



# HAYES TOWN

**WALK OF WITNESS 2023**

# A very warm welcome to the Hayes Town Walk of Witness 2023

Churches from across Hayes and the surrounding areas come together every Good Friday to offer this Walk of Witness.

Our aim is to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in the amazing story of his death and resurrection with the people of Hayes - in action, song and Word.

We come from many different churches, many different traditions - but we all share in the Love of Jesus Christ and in our desire for others to know Him.

Join us as we walk together and share His amazing story.



## OPENING PRAYER

Jesus,  
We come to remember you in our hearts,  
to spend time with you in prayer & meditation,  
as we walk, in step with your steps, towards Golgotha,  
help us to ponder in our hearts  
the mystery of your suffering and pain,  
which you endured for our salvation,  
and to experience the love, compassion and mercy  
of God, our Father.

**Amen.**

*V.* We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

*R.* **Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.**

*Matthew 26:36-46*

## JESUS PRAYS IN GETHSEMANE

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, "So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

*Reflection*

*We move to the next stop singing:*

Stand up, stand up for Jesus  
ye soldiers of the cross;  
lift high his royal banner,  
it must not suffer loss.  
From vict'ry unto vict'ry  
his army he shall lead  
till ev'ry foe is vanquished  
and Christ is Lord indeed.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
the trumpet call obey;  
forth to the mighty conflict  
in this his glorious day.  
Ye that are men now serve him  
against unnumbered foes;  
let courage rise with danger  
and strength to strength oppose.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
stand in his strength alone;  
the arm of flesh will fail you,  
ye dare not trust your own.  
Put on the gospel armour,  
each piece put on with prayer;  
where duty calls or danger,  
be never wanting there.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
the strife will not be long;  
this day the noise of battle,  
the next, the victor's song.  
To him that overcometh  
a crown of life shall be;  
he with the King of glory  
shall reign eternally.

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

R. **Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.**

*Luke 22:54-62*

## **PETER DENIES JESUS**

Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house, and Peter was following at a distance. And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, "This man also was with him." But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." And a little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not." And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying, "Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean." But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about." And immediately, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

*Reflection*



*We move to the next stop singing:*

Glory be to Jesus,  
who in bitter pains  
poured for me the lifeblood  
from his sacred veins.

Grace and life eternal  
in that blood I find;  
blest be his compassion,  
infinitely kind.

Blest through endless ages  
be the precious stream  
which from endless torment  
did the world redeem.

Abel's blood for vengeance  
pleaded to the skies,  
but the blood of Jesus  
for our pardon cries.

Oft as earth exulting  
lifts its praise on high,  
angel hosts rejoicing  
make their glad reply.

Lift we, then, our voices,  
swell the mighty flood;  
louder still and louder  
praise the precious blood!

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

R. **Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.**

*John 18:33-38*

## **JESUS IS JUDGED BY PILATE**

So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.” Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”

*Reflection*



*We move to the next stop singing:*

All glory, laud, and honour  
to you, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children  
made sweet hosannas ring.  
You are the King of Israel  
and David's royal Son,  
now in the Lord's name coming,  
the King and Blessed One.

The company of angels  
is praising you on high;  
and we with all creation  
in chorus make reply.  
The people of the Hebrews  
with palms before you went;  
our praise and prayer and anthems  
before you we present.

To you before your passion  
they sang their hymns of praise;  
to you, now high exalted,  
our melody we raise.  
As you received their praises,  
accept the prayers we bring,  
for you delight in goodness,  
O good and gracious King!



*V.* We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

*R.* **Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.**

*John 19:17-23*

## **THE CRUCIFIXION**

So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews’, but rather, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’” Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.”

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic.

*Reflection*



*We move to the next stop singing:*

When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
save in the death of Christ, my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them through his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small.  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

R. **Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.**

*John 10:28-30*

## **THE DEATH OF JESUS**

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfil the Scripture), “I thirst.” A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished”, and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

*Reflection*

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
your passion and death in the sacrifice  
that unites earth and heaven  
and reconciles all people to you.  
May we who have faithfully reflected on these mysteries  
follow in your steps and so come to share  
your glory in heaven  
where you live and reign with the  
Father and the Holy Spirit  
One God, for ever and ever  
**Amen.**

