon Peter said, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus replied, "Where I am going you cannot follow me now; you will follow me later."

Peter said to him, "Why can't I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you."

"Lay down your life for me?" answered Jesus. "I tell you most solemnly, before the cock crows you will have disowned me three times. Simon, Simon! Satan, you must know, has got his wish to sift you all like wheat; but I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail, and once you have recovered, you in your turn must strengthen your brothers. You will all lose faith, for the Scripture says, 'I shall strike the shepherd and the sheep will be scattered'."

Peter said, "Even if all lose faith, I will not."

And Jesus said to him, "I tell you solemnly, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will have disowned me three times."

But he repeated still more earnestly, "If I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And they all said the same.

250**11.11.11.11.**

My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine;
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer, my Saviour art Thou;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

2 I love Thee because Thou has first lovèd me,
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

3 I'll love Thee in life, I will love Thee in death,
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath;
And say when the death-dew lies cold on my brow,
'If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.'

4 In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow,
'If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.'

1864. William R. Featherston.

REFLECTION — Rev. Ezra Parris

PRAYER

HYMN — *Worthy Is The Lamb*

BENEDICTION