

**Good Friday March 21<sup>st</sup> 2008: “The Sign That Triumphs”**

**This morning’s service is not going to be a very long service**, but I trust it will be a memorable service for us all as we contemplate the death of Jesus, God the Son, for each of us.

**And I would like to begin by reading to you a poem** written by Pat after which we will remain seated as we sing the song: **There is a green hill far away** outside a city wall. Where the dear Lord was crucified who died to save us all.

**149 Baptist Hymn**

Isaiah 53:1-10 TOM

Item Tom

Prayer

**Stand with me as we recall the fact that the one who died upon that cross was God the Son who became man:**

**Grey 33 Meekness and Majesty**

Mark 15:25-39 Terry

Message The Sign That Triumphs

**It seemed such a silly thing to argue about.** The Chief Priests of the Jews had finally got their way. They had rid their nation of Jesus.

**With utter disregard for right or wrong** they had forced the Romans to nail Him to a cross. He was hanging there. Humiliated. Dying the most painful death possible. **Yet still** they were not satisfied.

**Still they quarreled** and complained like children caught up in a bitter squabble.

Still they banged at the door of Pilate’s palace, demanding that he do something about **the sign.**

**The sign that hung above the head of Jesus,** written in three languages for the whole world to see. **Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews**

**You can’t say that they said. Change it. It’s not right.**

Say that He said he was King of the Jews

And Pilate looked at them with utter disdain. Does He look like a king, hanging there on that cross!

**What I have written stays written.**

Of course the sign was right.

**On that cross He reigned as King**—not just of the Jews but of all humanity. A king who offers forgiveness; who offers freedom; who offers eternal life in an eternal kingdom.

**One man at least came to realize that on that very day**

He too was dying, but he knew that he deserved death whereas Jesus didn't. To Jesus He said, be my King. **And when you come into your kingdom remember me.**

**And with no hesitation the King of Kings** said to that wretched, dying man. Today you will be with me in paradise.

**This morning do you rejoice because Jesus is King** of your life.

Because if He is not your king, then you are like those who mocked Him. Who refused to accept the truth of the sign above His head. The sign that Triumphed.

**But if He is. Then today: this Good Friday: Take the opportunity to honour His death as being for you.**

**To thank Him for being your king.**

**For during the next part of this service** the musicians will play four verses of a well known hymn, and as they do we can sit and prayerful reflect on what Jesus and His death means for us. And if you feel so led, come and lay at the foot of the cross a few petals from this bowl. A sign of your thankfulness to Him who died for you.

Reflection time: Man of Sorrows What a name....4 verses

**1 Peter 1:18-21      Jan W**  
**Grey 35      How can I be free from sin**  
**Benediction**