

GISBORNE PRESBYTERIAN PARISH
WELCOME TO ST ANDREW'S CHURCH GISBORNE
Matawhero Church – Church Lane
St Andrew's Church and Community Centre:
176 Cobden Street, Gisborne

GOOD FRIDAY MEMORIAL SERVICE **For the Faithful**
April 7th 2023. 2.30pm

On ENTRY, PLEASE JUST TAKE 'any' SEAT -- and LISTEN:
We are playing an extended 'Introit' of suitable Music for the Occasion
An Excerpt from J. S. Bach: 'St. Matthaus Passion'; BMV 244
This is by the Choirs of King's and Jesus Colleges, Cambridge, UK.
and the Brandenberger Konsert, 1994.
They all help us to set the 'tone and timbre' of our worship today.

<p>During the Hymns, feel free to remain seated (or to stand if you wish.) Our Readings are read to us by Bob Bos, to whom we owe our thanks.</p>
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Our Service will start with a Simple Greeting (at 2-30 p.m.)

L : The Lord Bless You ALL and keep You;
The Lord make His face to shine upon you All
and grant you peace in your lives.

1-HYMN CH-4 666 [Picardy] Let all mortal Flesh keep silent

- 1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his Hand**

Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

- 2. King of kings, yet born of Mary, As of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture –
in the body and the blood –
He will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.**

3. Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of Light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

4. At his feet the six-winged seraph
cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High."

OUR BIDDING PRAYER (the Minister.)

R- Reading; Gospel of Matthew, Ch. 26 : vs 57ff.

Jesus before the Jewish Sanhedrin.

>>>Comment ; See how Power and influence is exercised.

Today Pressure groups are manipulators! We stil have them.

The new danger is they sometimes believe what they are saying !!

1-HYMN CH-4 -382 vs 2 from O sacred head

**O Lord of life and glory,
what bliss till now was thine!
I read the wondrous story;
I joy to call thee mine.
Thy grief and bitter Passion
were all for sinners' gain;
mine, mine was the transgression,
but thine the deadly pain.**

R-Our Second Reading; Gospel of Matthew, Ch. 27 : vs. 1- ff.

Jesus before Pilate and the Roman Trial.

>>>Comment: Matthew's Gospel credits the Roman Procurator,

Pontius Pilate as being scrupulously fair with the fateful words:

"...*His Blood is on your hands ! ...*" To which, the shouting crowd readily agree -- despite the injunctions of Jewish Law !!!

3-HYMN CH-4 382 vs 1. O sacred head
O Sacred Head! sore wounded,
with grief and shame bowed down!
O Kingly Head, surrounded
with thorns, thine only crown!
How pale art thou with anguish,
with sore abuse and scorn!
How does that face now languish,
which once was bright as morn!

R-Our Third Reading; Gospel of Matthew, Ch. 27 : vs, 27-ff
The Soldiers humiliate and crucify Jesus.

COMMENT : *IESUS NAZARENUS REX IUDAEORUM'*
As a child, I always wondered what 'INRI' meant on the Pulpit Fall
in 'my' home Church. I later learned it was part of the Roman
Legal and Judicial process to always state the nature of the offence

4-HYMN CH-4 403

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?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

R-Our Fourth Reading; Gospel of Matthew, Ch. 27 : vs, 45 – 56
The Death of Jesus about the third hour.

Comment: By staying within Matthew's Gospel account, we get
coherent details of the actual day of the crucifixion. Later, the other
gospel accounts give different details for their particular Narrative.
We therefore stay true to the earliest accounts we have of events

5-HYMN CH-4 403 (Part)

Were you there when they pierced him in his side?
Were you there when they pierced him in his side?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,
Were you there when they pierced him in his side?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

R-Our Last, Final Reading; Gospel of Matthew, Ch. 27 : vs. 57- end.
Jesus laid in the Tomb of Joseph of Arimathea

Our FINAL Reading is followed by Our Dismissal:

L : *Like the other followers there, and the women themselves,
we too. must leave the Tomb watched over by its soldier guards,
Guards imposed by the very authorities and people who
actually were now afraid of what might occur despite their actions...
They too had their doubts and uncertainty.
NOW, We TOO when you are ready, leave quietly and discreetly,
BUT return with others on the third day
GO NOW -- in peace. Shalom!!*

MP-4 Recorded Music covering our departure (about 3 minutes long.)
Vaughan Williams; “Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis”

**On Sunday, at 9-00 am until 9-30am., in our Hall,
EVERYBODY and ANYBODY Is INVITED
to a simple , FREE, EASTER BREAKFAST**

**That will be followed at 10-00 am. in the Church with the
‘Traditional Easter Service’ and ‘Flower-ing of the Cross’
before sharing our Easter Communion.**