**Blackburn’s Chapel Home Worship**

**Week of 4/6/2020 – Holy Week**

**Gathering prayer –** Lord, as we enter Holy Week we pray that you guide our hearts and minds to Jesus’ way of the cross. As you call us into the suffering and grief of this week, show us the ways that the days ahead also point to something much greater – resurrection and life eternal. We ask that your grace abound in all who gather in your name and that you continue, through our presence and prayers, to draw people into relationship with your Son, our Savior. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

**Scripture – 2 Cor. 1:1-7**

**Reflection Questions**

1. Paul knew about suffering for Christ’s witness. He also knew unbounded joy and the strength of God to carry us through the difficult times. How is it that “as we share abundantly in Christ’s sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too”? Does this alter your understanding of suffering?
2. What afflictions are you carrying this week? How can your walk during the next few days take part in the sharing of affliction **and** comfort with others?

**Scripture – John 19:16-30**

**Reflection**

Put yourself on Golgatha. The dust is gathering on your sandals and clothes. You haven’t changed or eaten in days. The sun is rising, beating down on your shoulders and head but you don’t notice the heat. All you can see is Jesus, struggling under the cross – your cross, our cross. You hear the shouts of the soldiers, mocking and beating the One you’ve followed these last three years.

Read the passage slowly, again. What else do you see? What sounds rise to your ears? More importantly, what emotions do you feel? If you’re in the story, you don’t fully know of the resurrection yet. How does this death affect you? How will it change you going forward?

**Worship in Song**

Porter’s Gate – “Wood & Nails” (feat. Audrey Assad and Josh Garrels)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pIyr1PIMWgw>

**Closing prayer – “Judas, Peter” by Luci Shaw**

because we are all betrayers, taking
silver and eating
body and blood and asking
is it I and hearing him say yes
it would be simple for us all
to rush out
and hang ourselves
but if we find grace
to cry and wait
after the voice of morning
has crowed in our ears
clearly enough
to break our hearts
he will be there
to ask us each again
do you love me?