
prelude

EMILY KIRKPATRICK & KATHY LORIMOR

preparation

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Yes, we were there. Not only as spectators but as participants, guilty participants, plotting, scheming, betraying, bargaining, and handing him over to be crucified. There is blood on our hands. Before we can begin to see the cross as something done for us (leading us to faith and worship), we have to see it as something done by us (leading us to repentance). Only the one who is prepared to own his share in the guilt of the cross may claim his share in its grace.

— John Stott, *The Cross of Christ*

** call to worship

Leader: We are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.

All: This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.

Leader: It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

— Romans 3:24-26_{ESV}

Leader: Your kindness, Lord, leads us to repentance.

** prayer of invocation

Leader: Almighty God, we pray you graciously behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

— From the *Book of Common Prayer*

WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul; to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,

When I was sinking down, sinking down,

When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,

Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul. Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing;

To God and to the Lamb I will sing.

To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am;

While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing.

While millions join the theme, I will sing.

Words: Folk Hymn; Music: American Folk Tune. Public Domain.

the "i am" sayings of Jesus: a service of confession & assurance

I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

SUZANNE JOFFRION

Leader: Hear from the Gospel of John. Jesus is the Bread of Life.

Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst."

— John 6:32–35^{ESV}

How then should we respond in faith?

All: **Father in heaven, we confess our unbelief – that we have filled ourselves with the things of this world, delighting in things that repulse you and being satisfied by things created rather than you, our Almighty Creator. Forgive us, for Jesus’ sake. Lead us to the cross. Amen.**

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

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 to 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 an offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

Words: Isaac Watts; Music: anon., arr. Lowell Mason. Public Domain.

I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

DANIEL MCDOWELL

Leader: Jesus is the Light of the World.

“And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God. I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

– John 3:19-21, 8:12 ESV

How then should we respond in faith?

All: **God of grace, we confess that we have loved the darkness, choosing to hide from your sight and doing what is right in our own eyes rather than in yours. Forgive us, for Christ’s sake. Lead us to the cross. Amen.**

COME BEHOLD THE WONDROUS MYSTERY

Come behold the wondrous mystery, in the dawning of the King.
He the theme of heaven's praises, robed in frail humanity.
In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come.
Look to Christ, who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, he the perfect Son of Man.
In his living, in his suffering, never trace nor stain of sin.
See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man.
Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law; in him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, Christ the Lord upon the tree.
In the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory.
See the price of our redemption; see the Father's plan unfold.
Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold.

Come behold the wondrous mystery; slain by death the God of life.
But no grave could e'er restrain Him; praise the Lord; He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliverance; how unwavering our hope.
Christ in power resurrected as we will be when he comes.

"Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery," Words & Music: Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, & Michael Bleecker. ©
Love Your Enemies Publishing. CCLI #3022711, #20579701, Song #7026028

I AM THE DOOR & I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD

SUZANNE SCHELL

Leader: So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep."

— John 10:7–11, 14–15 ESV

How then should we respond in faith?

All: **Merciful God, we confess that we have listened to thieves and robbers who tell us we can enter into abundant life apart from you, especially when we believe that our works will save us. Have mercy upon us and let us hear the Good Shepherd’s voice that calls us to trust in the life he laid down for us. Lead us to the cross. Amen.**

HALLELUJAH! WHAT A SAVIOR!

“Man of Sorrows!” what a name, for the Son of God, who came
Ruined sinners to reclaim. Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude, in my place condemned He stood;
Sealed my pardon with his blood. Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Guilty, vile, and helpless we; spotless Lamb of God was he;
“Full atonement!” can it be? Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Lifted up was He to die; “It is finished!” was His cry;
Now in Heav’n exalted high. Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Words and Music: Philip P. Bliss. Public Domain.

I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

ROB CASTRO

Leader: Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life, and he is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

– John 11:25–27 ESV

Jesus said... “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

– John 14:6 ESV

How then should we respond in faith?

Lord of life, have mercy on us, for we fear death and dread our end. Forgive

All: us for the sins that made death enter into your Creation. You, Father, have made a way for us to have eternal life by giving us your Son, but you find us looking—still anxiously looking—for other answers. Help our unbelief, and help us turn to the One who conquered death for our sake. In Jesus’ mighty Name, lead us to the cross. Amen.

HOW DEEP THE FATHER’S LOVE FOR US

How deep the Father’s love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
That he should give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss; the Father turns his face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon his shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there until it was accomplished.
His dying breath has brought me life; I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything – no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ – his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart: his wounds have paid my ransom.

“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us,” Words and Music: Stuart Townend.
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Leader: “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.”

– John 15:1-5 ESV

How then should we respond in faith?

All: **Loving and Everlasting Father, we pray your grace would turn our hearts from trusting and abiding in things and persons other than you. Prune from us the other loves and vices that hinder us from an abiding trust in Jesus, who is our vine. For Jesus’ sake we pray, lead us to the cross. Amen.**

ABIDE WITH ME

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, abide with me.

I need thy presence, every passing hour.
What but thy grace can foil the tempter’s power?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross, before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heaven’s morning breaks, and earth’s vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

“Abide with Me,” Words: Henry Lyte; Music: Justin Smith.
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Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. They came up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and struck him with their hands. Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him.” So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, “Crucify him, crucify him!”

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.”

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill 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.

– John 19:1-6a, 16b-19, 28-30 ESV

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

– Matthew 26:26-29 ESV

Leader: Therefore we boldly proclaim our faith:

People: **Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.**

Leader: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Leader: These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts with faith and thanksgiving.

As the elements are distributed, the music team will sing this hymn. We encourage the congregation to meditate on Christ's sorrow in the Garden of Gethsemane, the depth of his suffering and his sacrificial death on the cross, enduring the agony of the wrath and curse of God for our sake and for our salvation.

GO TO DARK GETHSEMANE

Go to dark Gethsemane, you who feel the tempter's power;
Your Redeemer's conflict see; watch with him one bitter hour;
Turn not from his griefs away; learn of Jesus Christ to pray.

Follow to the judgment hall; view the Lord of life arraigned;
See the worm-wood and the gall! See the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss; learn of him to bear the cross.

Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb there' adoring at his feet,
Mark the miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete:
"It is finished!" hear the cry; learn of Jesus Christ to die.

Early hasten to the tomb where they laid his breathless clay;
All is solitude and gloom; who has taken him away?
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes: Savior, teach us so to rise.

Words: James Montgomery; Music: Richard Redhead. Public Domain

After this hymn is sung, please leave the worship area in reverent silence as the postlude plays. Please join us as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord this Sunday morning, beginning with a breakfast at 9a and continuing with our Resurrection Sunday worship service at 1030a.

WERE YOU THERE?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

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postlude

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