

## COLLECT

True and humble king,  
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:  
grant us the faith to know you  
and love you,  
that we may be found beside you  
on the way of the cross,  
which is the path of glory.

**Amen.**

## FIRST READING

**Isaiah 50.4-9a**

*A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah*

The Lord God has given me

the tongue of a teacher,

that I may know how to sustain

the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—

wakens my ear

to listen as those who are taught.

The Lord God has opened my ear,

and I was not rebellious,

I did not turn backwards.

I gave my back to those who struck me,

and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;

I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.  
The Lord God helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
he who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.  
Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.  
It is the Lord God who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?  
All of them will wear out like a garment;  
the moth will eat them up.

## **Psalm 31.9-16**

*R My trust is in you, O Lord.*

Have mercy on me, Lord, for I am in trouble;  
my eye is consumed with sorrow,  
my soul and my body also.  
For my life is wasted with grief,  
and my years with sighing;  
my strength fails me because of my affliction,  
and my bones are consumed. R

I have become a reproach to all my enemies  
and even to my neighbours,  
an object of dread to my acquaintances;  
when they see me in the street they flee from me.  
I am forgotten like one that is dead, out of mind;  
I have become like a broken vessel.  
For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;  
fear is on every side;  
they scheme together against me,  
and plot to take my life. R

But my trust is in you, O Lord.  
I have said, 'You are my God.  
'My times are in your hand;  
deliver me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.  
'Make your face to shine upon your servant,  
and save me for your mercy's sake.' R

## **SECOND READING**

## **Philippians 2.5-11**

*A reading from St Paul's letter to the Philippians*

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

## **THE PASSION GOSPEL IS FOUND IN THE SEPARATE BOOKLET**

*We all sit for the gospel*

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