

# ORDER OF SERVICE

Good Friday 2 April 2021

Welcome and Notices  
Mr Keith Ferres, Session Clerk

Psalms 23  
The Lord's my Shepherd

Prayer of Invocation

Bible Reading: Mark 15:1-20  
Christine Bradbeer

Hymn 701  
What a friend we have

Sermon  
Isaiah's 4th Servant Song  
#4 Like a Lamb

Prayer of Intercession  
and  
The Lord's Prayer

Hymn 106  
When I survey the wondrous cross

Benediction

## NOTICES

2 April 2021

Website: [www.blackburnpc.org.au](http://www.blackburnpc.org.au)

Sunday 4 April 11 am Divine Service. All Welcome  
Resurrection Sunday Isaiah 53 #5 - He will live!  
Covid safe practices.

### Batter my heart

Batter my heart, three-person'd God, for you  
As yet but knock, breathe, shine, and seek to mend;  
That I may rise and stand, o'erthrow me, and bend  
Your force to break, blow, burn, and make me new.  
I, like an usurp'd town to another due,  
Labor to admit you, but oh, to no end;  
Reason, your viceroy in me, me should defend,  
But is captiv'd, and proves weak or untrue.  
Yet dearly I love you, and would be lov'd fain,  
But am betroth'd unto your enemy;  
Divorce me, untie or break that knot again,  
Take me to you, imprison me, for I,  
Except you enthrall me, never shall be free,  
Nor ever chaste, except you ravish me.

John Donne 1572-1631

GARDENIA ST  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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**GARDENIA ST.**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
**BLACKBURN**

**GOOD FRIDAY**  
**2 April 2021**



Christ of St John of the Cross

Salvador Dalí 1951  
Glasgow Art Galley  
Kelvin Grove, Scotland.

**WELCOME**



Isaiah's 4th Servant Song

The Great Isaiah Scroll presents 'A messenger coming across the mountains bringing good news... saying "Your God is king"' (Isaiah 52:7). This good news is made real through the *Servant of the Lord*; a character who features in four Servant Songs.

These songs tell how the Lord becomes King. You can find them in Isaiah 42:1-4; Isaiah 49:1-6; Isaiah 50:4-7; and Isaiah 52:13-53:12. This last Servant Song has been our theme as we approach Easter. Below are the five stanzas:

Isaiah Reference	About the Servant
52:13-15	A shocking and awesome revelation
53:1-3	Who can understand, who believes the report
53:4-6	He was punished, but he suffered for our sins
53:7-9	Like a lamb, he took it in silence
53:10-12	The servant will live, and be satisfied

Knowing all this Jesus quotes Isaiah 61 in the Nazareth synagogue as his Servant mandate to bring in the kingdom of God. (Luke 4:17-19).

Sermon Notes

## Isaiah's 4th Servant Song #4:

Chapter 53 verses 7-9

### *Like a Lamb*

#### 1. *The character of the servant.*

If we had taken time to read the previous songs of the servant we would have noticed a certain humility and non-aggression on the part of the servant.

He won't shout or make loud speeches in the street. His goals are not political. He will be gentle, won't break the bent reed or smother the flickering light. (Isaiah 42 1-4) He bears insult and injury, spitting and mocking (Isaiah 50:4-7)

Lambs are cute, docile and harmless. A perfect image of a non-aggressive creature. The servant was not concerned for himself.

Think of JESUS: Healing Peter's mother in law (Mark 1). Weeping at the grave of his friend Lazarus (John 10) . Weeping over a city that rejected the 'way of peace' (Luke 13:34).

#### 2. *The condemnation of the servant.*

The prophet sees that the Servant was treated harshly.

At the outset (52:14) we are given a kind of 'viewer warning' many were shocked when they saw him. Don't read further unless you want to know the awful truth.

He was arrested and sentenced and led off to die, and no one cared about his fate. He was put to death. It was so shocking. So awful.

Think of JESUS: The hostility of the power brokers: Pharisees, Sadducees and the scribes. The illegal meeting of the Sanhedrin (at night) The mockery and violence of the court officials and Roman soldiers.

Crucified with thieves and buried in rich Joseph of Arimathea's tomb.

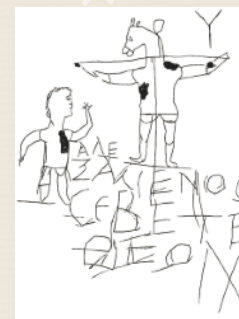
#### 3. *Hints of something more...*

We have already been told that the Lord's hand was in this situation.

That the servant was punished for the evil we did. The punishment we deserved fell on him! He endured suffering that should have been ours.

Think of US: Could our sins have played a part? Have we been that bad? When do we begin to need forgiveness?

Charles Wesley wrote "he died to atone for sins not his own". Could he have died for you and me? Let us trust him *now* even if never before.



Stone rubbing of the Alexamenos Graffito.

The cross signified torture, terror and death. It was not used as a Christian symbol until around the 4th century. The oldest known depiction of crucifixion is this anti-Christian graffiti. Easier to make out in the stone rubbing (left) The text presents Alexamenos worshipping a crucified man with the head of a donkey.

**"Alexamenos worships his god"**  
 graffiti scratched in plaster  
 circa AD 200  
 and found in 1856 in the  
 Paedagogium, Palatine Hill, Rome.