



The Waikato Cathedral Church of St Peter

Te whare karakia matua o Pita Tapu ki Waikato

stpeter.org.nz



Crucifixion (1928,) Gerardo Dottori (1884-1977)

Friday 3 April 2026

Veneration of the Cross

2.00pm Led by:

The Right Reverend Philip Richardson
The Very Rev'd Julian Perkins

Service Sheets can be accessed at stpeter.org.nz and viewed on your phone to save paper and costs. Our “CathedralFree” Wi-Fi can be accessed without a password.

Cathedral Centre Toilet: The toilet at the near end of the cathedral centre can be accessed during services.

Health & Safety

In the event of a fire: exits are the entrance and the doors either side of the front of the main body of the church.

In the event of an earthquake: drop to the floor, seek cover, and hold onto something. Only exit when all shaking has stopped.

Services Online: Many of our choral services are online: youtube.com/@WaikatoCathedral (older services are on Facebook). Most are available live and then under the live tab of the channel. If you need assistance ask a young person or, failing that, ask Dean Julian.

The Holy Triduum: Good Friday

This is the second of the Triduum services, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil form a single service. There is no blessing at the Maundy Thursday service, we all scattered echoing the disciples' response. There is no communion on the Friday, this is a day of mourning. Only at the Vigil on Saturday will we finally hear and see the new light and once again we will be sent out in peace and to bring that light to others.

On Good Friday the church reflects upon the death of Jesus on the cross. A painful, humiliating, and cruel death, a death brings us forgiveness and heals all creation.

The altar looks very different, stripped bare, as was Christ. There are no consecrated elements in the aumbry in St Anne's chapel, the light above it is extinguished, and the door left open to show that it is empty. A visible reminder that Jesus is gone, that this is a day of mourning and prayer.

Good Friday is the only day of the year on which no Masses are offered. Good Friday services often take place between noon and 3 pm, the time when Christ was on the cross. Here we observe the last hour before Christ died on the cross and we venerate the mystery of the cross.

The ministers enter in silence.

All kneel for a time of silent prayer.

(please be seated or kneel / e noho, e tūturi rānei tātou)

The Collect

**Lord Jesus Christ,
crucified for us,**

we kneel at the foot of your cross to watch with you.

Help us to see the cost of our forgiveness

so that we may be made new through your love;

for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

The Readings

(please sit for the readings / e noho ki te whakarongo ki ngā pānuitanga)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (52:13–53:12)

See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up and shall be very high. Just as there were many who were astonished at him - so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals - so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account. Surely, he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his

mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice, he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the LORD shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore, I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

[Translation – New Revised Standard Version (Anglicised)]

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22: 1-21

(please stand in body or in spirit / e tū tātou) **read responsorially**

1. My God my God, why have you forsaken me:
why are you so far from my help,
and from my cry of distress?
2. **O my God I cry out in the daytime,
but you do not answer:
at night also, but I get no relief .**
3. But you are the Holy One:
enthroned on the praises of your people.
4. **Our ancestors trusted in you:
they trusted and you delivered them.**
5. They called to you and were rescued:
they put their trust in you,
and were not disappointed.
6. **But I am a worm and something less than human:
an object of scorn and an outcast of the people.**

7. All those who see me laugh me to scorn:
they curl their lips and toss their heads saying,
8. **You trusted in God for deliverance:
if God cares for you, let God rescue you.**
9. But you are the one who took me out of the womb:
you kept me safe upon my mother's breast.
10. **On you have I been cast ever since I was born:
and you are my God even from my mother's womb.**
11. Be not far from me, for trouble is close at hand:
and there is no one to help me.
12. **Many bulls have come around me:
great bulls of Bashan
close in on me from every side.**
13. They open wide their mouths at me:
like ravening and roaring lions.
14. **I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint:
my heart within my breast has melted like wax.**
15. My mouth is parched as dry clay,
my tongue clings to my jaws:
and I am laid in the dust of death.
16. **Many dogs have come around me:
and the wicked hem me in on every side.**
17. They pierce my hands and my feet,
I can count all my bones:
they stand staring and gloating over me.
18. **They share out my garments among them:
and they cast lots for my clothing.**
19. Do not stand far off from me O Lord:
you are my helper, come quickly to my rescue.
20. **Deliver me from the sword:
my precious life from the mauling of dogs.**
21. Save me from the lion's mouth:
my afflicted soul from the horns of the wild cattle.

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews (4:14-16; 5:7-9)

(please sit for the reading / e noho ki te whakarongo ki ngā pānuitanga)

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

[NRSVA]

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God.

Hymn *(please stand in body or in spirit / e tū tātou)*

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Glory be to Jesus,
who, in bitter pains,
poured for me the lifeblood
from His sacred veins! | 2. Grace and life eternal
in that blood I find;
blest be His compassion,
infinitely kind. |
| 3. Blest through endless ages
be the precious stream
which from endless torments
doth the world redeem. | 4. Abel's blood for vengeance
pleaded to the skies;
but the blood of Jesus
for our pardon cries. |
| 5. Lift we then our voices,
swell the mighty flood;
louder still and louder
praise the precious blood! | |

'Viva, viva, Gesù' (18th Century), tr. Edward Caswall (1814-1878)

The Passion Reading

(please sit for the readings / e noho ki te whakarongo ki ngā pānuitanga)

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (18:1-19:42)

The Solemn Intercessions

Jesus offers life in all its fullness to the whole world. Let us, therefore, pray to God for all people everywhere according to their needs.

Let us pray for the Church of God throughout the world:

for unity in faith, in witness and in service
for bishops and other ministers, and those whom they serve
for those who appoint bishops
for the bishops in the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand
and Polynesia
for the leadership and the people of this diocese
for all Christians in this place
for those to be baptised
for those who are mocked and persecuted for their faith

that God will confirm the Church in faith, increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

Silence is kept

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Almighty and everlasting God,
by your Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified;
hear the prayers we offer for all your faithful people,
that in our vocation and ministry
we may serve you in holiness and truth;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

Let us pray for the nations of the world and their leaders:

for the heads of state of the nations of this church
for Charles our King, for the Governor-General,
and Parliament of this land
for those who administer the law and all who serve in public office,
for all who strive for justice and reconciliation,

that by God's help the world may live in peace and freedom.

Silence is kept

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Gracious and eternal God, in your will is our peace;
turn the hearts of all people to yourself,
that by the power of your Spirit
the peace which is founded on justice
may be established throughout the world;
through the Prince of Peace, our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Let us pray for God's ancient people,
the Jews, the first to hear God's call:
for greater understanding between Christian and Jew
that we may be faithful to the covenant
and grow in the love of God's name.

Silence is kept

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Lord God of Abraham,
bless the children of your covenant, both Jew and Christian;
take from us all blindness and bitterness of heart,
and hasten the coming of your kingdom,
when the Gentiles shall be gathered in, all Israel shall be saved,
and we shall dwell together in mutual love and peace
under the one God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who do not believe the Gospel of Christ:

for those who have not heard the message of salvation
for all who have lost faith
for the contemptuous and scornful
for those who are enemies of Christ
and persecute those who follow him

that God will open their hearts to the truth and lead them to faith and obedience.

Silence is kept

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Merciful God, creator of all the people of the earth,
have compassion on all who do not know you,
and by the preaching of your Gospel with grace and power,
gather them into the one fold of the one Shepherd;
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all those who suffer:

for those who are deprived and oppressed
for all who are sick and disabled
for those in darkness, in doubt and in despair,
in loneliness and in fear
for prisoners
for the victims of false accusations and violence
for all at the point of death and those who watch beside them

that God will in mercy sustain them with the knowledge of that love which supports us always.

Silence is kept

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Ever loving God, the comfort of the sad
and the strength of those who suffer;
hear the prayers of your children who cry out of any trouble,

and to all in distress grant mercy, relief, and refreshment;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

Let us commend ourselves and all people to the unfailing love of God,
and pray for grace to live a holy life,
that with all who have died in the peace of Christ,
we may come to the fullness of eternal life
and the joy of the resurrection.

Most merciful God,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Blessed Saviour,
at this hour you hung upon the cross, stretching out your loving arms;
grant that all the peoples of the earth may be drawn to your uplifted love;
for your kingdom's sake.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today
our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from
the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom,
the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

E tō mātou Matua i te rangi
Kia tapu tōu Ingoa.
Kia tae mai tōu rangatiranga.
Kia meatia tāu e pai ai
ki runga ki te whenua,
kia rite anō ki tō te rangi.
Hōmai ki a mātou āiane
he taro mā mātou mō tēnei rā.
Murua ō mātou hara,
Me mātou hoki e muru nei
i ō te hunga e hara ana ki a mātou.

Aua hoki mātou e kawea kia whakawaia;
Engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino:
Nōu hoki te rangatiranga,
te kaha, me te korōria,
Āke ake ake. Āmine.

Hymn (*please stand in body or in spirit / e tū tātou*)

Drop, drop, slow tears,
and bathe those beautiful feet,
which brought from heaven |
the news and Prince of Peace.

Cease not, wet eyes,
his mercies to entreat;
to cry for vengeance
sin doth never cease.

In your deep floods
drown all my faults and fears;
nor let his eye
see sin, but through my tears.

Phineas Fletcher, (1582-1650)

The Veneration of the Cross (*please remain standing / e tū tātou*)

As the cross is carried in, the procession stops three times and the following versicle and response is said each time.

The cross of Christ,

The cross on which the Saviour of the world was hung.

Anthem I (*Please sit / e noho*)

My people, what wrong have I done to you?

What good have I not done for you?

Whakarongo mai ki ahau / Listen to me.

I am your Creator, Lord of the universe;

I have entrusted this world to you,

but you have created the means to destroy it.

My people, what wrong have I done to you?

What good have I not done for you?

Whakarongo mai ki ahau / Listen to me.

I made you in my image,

but you have degraded body and spirit

and marred the image of your God.

You have deserted me and turned your backs on me.

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Whakarongo mai ki ahau / Listen to me.*
I filled the earth with all that you need,
so that you might serve and care for one another,
as I have cared for you;
but you have cared only to serve your own wealth and power.

**Holy God,
holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Whakarongo mai ki ahau / Listen to me.*
I made my children of one blood
to live in families, rejoicing in one another;
but you have embittered the races
and divided the nations.

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Whakarongo mai ki ahau / Listen to me.*
I commanded you to love your neighbour as yourself,
to love and forgive even your enemies;
but you have made vengeance your rule
and hate your guide.

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?
What good have I not done for you?
Whakarongo mai ki ahau / Listen to me.*
In the fullness of time I sent you my Son,
that in him you might know me,
and through him find life and peace;
but you put him to death on the cross.

**Holy God,
holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

My people, what wrong have I done to you?

What good have I not done for you?

Whakarongo mai ki ahau / Listen to me.

Through the living Christ, I called you into my Church

to be my servants to the world;

but you have grasped at privilege

and forgotten my will.

My people, what wrong have I done to you?

What good have I not done for you?

Whakarongo mai ki ahau / Listen to me.

I have given you a heavenly gift

and a share in the Holy Spirit;

I have given you the spiritual energies

of the age to come;

but you have turned away

and crucified the Son of God afresh.

My people, what wrong have I done to you?

What good have I not done for you?

Whakarongo mai ki ahau / Listen to me.

I have consecrated you in the truth;

I have made you to be one

in the unity of the Father and the Son,

by the power of the Spirit;

but you have divided my Church

and shrouded my truth.

**Holy God,
holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

Hoki mai, whakarongo mai ki ahau, e taku iwi /

Turn again, my people, listen to me.

Let your bearing to one another

arise out of your life in Christ Jesus.

He humbled himself
and in obedience accepted death on the cross.
But I have bestowed on him
the name that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus,
every knee should bow
and every tongue confess,
Jesus Christ is Lord.

Hoki mai, whakarongo mai ki ahau, e taku iwi /
Turn again, my people, listen to me.

**Loving God, hear our prayer and forgive us.
Unstop our ears
that we may receive the gospel of the cross.
Lighten our eyes
that we may see your glory in the face of your Son.
Penetrate our minds
that your truth may make us whole.
Irradiate our hearts with your love
that we may love one another for Christ's sake.
Father, forgive us.**

Anthem 3

**We adore you, O Christ,
and we bless you,
because by your holy cross
you have redeemed the world.**

Christ was manifested in the body,
vindicated in the spirit,
seen by angels,
proclaimed among the nations,
believed in throughout the world,
glorified in highest heaven.

**We adore you, O Christ,
and we bless you,
because by your holy cross
you have redeemed the world.**

Brief silence is kept

This is the wood of the cross,
on which hung the Saviour of the world.

Come, let us worship.

Those who wish to reverence the cross may come forward for a time of silent prayer, or may wish to express their devotion by touching the cross.

Hymn: *(please stand in body or in spirit / e tū tātou)*

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.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ, my God:
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down:
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

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.

Isaac Watts (1707) 1674-1748

Acclamations

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

This is the wood of the cross, on which hung the Saviour of the world.
Come, let us worship.

O Saviour of the world,
who by your cross and precious blood have redeemed us.
Save us and help us, we humbly pray.

Closing Prayer

Lord have mercy

Christ have mercy

Lord have mercy.

E te Ariki kia aroha mai.

E te Karaiti kia aroha mai.

E te Ariki kia aroha mai.

Conclusion

The ministers and people depart in silence