

His dying crimson like a robe,
spreads o'er his body on the tree;
then am I dead to all the globe,
and all the globe is dead to me.

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.

Sit READING: Hebrews 10.12 – 23

PRAYER

SILENCE ... *Candles extinguished*

Stand HYMN 763

Praise to the holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise:
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.

O loving wisdom of our God!
When all was sin and shame,
a second Adam to the fight
and to the rescue came.

O wisest love! That flesh and blood,
which did in Adam fail,
should strive afresh against the foe,
should strive and should prevail;

and that a higher gift than grace
should flesh and blood refine,
God's presence and his very self,
and essence all-divine.

O generous love! That he, who smote
in man for man the foe,
the double agony in man
for man should undergo;

and in the garden secretly,
and on the cross on high,
should teach his brethren, and inspire
to suffer and to die.

Sit

CHOIR: Solus ad victimam Leighton

Please stand

SILENCE IN DARKNESS

A Single candle is carried in

DEPART *in silence*



The Church of St James the Greater
Leicester



GOOD FRIDAY EVENING 2022

The use of candles in this special service for Good Friday evening is derived from the ancient service of Tenebrae (meaning shadows or darkness). Candles are progressively extinguished in the course of the service. The gathering darkness invites us to enter into the darkness which – we are reliably informed – covered the land at the time of the crucifixion of our Lord. Finally a solitary candle relieves the darkness to represent the unquenchable light of the life of Christ made apparent at the resurrection.

Please remain sitting

as the choir and ministers enter in silence

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

CHOIR: Crossing the bar Parry

PRAYER:

Vicar God of eternal love,
All **we approach**
you with a sense of deep 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.

Vicar Open our hearts and minds
to contemplate the Passion.

All **Assure us again**
of 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.

Vicar This we ask, through him
in whom your suffering love is revealed.
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Stand HYMN 140

All ye who seek for sure relief
in trouble and distress,
whatever sorrow vex the mind,
or guilt the soul oppress,

Jesus, who gave himself for you
upon the cross to die,
opens to you his sacred heart;
O to that heart draw nigh.

Ye hear how kindly he invites;
ye hear his words so blest --
“All ye that labour come to me
and I will give you rest.”

O Jesus, joy of saints on high,
thou hope of sinners here,
attracted by those loving words
to thee we lift our prayer.

