

Online Worship – Good Friday

We gather in silence.

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: Fear and fascination drew observers to the first holy Friday. These emotions have attracted people ever since.

People: **We cannot flee from the pain and suffering which Jesus experienced on our behalf. In You they trusted, and were not disappointed.**

Leader: We wonder why one so faithful and loving had to face the agony of rejection and death.

People: **Jesus was wounded for our transgressions, and was bruised for our iniquities.**

Leader: In this time of worship we join Christ at Calvary, aware of our involvement in the cruelty there.

People: **Our faithfulness is tested at the cross and our lives are judged by our response.**

Confession

Leader: Good Friday is not a day of safe distances. The darkness descends. Taunts and jeers reach our ears when we dare to identify with the Light of the World. We who are called the body of Christ in today's world, drawn from every tribe, language, nation, and race, have come to our time of testing. The world God loves resists our witness for shalom as it rejected the Christ. Will we go all the way to the cross?

People: **God of the hilltops and low places, Revealer at Sinai and Reassuring One in the valley of the shadow of death, we need you here. You have created us and given life to all things, but we have chased after other gods and ridiculed those who practice their faith too seriously. We have tried to put you to the test, but have not wanted to be tested ourselves. We place conditions on our belief and limit our trust while the One you sent to love us is rejected, tortured, and killed. O God, what have we done? Is it too late to be a disciple? Hear our cry! AMEN.**

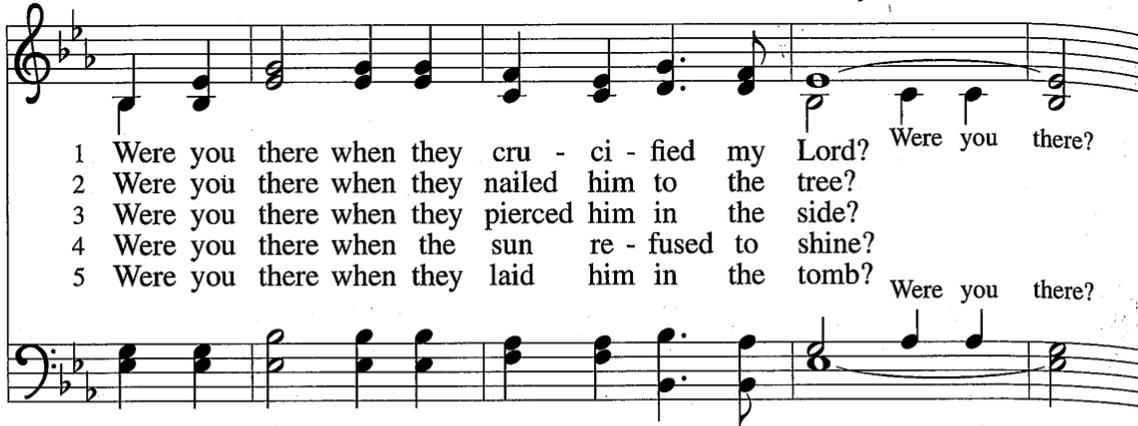
Leader: God's love is not destroyed at Golgotha, nor diminished by our unclear reflection of its saving power. God reaches out to heal and revive us, and to reveal again the love that will not let us go. We are invited to know the one beyond all knowing and to accept the gifts God offers us. Answer God's love with your praise, devotion, and service – and you will know you are forgiven.

Stripping of the Altar

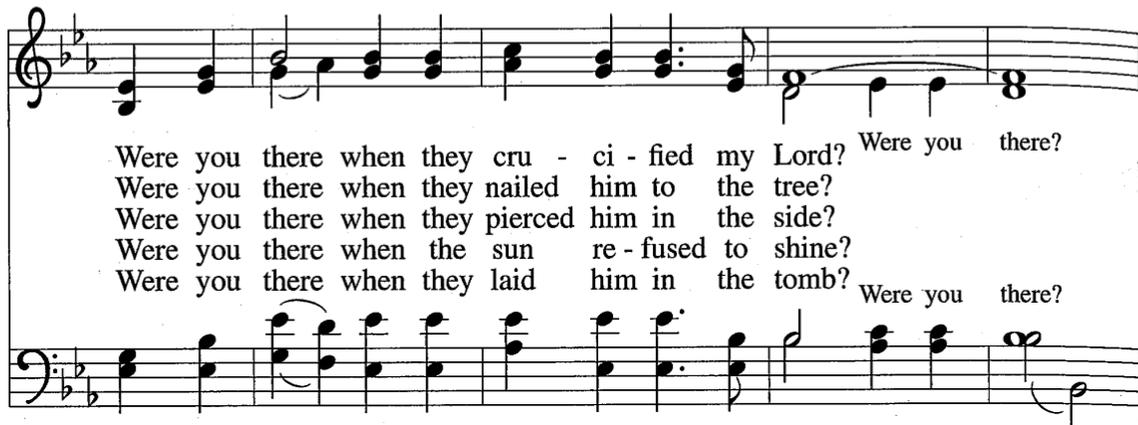
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Hymn

ELW #353 “Were You There” vs. 1-3

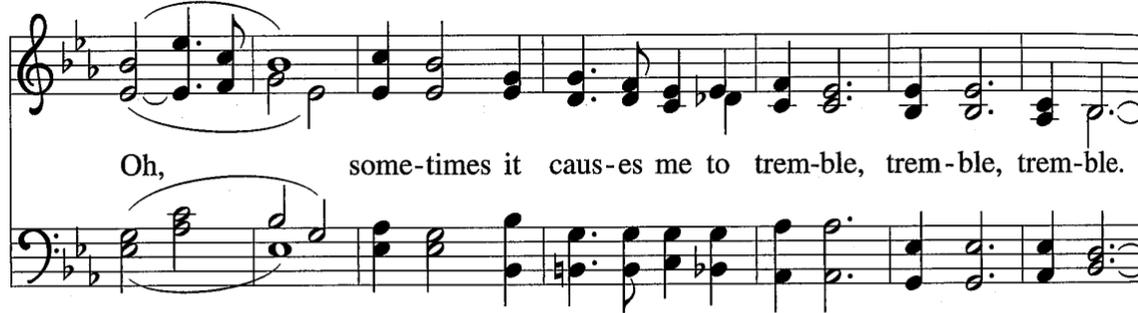


1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

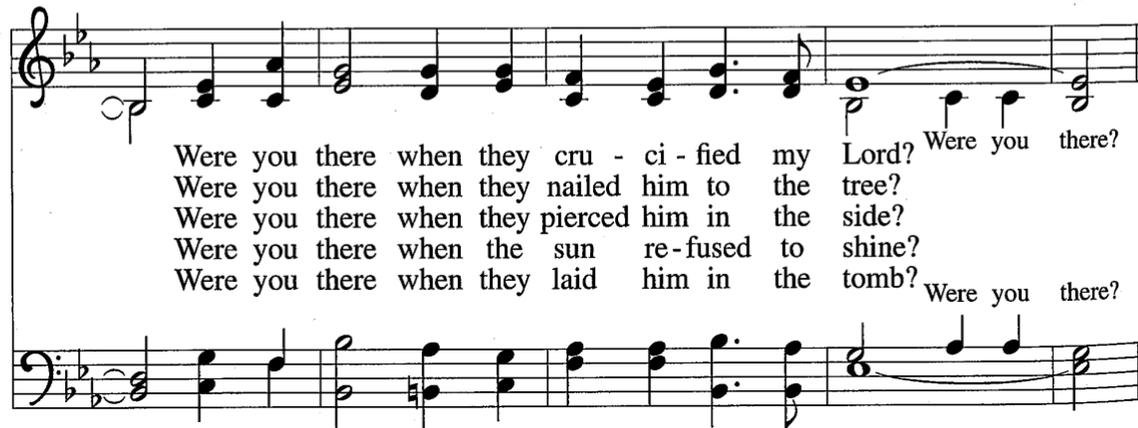


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Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Refrain



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
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Entry of the Cross (*Presenting the sins of the world*)

“Behold, the life-giving cross upon which was hung the salvation of the whole world.”

Silence for Reflection

THE FIRST WORD **Luke 23:33-34**

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there. ³⁴Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”

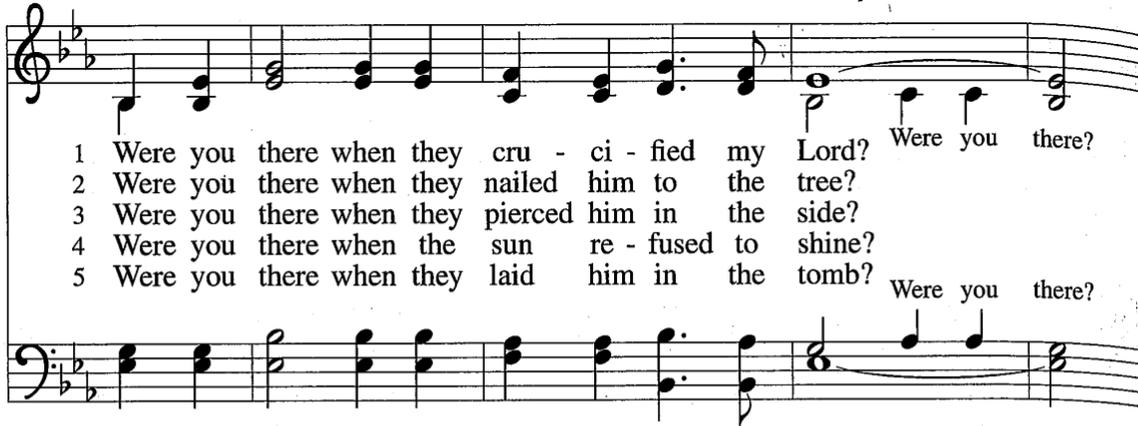
Reading I CAN FEEL THE SUFFERING OF MILLIONS
By Anne Frank

I can feel the suffering of millions
and yet, if I look up into the heavens,
I think it will all come right,
and that this cruelty too will end,
and that peace and tranquility will return again.
In the meantime,
I must uphold my ideals,
for perhaps the time will come
when I shall be able to carry them out.

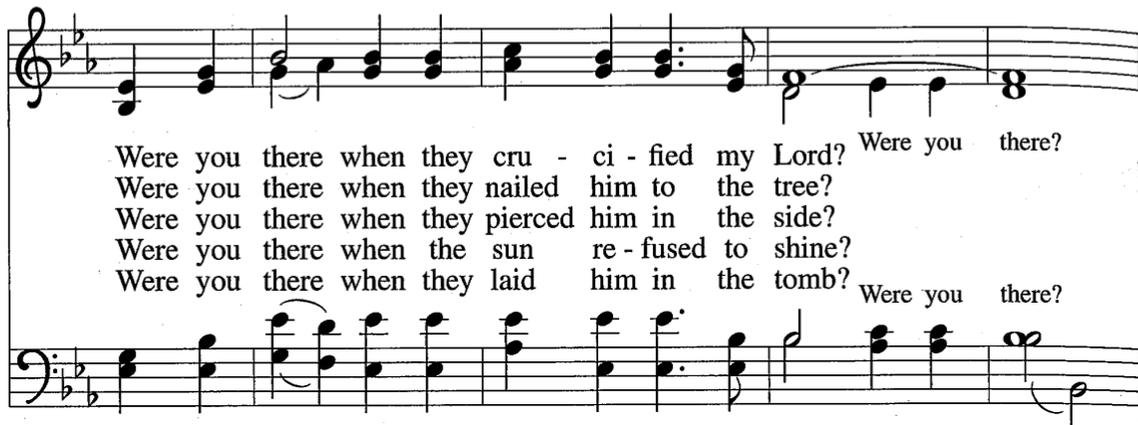
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Hymn

ELW #353 “Were You There” vs. 4-6

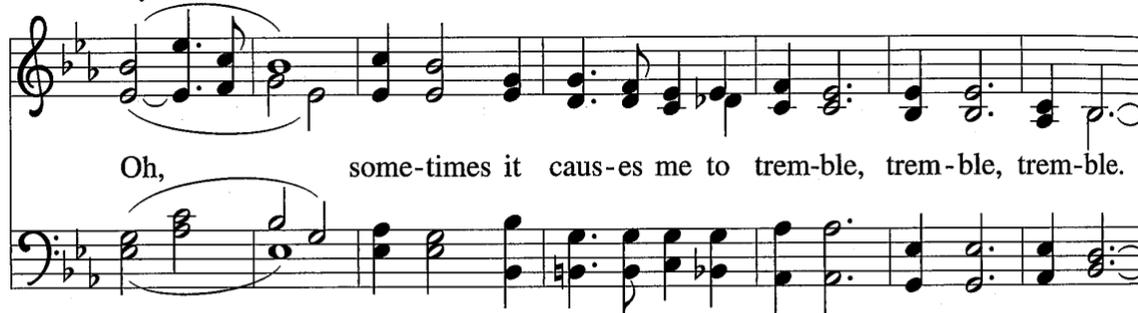


1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

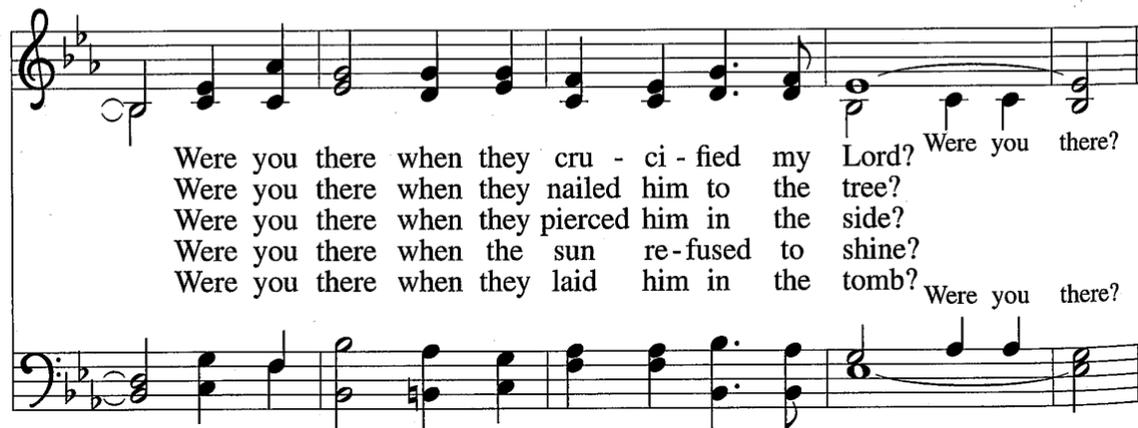


Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Refrain



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
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Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

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People: **We are the body of Christ. If one suffers, we all suffer. Christ has died, Christ has risen, and Christ comes for us.**

THE SECOND WORD Luke 23:39-43

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴²Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

Leader: We join to the sufferings of Jesus all those people who are unjustly persecuted for their race, beliefs or love.

Reading 1 Peter 4:12-19

²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ’s sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory,[a] which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.[b] ¹⁵But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, a criminal, or even as a mischief maker. ¹⁶Yet if any of you suffers as a Christian, do not consider it a disgrace, but glorify God because you bear this name. ¹⁷For the time has come for judgment to begin with the household of God; if it begins with us, what will be the end for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸And

“If it is hard for the righteous to be saved,
what will become of the ungodly and the sinners?”

¹⁹Therefore, let those suffering in accordance with God’s will entrust themselves to a faithful Creator, while continuing to do good.

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Hymn

ELW #616 “Jesus Remember Me”

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Jesus Remember Me". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 7/8. The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff of each system. The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system ends with a double bar line.

People: **We are the body of Christ. If one suffers, we all suffer. Christ has died, Christ has risen, and Christ comes for us.**

Silence for Reflection

THE THIRD WORD

John 19:25-27

²⁵And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.” ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Leader: We join to the sufferings of Jesus the plight of all that are homeless.

Reading

Luke 16:19-31

¹⁹“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades, where he was being

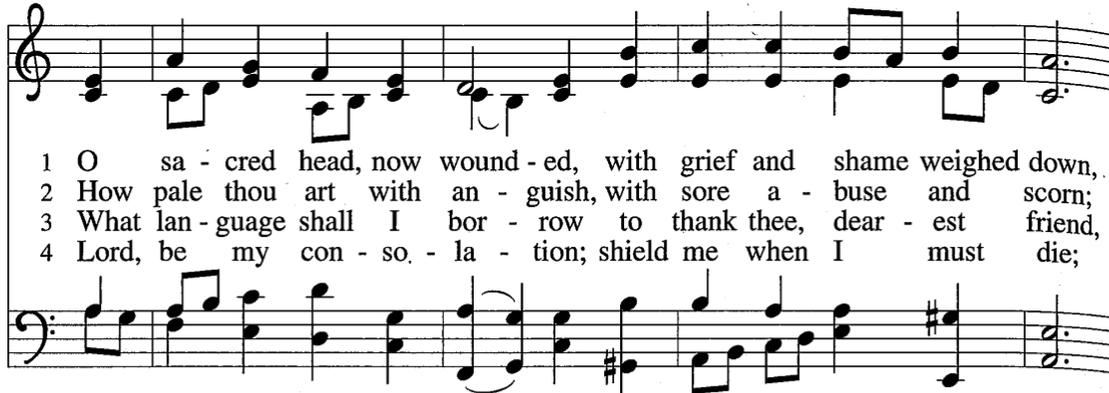
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tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' ²⁵ But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' ²⁷ He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house— ²⁸ for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' ²⁹ Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' ³⁰ He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' ³¹ He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

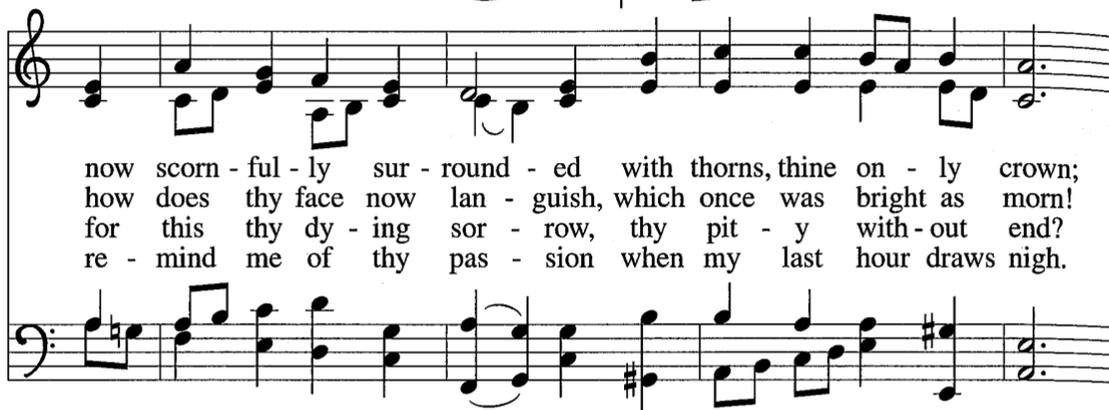
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Hymn

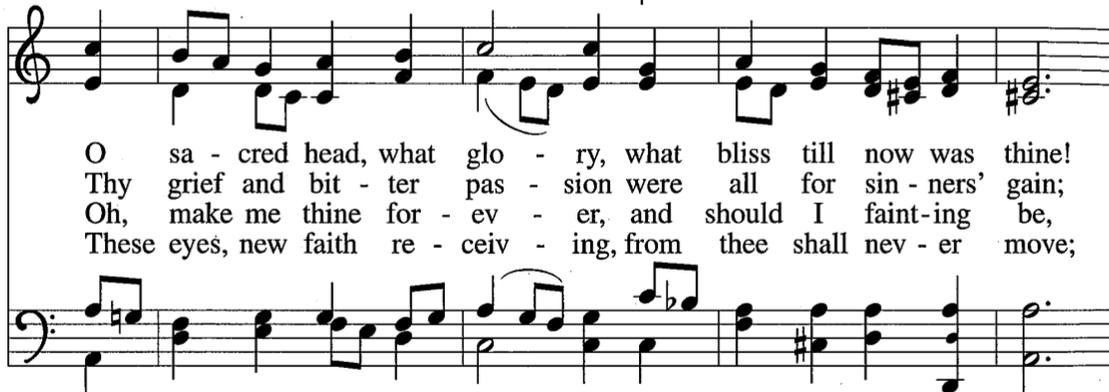
ELW #351 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded



1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;
3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!
for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
mine, mine was the trans - ges - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

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People: **We are the body of Christ. If one suffers, we all suffer. Christ has died, Christ has risen, and Christ comes for us.**

Silence for Reflection

THE FOURTH WORD

Mark 15:33-34

³³When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ³⁴At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Leader: We join to the sufferings of Jesus all those who have been lied to and think that God will not love them because of who they are.

Reading (unison)

Psalm 13:1-4

¹How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever?

How long will you hide your face from me?

**²How long must I bear pain[a] in my soul,
and have sorrow in my heart all day long?**

How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

³Consider and answer me, O Lord my God!

Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death,

**⁴and my enemy will say, "I have prevailed";
my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.**

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Hymn

Within Our Darkest Night

With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the

The first system of the hymn is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is on a treble clef staff, and the bass line is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the".

fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a -

The second system continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are: "fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a -".

way. With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the

The third system continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are: "way. With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the".

fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a - way.

The fourth system concludes the hymn. The lyrics are: "fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a - way." The piece ends with a double bar line.

Text: Taizé Community, 1991

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People: **We are the body of Christ. If one suffers, we all suffer. Christ has died, Christ has risen, and Christ comes for us.**

Silence for Reflection

THE FIFTH WORD

John 19:28-29

²⁸After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." ²⁹A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth.

Reading

A reading from Mahatma Gandhi:

There are people in the world so hungry, that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread. There is enough on this planet for everyone's needs but not for everyone's greed.

People: **We are the body of Christ. If one suffers, we all suffer. Christ has died, Christ has risen, and Christ comes for us.**

Silence for Reflection

THE SIXTH WORD

John 19:30

³⁰When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Leader: We join to the sufferings of Jesus the despair of all that have lost their way in life.

Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God

as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸ he humbled himself

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and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,

¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

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Hymn

ELW #347 “Go to the Dark Gethsemane” vs. 1-3



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt-er's pow'r;
2 Fol-low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar-raigned;
3 Cal-v'ry's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor-ing at his feet,
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath-less clay;



your Re-deem-er's con-flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.
all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
“It is fin - ished!” hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.



People: **We are the body of Christ. If one suffers, we all suffer. Christ has died, Christ has risen, and Christ comes for us.**

Silence for Reflection

THE SEVENTH WORD

Luke 23:46

⁴⁶Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” Having said this, he breathed his last.

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Leader: We join to the sufferings of Jesus all the dying whether of cancer or HIV/AIDS, hunger or war, accident or age.

Reading

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

⁵¹ Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³ For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled:

“Death has been swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵ “Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?”

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: **We are the body of Christ. If one suffers, we all suffer. Christ has died, Christ has risen, and Christ comes for us.**

Silence for Reflection

Peace be with you.

Easter worship with communion will be posted on our website on Sunday morning.