

Words of Light and Hope for Holy Week from Tony Hawes

During Holy Week, in my youth, our church choir often performed Stainer's "Crucifixion". Our Vicar, Aubrey Aitken (later to become Bishop of Lynn) had a beautiful bass voice and always sang the part of Jesus. I have never forgotten the experience. Here are some of the words I remember.....

As Jesus rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power they had seen.

Fling wide the gates! Fling wide the gates!
For the Saviour waits, to tread in His royal way;
He has come from above, in His power and love
To die on this Passion day.

And they came to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus saith to His disciples: "Sit ye here, while I shall pray."

Could ye not watch with Me one brief hour?
Could ye not pity My sorest need?
Ah! if ye sleep while the tempests lower, surely, My friends, I am alone indeed.

And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the malefactors, one on the right, and the other on the left.

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.

After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, saith, "It is finished. Father into Thy hands I commend my spirit."

All for Jesus – Thou wilt give us Strength to serve Thee, hour by hour;
None can move us from Thy presence,
While we trust Thy love and power.
Amen.



REEPHAM & WENSUM VALLEY
TEAM CHURCHES

Pew Notes

Services for Holy Week

Mon 3rd April	8pm Compline	St Mary's, Reepham
Tues 4th April	8pm Compline	St Mary's, Reepham
Wed 5th April	8pm Compline	St Mary's, Reepham
Maundy Thursday	7.00pm Service for Maundy Thursday	St Mary's, Reepham
	8.30pm Stripping of the Altar	St Mary's, Elsing
Good Friday	10.00am Walk of Witness	Reepham Methodist Church
	1.30pm Walk of Witness	Attlebridge to Swannington
	2.00pm Walk of Witness:	Elsing to Lyng
	2.00pm Hour at the Cross	St Mary's, Reepham
Easter Sunday	6am Easter Sunrise Service	St Mary's, Reepham
	(followed by breakfast in St Michael's, Reepham)	
	9am Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Thurning
	9am Holy Communion (BCP)	St Mary's, Bylaugh
	9am Holy Communion	All Saints, Weston Longville
	10.30am Holy Communion	St Mary's, Gt Witchingham
	10.30am Word and Praise	St Margaret's, Lyng
	10.30am Holy Communion	St Mary's, Reepham

The Rev'd. Helen Rengert, 01603 879275 revdhelenrwv@gmail.com

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FACEBOOK: Reepham & Wensum Valley Events

WEBSITE: www.reepham-and-wensum-valley-team-churches.org.uk

Pew Notes are available to download from the RWV website and the E-newsletter

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact your Parish Safeguarding Officer. Details in the church porch or on the RWV website.

Readings for Palm Sunday

(Sunday 2nd April)

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backwards.
I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
The Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

Psalms 31: 9-16

9 Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; *
my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my throat and my belly.
10 For my life is wasted with grief,
and my years with sighing; *
my strength fails me because of affliction,

and my bones are consumed.

11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies
and even to my neighbours,
a dismay to those of my acquaintance; *
when they see me in the street they avoid me.
12 I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; *
I am as useless as a broken pot.
13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;
fear is all around; *
they put their heads together against me;
they plot to take my life.
14 But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. *
I have said, "You are my God.
15 My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me."

Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Matthew 26:14-27

Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, 'What will you give me if I betray him to you?' They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him. On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, 'Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?' He said, 'Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, "The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples."' So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, 'Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.' And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, 'Surely not I, Lord?' He answered, 'The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.' Judas, who betrayed him, said, 'Surely not I, Rabbi?' He replied, 'You have said so.'

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, 'Take, eat; this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you.'