

**Worship for the fifth Sunday in Lent – Passion  
Sunday- 21st March 2021**  
*from Brian & Clare Kennard*

**Opening sentence:** “The time has come when the Lord will save His people”

**Hymn suggestion:**

**AND AFTER ALL,**

Everything I once held dear

Just proved to be so vain.

To lose it all,

And find a Friend who’s always near

Could only be my gain.

And when I think of what You’ve done for me,

To bring me to the Father’s side:

*Unashamed and unafraid,  
I will choose to wear Your name,  
In a world so full of hate,  
I will always live Your way.*

Could it be

That You should put on human flesh,

Your glory laid aside?

Bruised for me,

Majesty upon the cross,

Forsaken and despised.

When I think of what it cost for You,

To bring me to the Father's side:

*Unashamed and unafraid,  
I will choose to wear Your name,  
In a world so full of hate,  
I will always live Your way.  
Unashamed and unafraid,  
I will love You all my days,  
I don't care what people say,  
I'm unashamed and unafraid.*

I know some will say it’s foolishness:

You can’t make a blind man see.

But I know that there is power in the cross

To save those who believe.

**Prayer time:** *by Clare Kennard*

Thank you, thank you Jesus, for taking my punishment, there on the cross, and carrying all my pain, hurt and pride as you suffered and died. In my mind's eye, I kneel at the cross now and receive Your forgiveness.

Washed clean. Hallelujah! Made whole. Hallelujah!  
Thank you, thank you Lord. **Amen.**

**Prayer for today (“Collect”):**

Gracious Father,

you gave up your Son

out of love for the world:

lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,

that we may know eternal peace

through the shedding of our Saviour’s blood,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Confession**

**The Bible says,** “If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”  
( 1 John 4: 8-9)

*Let God speak to you about the attitudes and actions that need changing in your life. Confess to Him your weaknesses and failures, and receive His cleansing and forgiveness as He has promised.*

**Bible readings:**

If you have your own Bible, please read: **Psalm 51: 1 - 12**

New Testament: **John 12: 20-33**

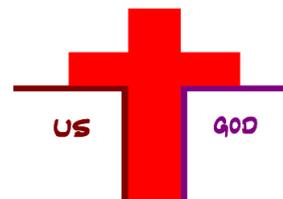
**20** Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. **21** They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.” **22** Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

**23** Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. **24** Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. **25** Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. **26** Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honour the one who serves me.

**27** “Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. **28** Father, glorify your name!” Then a voice came from heaven “I have

glorified it, and will glorify it again.” 29 The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

30 Jesus said, “This voice was for your benefit, not mine. 31 Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. 32 And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” 33 He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.



### Reflection: Pictures of the cross

1. A knotty problem



How can God forgive sin and uphold justice at the same time? God's answer: Jesus bridges the gap between God and man!

2. The bridge



Jesus says, “I am the way, the truth and the life”



“Your sins have separated you from God” (Isaiah 59:2)

“By His death we are now put right with God” (Romans 5:10)

### 3. Another cross – the ballot paper

This is so much more than information. We all need to make our response to the cross of Christ – and every day!

“Choose this day whom you will serve!” (Joshua 24:15)

Pray in your own words for the needs of others.

### The Lord's Prayer (traditional version):

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done; .  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

### The first verse from the hymn, “My song is love unknown”:

My song is love unknown,  
my Saviour's love to me,  
love to the loveless shown  
that they might lovingly be.  
O who am I  
that for my sake  
my Lord should take  
frail flesh and die?

The blessing: Now may the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with and remain with us always. Amen.