



Saint Matthew's Church
Big Lamp ~ Summerhill Street
Newcastle

**Solemn Evensong and Benediction for Passion Sunday (22nd
March) 2026**

The angel of the Lord brought the tidings to Mary:
And she conceived by the Holy Ghost.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Behold the handmaid of the Lord:
Be it unto me according to Thy Word.

Hail Mary &c

The Word was made flesh:
And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary &c

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God:
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

Pour forth Your Grace into our hearts, we beseech You O Lord, that as we have known the Incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, by the message of an angel, so by His Cross and Passion, we may be brought to the glory of His Resurrection; in and through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

O Lord, open thou our lips.

And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's Name be praised.

The royal banners forward go,
The Cross shines forth in mystic glow,
Where He in flesh, our flesh Who made,
Our sentence bore, our ransom paid.

Where deep for us the spear was dyed,
Life's torrent rushing from His side,
To wash us in that precious flood,
Where mingled water flowed and blood.

Fulfilled is all that David told
In true prophetic song of old,
The universal Lord is He,
Who reigns and triumphs from the Tree.

O Tree of beauty, Tree of Light,
O Tree with royal purples dight,
Elect on whose triumphal breast
Those holy limbs should find their rest!

On whose dear arms, so widely flung,
The weight of this world's ransom hung,
The price of humankind to pay
And spoil the spoiler of his prey.

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O Cross, our one reliance, hail!
So may thy power with us prevail
To give new virtue to the saint,
And pardon to the penitent.

To Thee, eternal Three in One,
Let homage meet by all be done:
Whom by Thy Cross Thou dost restore,
Preserve and govern evermore.

(86) BOW down thine ear, O Lord, and hear me : for I am poor, and in misery.

2 Preserve thou my soul, for I am holy : my God, save thy servant that putteth his trust in thee.

3 Be merciful unto me, O Lord : for I will call daily upon thee.

4 Comfort the soul of thy servant : for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

5 For thou, Lord, art good and gracious : and of great mercy unto all them that call upon thee.

6 Give ear, Lord, unto my prayer : and ponder the voice of my humble desires.

7 In the time of my trouble I will call upon thee : for thou hearest me.

8 Among the gods there is none like unto thee, O Lord : there is not one that can do as thou doest.

9 All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship thee, O Lord : and shall glorify thy Name.

10 For thou art great, and doest wondrous things : thou art God alone.

11 Teach me thy way, O Lord, and I will walk in thy truth : O knit my heart unto thee, that I may fear thy Name.

12 I will thank thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart : and will praise thy Name for evermore.

13 For great is thy mercy toward me : and thou hast delivered my soul from the nethermost hell.

14 O God, the proud are risen against me : and the congregations of naughty men have sought after my soul, and have not set thee before their eyes.

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15 But thou, O Lord God, art full of compassion and mercy : long-suffering, plenteous in goodness and truth.

16 O turn thee then unto me, and have mercy upon me : give thy strength unto thy servant, and help the son of thine handmaid.

17 Shew some token upon me for good, that they who hate me may see it and be ashamed : because thou, Lord, hast holpen me and comforted me.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah.

"Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man and the seed of beast. And it shall come to pass that as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the LORD. In those days they shall no longer say: 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge.' But every one shall die for his own sin; each man who eats sour grapes, his teeth shall be set on edge. "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant which I made with their fathers when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant which they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it upon their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each man teach his neighbour and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more." Thus says the LORD, who gives the sun for light by day and the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar -- the LORD of hosts is his name:

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"If this fixed order departs from before me, says the LORD, then shall the descendants of Israel cease from being a nation before me for ever." Thus says the LORD: "If the heavens above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth below can be explored, then I will cast off all the descendants of Israel for all that they have done, says the LORD."

Here endeth the first lesson.

We adore Thee, O Christ and we bless Thee.

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we bless Thee.

By Thy holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we bless Thee.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we bless Thee.

As the MAGNIFICAT is sung, the Presence of God (signified by the Altar) is honoured with incense.

Glorify me, O Father, with Thine own Self: with the glory which I had before the world began.

MY soul doth magnify the Lord : and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded : the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

For behold, from henceforth : all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me : and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him : throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm : he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat : and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things : and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel : as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;

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As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

Glorify me, O Father, with Thine own Self: with the glory which I had before the world began.

A Reading from the Letter to the Gospel according to Saint John.

Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. So these came to Philip, who was from Beth-sa'ida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew went with Philip and they told Jesus. And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If any one serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there shall my servant be also; if any one serves me, the Father will honour him. "Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? `Father, save me from this hour'? No, for this purpose I have come to this hour. Father, glorify thy name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing by heard it and said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world, now shall the ruler of this world be cast out; and I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself." He said this to show by what death he was to die.

Here endeth the second lesson.

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace : according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen : thy salvation;

Which thou hast prepared : before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles : and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

I BELIEVE in God

the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholick Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins;

The Resurrection of the body,
And the Life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

OUR Father,

which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us;

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil. Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the King.

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.

And bless thine inheritance.

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Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

We beseech Thee, Almighty God, mercifully to look upon Thy people; that by Thy great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore, both in body and soul; in and through Jesus Christ, Thy Son our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost; God, throughout all ages world without end.

Amen.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May the souls of the departed, through the mercy and love of God,
rest in peace.

Amen.

*The Altar is prepared for Benediction during the hymn that precedes
the Liturgy. A bell rings and the Sacrament is brought to the Altar.*

O for a closer walk with God,
a calm and heavenly frame,
a light to shine upon the road
that leads me to the Lamb!

Return, O holy Dove, return,
sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,
and drove thee from my breast.

The dearest idol I have known,
whate'er that idol be,
help me to tear it from thy throne,
and worship only thee.

So shall my walk be close with God,
calm and serene my frame;
so purer light shall mark the road
that leads me to the Lamb.

Words: William Cowper 1731- 1800
Music: Caithness
Melody from the Scottish Psalter 1635

*The Presence of Christ in the Sacrament is honoured with incense as
the following hymn is sung:*

O salutaris Hostia,
Quae caeli pandis ostium:
Bella premunt hostilia,
Da robur, fer auxilium.

*O saving Victim, opening wide
The gate of Heaven to man below, Our
foes press hard on every side, Thine aid
supply, Thy strength bestow.*

Uni trinoque Domino
Sit sempiterna gloria,
Qui vitam sine termino
Nobis donet in patria.
Amen.

*All praise and thanks to Thee ascend
For evermore, blest One in Three,
And grant us life that shall not end,
In our true native land with Thee.
Amen.*

A Period of silence follows.

Visita, quæsumus, Dómine,
habitationem istam, et omnes
insídias inimíci ab ea longe
repélle: Angeli tui sancti hábitent
in ea, qui nos in pace custódiant;
et benedíctio tua sit super nos
semper. Per Dóminum nostrum
Jesum Christum.

*Visit, we beseech Thee, O Lord,
this dwelling and drive far from it
all assaults of the enemy; let Your
holy angels dwell herein that we
may be kept in peace and Your
blessing always rest upon us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Amen.

Amen.

Benedictus Deus.
Benedictum Nomen Sanctum eius
Benedictus Iesus Christus,
verus Deus et verus homo
Benedictum Nomen Iesu
Benedictus Iesus
in sanctissimo altaris Sacramento
Benedictus Sanctus Spiritus,
Paraclitus

*Blessed be God.
Blessed be His holy Name.
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God
and true man.
Blessed be the Name of Jesus.
Blessed be Jesus in the most holy
Sacrament of the Altar.
Blessed be the Holy Ghost,
the Paraclete.*

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Benedictus Deus in Angelis suis,
et in Sanctis suis

*Blessed be God
in His angels and in His saints.*

Sit Benedicatus laudatusque
sanctificatusque et adoratus Jesus
Christus in cathedram gloriae Suae.
Et in sanctissimo altaris Sacramento

*Blessed, praised, hallowed and
adored be Jesus Christ on His
throne of glory.
And in the most holy Sacrament
of the Altar.*

The Presence of Christ is then honoured with incense again during the following hymn:

Tantum ergo Sacramentum
Veneremur cernui:
Et antiquum documentum
Novo cedat ritui:
Præstet fides supplementum
Sensuum defectui.

*Therefore, we before Him bending,
This great Sacrament revere;
Types and shadows have their ending,
For the newer rite is here;
Faith our outward sense befriending
Makes the inward vision clear.*

Genitori, Genitoque
Laus et Jubilatio,
Salus, honor, virtus quoque
Sit et benedictio:
Procedenti ab utroque
Compar sit laudatio.
Amen.

*Glory let us give and blessing,
To the Father and the Son,
Honour, might and praise addressing
While eternal ages run;
Ever to His love confessing,
Who from Both with Both is One.
Amen.*

Panem do caelo præstitisti eis

*Thou gavest them Bread
from Heaven.*

Omne delectamentum
in se habentem.

Containing in Itself all sweetness.

Oremus:

Let us pray:

Deus, qui nobis sub Sacramento mirabili Passionis, mortisque et Resurrectionis gloriosae tuae memoriam reliquisti; tribue, ita nos Corporis et Sanguinis tui sacra mysteria venerari, ut redemptionis tuae fructum in nobis iugiter sentiamus: Qui vivis et regnas in saecula saeculorum.

O God, Who under a wonderful Sacrament hast left unto us a memorial of Thy wonderful Passion and Death and glorious Resurrection; grant us so to venerate the Sacred Mysteries of Thy Body and Blood that evermore perceive within ourselves the fruit of Your Redemption: Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

Amen.

The priest goes to the Altar and gives Benediction, during which a bell rings three times.

As the Sacrament is returned to the Tabernacle, all sing:

Adoremus in aeternum
sanctissimum Sacramentum.

*Let us adore for ever
the most holy Sacrament.*

Laudate Dominum omnes gentes :
laudate eum omnes populi.
Quoniam confirmata est super nos
misericordia ejus : et veritas
Domini manet in aeternum.

*O praise the Lord all ye nations,
praise Him all ye peoples. Let us
adore for ever the most holy
Sacrament.*

Gloria Patri et Filio : et Spiritui
Sancto;

*Glory be to the Father and to the
Son and to the Holy Ghost: as it
was in the beginning, is now and
ever shall be, world without end.*

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et
semper : et in saecula saeculorum.

*Amen. Let us adore for ever the
most holy Sacrament.*

Amen.

Adoremus &c

Adoremus &c

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