

**New Words for
Holy Communion**

April 2012

Jonathan Hagger



NEW WORDS FOR HOLY COMMUNION

APRIL 2012

**Thematic prayers, acclamations,
biddings, psalms, canticles and
blessings for the Sundays and
principal feasts of the church year**

GOOD FRIDAY

SAMPLE ONLY

**All words and transliterations by
Jonathan Hagger**

© Jonathan Hagger 2012

6TH. APRIL 2012
GOOD FRIDAY

GOSPEL John 18:1-19:42

ACCLAMATION

It is the will of the Father that those who belong to the Son shall not be lost, and they shall be raised up on the last day.

INTRODUCTION TO CONFESSION

Jesus came into the world to testify to the truth. Because of fear and selfishness our words and actions do not always bear true witness to the Lord. But the truth will set us free from the prison of guilt we have built for ourselves in sinning against God and against each other.

LORD HAVE MERCY

Caiaphas counselled that it was expedient that one man should die for the people. We are often too willing to sacrifice others for our own gain.
Lord have mercy.

Jesus was willing to die for us, but like Peter we will deny our faith to protect ourselves.
Christ have mercy.

Pilate could find no case against Jesus but the mob still demanded his death. We join our voices with the crowd when we are fearful of standing alone, even for the sake of justice and the truth.
Lord have mercy.

COLLECT

Passionate God, as we survey the wondrous cross on which your Son died, may we be humbled by his example, inspired by his courage and grateful for all that he achieved.

PSALM 22:1-11

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
the Lord is with me.**

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far away from me?
I cry to you in the daytime but you do not answer;
I cry to you in the nighttime but I find no rest. **R.**

Lord, you are holy and inhabit our praises;
our forebears cried to you and were not confounded.
But I am a worm, not a man, despised by people;
they laugh at me, I feel their scorn. **R.**

They tease me saying, "He trusted in the Lord,
let the Lord save the one he loves so much."
Yet it was you who took me from the womb
and gave me hope when I was on my mother's breast. **R.**

From my birth I have belonged to you;
from my birth you have been my God.
so do not be far from me now
for trouble is near and no one else will help me. **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

All you who revere the Lord give praise;
stand in awe of him and give him glory.

INTERCESSIONS

On this day in which Christ endured great agony at the hands of those who hated him we pray for the persecuted church of our own time. We pray for our brothers and sisters who are not allowed to worship freely and openly; for those who are subject to harassment; those who are prosecuted for their faith and those who face death for preaching the gospel. We pray for Christians for whom freedom from the tyranny of one has been replaced by a fear of the tyranny of many. We pray for the Churches decimated in wars. We pray for Christians for whom revolution in their land has led to uncertainty about their future. We pray for Christians who are routinely persecuted by unjust legal systems. We pray for the Church in all places where Christians contend with hostile governments. We pray for Christians persecuted by other Christians. Lord, do not forsake your people.

On this day in which Christ was tortured by the soldiers of a cruel regime we pray for those who are tortured in our own time. We pray for those tortured by agencies of the state; those tortured in times of war and civil unrest and those snatched from their own land and tortured elsewhere. We pray for Amnesty International and all agencies campaigning for an end to cruel interrogation in our world and for those who care for the victims of torture. Lord, do not forsake your people.

On this day in which Christ was set upon by the angry mob we pray for victims of bullying in our time. We pray for young people bullied in their schools because they are perceived as different; for members of minorities attacked and discriminated against; for those bullied or harassed at work; for the victims of bullying or abuse within their own homes; for those bullied or abused within their own faith communities. We pray for those who risk their own safety and livelihood by standing up for those who are bullied. Lord, do not forsake your people.

On this day in which the Word made flesh experienced the agonies of the flesh we pray for all who are ill, injured or in distress in our own time. We pray for all who live with pain and all who seek to ease the suffering of others. Lord, do not forsake your people.

On this day in which Christ breathed his last we pray for those who have died in our own time. Jesus foresaw his own death but he also foresaw his raising up upon the the third day. May his promise that he would take his people with him into glory be realised. Lord, do not forsake your people.

PEACE

Jesus gave himself up to death so that we might have eternal life.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

See from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down! All the vain things that charm us most, we sacrifice them to his blood.

EUCCHARISTIC PREFACE

Your Son, the Prince of glory, was bound like a common criminal and charged with crimes he did not commit. Though he was shown to be blameless, the mob cried for his blood and he was taken out to be crucified. He was crowned with a wreath of thorns, humiliated on the city streets, lifted up and scorned. He died alone, believing himself forsaken by his people and his God. He bore this suffering for us. Love so amazing, so divine, demands our souls, our lives, our all.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Father, in this most holy of communions you spread the table of our salvation at the foot of the cross. In our eating of the bread and wine you invited us to share in the suffering of your Son. We thank you for this privilege so graciously given. May our witnessing of Christ's passion instil in us true gratitude for all that he achieved. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember him.

BLESSING

May Christ, our crucified redeemer, give you true life and raise you up to glory; and the blessing...