Notes About Today's Service…

The church is bare, stripped of its ornaments. The apparent desolation of Calvary is brought home to us, not only by the appearance of the church, but also by the austerity of the Good Friday liturgy.

Please don't feel that you have to pretend that Jesus is “dead.” Jesus lives – one of the prime reasons that we receive Holy Communion on this day – and Easter is only hours away. Today we see Christ choosing the way of perfect and self-giving love as we read the Passion according to St. John.

Christ reigns on the cross, as we see when the cross is unveiled by the priest. It is at this point that we are all invited to come to the communion rail and kneel for a moment at the foot of the cross. There you are invited to make a silent but active response to God’s love for you.

The reserved sacrament, consecrated bread and wine from last night’s Eucharist, the Eucharist of the Upper Room, is brought to the altar. You may receive Holy Communion and realize that even death cannot separate us from the love and presence of God in the living Christ.

And now we wait for the liturgy of Easter Eve when tomorrow night a light will break into the darkness and we will hear the most startling news – the news that became central in our Salvation History: “He is risen.”

It’s a great time for people to come together and enjoy what we might call a “victory party” – a victory won by God in Christ. You are invited to come and celebrate in the parish hall immediately following tomorrow night’s service.
Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday

The Clergy enter in silence. All kneel for silent prayer and then stand with the clergy to begin the service on page 308 (Green Book).

The Readings
Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12
Psalm 22:1-17 (see leaflet)  Tone 8.3

There are no acclamations today before or after the Gospel.
The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John (see booklet)  The Congregation is requested to take its part with boldness.

Sermon: the Rev’d Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan

The Call to Solemn Prayer, page 309
The Solemn Intercession, page 310

Meditation on the Cross of Jesus
Motet: Crux Fidelis  Jamie Hudson
Faithful Cross; above all other, one and only noble Tree, none in foliage, none in blossom, none in fruit thy peer may be; sweetest wood, sweetest iron, sweetest weight is hung on Thee.

While remaining kneeling, please join the choir in singing the following hymn during the presentation and unveiling of the Cross.

Hymn: Faithful Cross  Picardy

1. Faithful Cross! above all other, One and only noble tree!
   Bend thy boughs, O Tree of Glory!

2. None in foliage, none in blossom,
   Thy relaxing sinews bend;
   For awhile the ancient rigour
   That thy birth bestowed, suspend,
   And the King of heavenly beauty
   On thy bosom gently tend!

3. Thou alone was counted worthy
   This world’s ransom to uphold;
   For a shipwreck’d race preparing
   Harbour, like the Ark of old;
   With the sacred Blood anointed
   From the smitten Lamb that rolled.

Easter Vigil
Please bring a bell if you are attending the Easter Vigil on Saturday evening. It can be rung with all the other bells in the church during the singing of the Gloria. Everyone is invited to the Resurrection party that follows the liturgy. If you are able to contribute hot or cold finger foods (savory or sweet) for the party, please bring them to the kitchen before the Vigil begins. We would be grateful also for donations of wine or beer. Thank you.

Better Sight & Sound
Large print copies of the bulletin and hymn book are available from the sidespeople, as are ear pieces that provide enhanced hearing capability.

News for Children
On Easter Sunday there will be an Easter egg hunt after the 11 am service. Children are invited to gather after the service in the Sunday School rooms downstairs before the Hunt.

FaithWorks Campaign
Please help us reach our 2019 FaithWorks goal by returning your FaithWorks cheque (made out to St. Martin’s, with “FaithWorks” on the memo line) on the collection plate or by mail to the church.

Concert at St. Martin’s
The Healey Willan Singers present a concert featuring Mozart’s Missa Brevis K.220 amongst other works at St. Martin’s on Saturday, April 27 at 8 p.m. Tickets ($25 adult, $20 student/senior) will be available at the door.

Town Halls
Bishop Asbil will be holding Town Halls to hear from lay people about their hopes, fears and dreams for the diocese. Town Halls will be held on May 1 at 2 p.m. at St. James Cathedral and at 7 p.m. at St. Bride’s, Clarkson.

Collection of Eyeglasses
During April a box is available at the back of the church to receive donations of gently used and unbroken eyeglasses (including prescription sunglasses) and hearing aids. Your donations will be distributed in the Global South.

SERVICES DURING HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Good Friday, April 19
2:30 p.m. - Sacramental Confession (Reconciliation)

Easter Eve, April 20
8:30 p.m. - The Great Vigil of Easter (followed by the ‘Resurrection Party’)

Easter Sunday, April 21
8:30 a.m. - Eucharist
11:00 a.m. - Procession and Festal Eucharist

Easter Monday, April 22
7:00 p.m. - Eucharist
A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.  

Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

Priest: This is the wood of the Cross, on which hung the Saviour of the world.
People: Come let us worship.

The Reproaches  
Vittoria

The congregation may, during the singing of the Reproaches, come to the Altar Rail kneel for a moment, and silently give thanks for God’s love in Christ and for our Redemption.

HOLY COMMUNION

Hymn: 49 (sung by all, kneeling) (Blue Book)  
Song 46  
During the singing of this hymn, while the people remain kneeling, the Sacrament, reserved from Maundy Thursday, is brought to the altar.

The Lord’s Prayer, page 318 (said)  
Agnus Dei  
Antonio Lotti

Motet: Nolo mortem peccatoris  
Thomas Morley

Prayer after Communion, page 319 (please join in the prayer)  
Hymn: 386  
Rockingham

The Congregation is requested to leave the church in silence.

There is a plate at the back of the church for the offerings of the people.

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. Just as there were many who were astonished at him—so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals—so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate. Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no
account. Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Isaiah 52:13—53:12

Psalm 22.1–17

Pointing: Walter Deller