

us.’³¹ For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”³² Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

O sacred Head, now wounded,
with grief and shame weighed down,
now scornfully surrounded
with thorns, thine only crown:
how pale thou art with anguish,
with sore abuse and scorn!
How does that visage languish
which once was bright as morn!

What thou, my Lord, hast suffered
was all for sinners' gain;
mine, mine was the transgression,
but thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior!
'Tis I deserve thy place;
look on me with thy favor,
vouchsafe to me thy grace.

THE SHADOW OF CRUCIFIXION Luke 23:33-38, John 19:25b-27
33 When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. 34 Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.” And they cast lots to divide his clothing. 35 And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” 36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, 37 and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” 38 There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

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

“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 cause the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul

THE SHADOW OF DEATH Luke 23:44-45, Mark 15:34-35,
Luke 23:46, Mark 15:38-39

⁴⁴ It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land ^{44a} until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵ while the sun’s light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

³⁴ At 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?”^{34a} ³⁵ When some of the bystanders heard it, they

said, “Listen, he is calling for Elijah.”

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

³⁸ And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹ Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, “Truly this man was God’s Son!”

Extinguishing the Christ Candle

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

Congregation: Oh Lord, make us thankful.

A MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEASE LEAVE IN SILENCE



So Jesus came out,
wearing the crown of thorns
and the purple robe.

Pilate said to them,
“**BEHOLD
THE
MAN!**”

John 19:5, ESV

April 2, 2021 | 7:00 pm
Good Friday Service

113 South Piedmont Avenue | Kings Mountain, NC 28086
704.739.2471 | www.cumckm.org
Pastor: Bruce Gwyn | pastor@cumckm.org

Central
United Methodist Church

The Prelude

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: Let us praise God for the gift of his Son who became the light of the world.

Congregation: We would thank him that Christ came as a great light shining into a world darkened with sin.

Minister: Let us never forget those shadows of evil which followed him to the cross.

Congregation: We would remember that the power of Christ is greater than the power of evil and will eventually overcome it.

*THE OPENING PRAYER

Unison

Almighty God, help us to be ever aware of those events that caused Jesus to be taken to the cross. As we become mindful of those who confronted him with betrayal, denial, rejection, injustice, torture, ridicule, and mockery, we realize that these same traits might be found in our lives. Help us to re-examine our inner selves in this hour, as we reflect upon the lives of those who failed our Savior. If we have crucified him anew, grant us forgiveness and cleanse our lives of sin. Uplift us that we might see beyond the shadows of the cross, and find the spirit of him who came as the light of the world. Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

“What Wondrous Love Is This?” (Verses 1-3)

Verse 1

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.

Verse 2

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 life
to lay aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
to lay aside his crown for my soul.

Verse 3

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.

The Shadow of Denial

Luke 22:54-62

54 Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. 55 When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. 56 Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." 57 But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." 58 A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also

are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" 59 Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean." 60 But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. 61 The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." 62 And he went out and wept bitterly.

“Were You There” (Verse 1-2)

Verse 1

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (were you there)
Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (were you there)
Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (were you there)

Verse 2

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
(were you there)
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
(were you there)
Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
(were you there)

The Shadow of Cynicism

John 18:33-38

33 Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" 34 Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" 35 Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" 36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." 37 Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." 38 Pilate asked him, "What is truth?" After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him.

“Were You There” (Verses 3-4)

Verse 3

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

Verse 4

Were you there when the sun refused to shine? (were you there)
Were you there when the sun refused to shine? (were you there)
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
(were you there)

The Shadow of Responsibility

Matthew 27:20-26

²⁰ Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. ²¹ The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to

release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." ²² Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" ²³ All of them said, "Let him be crucified!" ²⁴ Then he asked, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"

²⁴ So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." ²⁵ Then the people as a whole answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" ²⁶ So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

“Were You There” (Verse 5)

Verse 5

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

The Shadow of Mockery

Mark 15:16-20

¹⁶ Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. ¹⁷ And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. ¹⁸ And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ¹⁹ They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. ²⁰ After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

“Ah, Holy Jesus”

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted!

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee!
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;
I crucified thee.

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee,
think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,
not my deserving.

The Shadow of Doom

Luke 23:26-32

²⁶ As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷ A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. ²⁸ But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹ For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' ³⁰ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover