Good Friday with Bishop June

This is a holiday weekend, and it begins with Good Friday. Now, normally when we have a national holiday, it's all about pleasure and leisure and relaxation and remembering really good things, good stories in our history.

So, it's very strange that the Easter weekend begins with a day, which is really a story about cruel death, about the suffering of a good man, and about unjust events. What a strange way to start a holiday weekend. And yet, we've all known about those three things this last year, we've known about cruel deaths, we've known about the suffering of good people. And we've known about injustice.

And yet Good Friday is not just a story rehearsing that those things are real to us. It's also a story of hope and goodness. It's about how God shares in our suffering. Jesus isn't just some random historic figure. He is God Himself taking on our human suffering.

And it's a story about how God loves us so much that the things that bring death to us, that make us afraid, that he challenges those things. And so, here's the invitation on Good Friday. That actually we see in the things that come towards us in life, in lockdown, and all that we know, the things that make us afraid, that actually what we have is a God who loves us and a God who challenges those things and makes sure that we know that life and love and faith and hope are all stronger than the things of which we're afraid.

So, it is a Good Friday, and it is a day worth celebrating. It is where faith matters.