

A Good Friday reflection for worship

Let me absorb the unfolding scene...

See and hear as if I was there

In the flesh –

Sensitised and raw

The Friend betrayed;

The Peacemaker arrested;

The Faithful denied;

The Innocent accused;

The Blameless condemned;

The Gentle abused;

The healer assaulted;

The Liberator nailed;

Life put to death

The Lamb sacrificed

For me. Was it really for me?

Let me see and hear and feel again

And offer my heart in return. (Karen Campbell UC Prayers from the Heart 2020)

SING: There is a green hill far away
(R&S 223) Outside a city wall
 Where our dear Lord was crucified
 Who died to save us all.

Reading: John 18; 38-40 – John 19;1 -42

Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

They shouted in reply, "Not this man, but Barabbas!"

"Here is your Son." "Here is your mother". "It is finished."

Think on Barabbas.

The first musical I ever produced with young people, apart from a few pantomimes, was a show called DAYBREAK. In rock music and drama, it reflected on the thoughts of Mary, Thomas and Peter immediately after that first daybreak-resurrection of our Lord. But for today, Good Friday think on Barabbas for a moment. For was he not the first whose life was saved because of the death of Jesus? Was it not for Barabbas Jesus sacrificed himself – literally went in his place! Physically died on that cross in place of Barabbas. And Barabbas a bandit too.

Think on Barabbas. Did he not give Jesus a second thought? Did he live the rest of his life tortured by the memory of an innocent man dying when it should have been Barabbas himself? Did he find forgiveness of himself and live a life of thankfulness? Did he try to block it from his mind and live a lie.

To Barabbas today we say, "think on Barabbas" for Jesus died for you.

What do you say to yourself this Good Friday? Think on. For Jesus died for you too.

SING: My Song is love unknown, my Saviours love to me
(R&S 207) love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.

Look at your hands. It was hands like yours - nailed to the cross.

Look at your feet. It was feet like yours the stumbling the way to Calvary.

Look into eyes of your neighbours. It was for ones like these,
that Jesus was crucified.

Look at yourself. It was for you that Jesus died. (Roots for Churches)

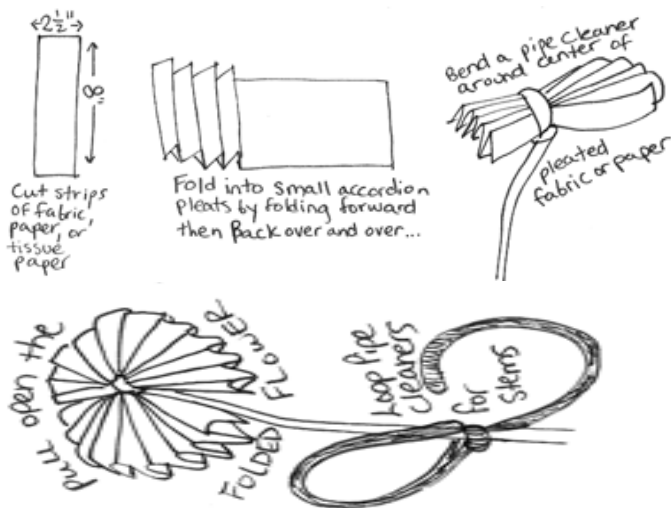
Amen

Tissue Paper Flowers

Create your own or use these directions

1. Cut variety of tissue paper colours in the shape of a square. The bigger the square the bigger the flower.
2. Fold the tissue paper back and forth the same way your would make a fan.
3. Wrap the pipe cleaner around the middle of the flower and twist so it stays in place.
4. Carefully separate each piece of tissue paper, you're done! You made your very own tissue paper flower.

Use paper and pipe cleaner enclosed. You can use more paper for more intricate flower or more flowers.



YOU MAY LIKE TO LISTEN THIS EASTER WEEK

TO BOB GILBERTS PLANTS IN PASSION RADIO 4 - 9.45AM

TO Tolworth, Ewell and Epsom pastorate and Ewell Korean Church.

Dear friends.

We cannot be together in person for Easter. But I know that we would all like to wish one another a Happy Easter and I am sure we will be doing this by telephone. In these times of being alone, it seems the telephone has been the most universal and common way we remain "in touch" as a community.

But for Easter we thought it may be good for us to share some common thoughts, reflection, creativity, prayer and songs during this Easter period and on Easter Sunday itself.

There is also a reflection for Good Friday on the inside of this letter. You may like to have a cross with you as you share in this reflection.

For Easter Sunday, the enclosed card is one of several homemade creations made by members of our pastorate. You will also find a service for Easter Sunday, with contributions from other members you can read together. All you will need is a flower which you can make from the enclosed model. Or simply find one! Display this with a bible and with a seed for planting.

For those who are young in heart or age there is an activity sheet for EASTER. We have all learnt how such activity is worshipful too! It is for everyone.

We remain as one in the risen Christ, in the person of Jesus Christ, together, but apart sharing the love God with all,

Gods blessings for you all, Roger