

Good Friday  
April 3, 2026



## GATHERING

**PRELUDE**

Andante, Op. 122, no. 7

Louis J. A. Léfébure-Wély

**SILENT PROCESSION**

**ANTHEM**

J. J. A. Roger-Ducasse  
Emily Harrison Zapata, soloist

Faithful Cross

Faithful cross above all others,  
One and only noble tree.  
None in foliage, none in blossom,  
None in fruit Thy peer may be.  
Sweetest wood and sweetest iron,  
Sweetest weight is hung on Thee.  
Amen.

### **\*OPENING SENTENCES**

Christ Jesus bore our sins in his body on the cross  
so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness.  
Blessed is the name of the Lord.

### **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

**Almighty God, look with mercy on your family,  
for whom our Lord Jesus Christ  
was willing to be betrayed  
and to be given over to the hands of sinners,  
and to suffer death on the cross;  
who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**\*HYMN 228**

Were You There

WERE YOU THERE

### **THE WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

# 228

## Were You There

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

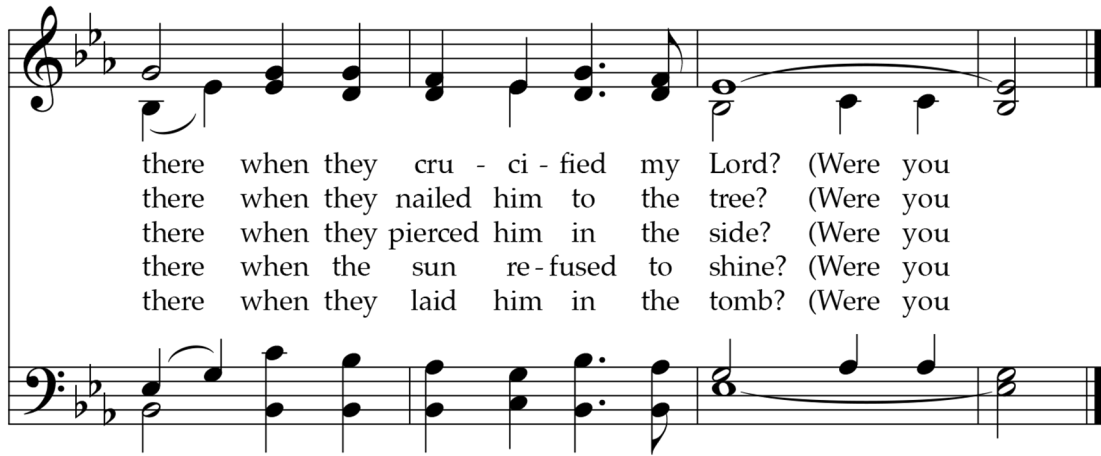
there?) Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 there?) Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 there?) Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 there?) Were you there when the sun re-fused to shine?  
 there?) Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

O! Some-times it caus - es me to

trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble. Were you

Few hymns from any culture have captured the pathos of Jesus' crucifixion as movingly as this African American spiritual. Its emotional climax (and highest pitch) comes in the great "O!" at the center of each stanza, a moment that moves beyond anything words can convey.

JESUS CHRIST: PASSION AND DEATH



there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (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

Opt. 6 Were you there when he rose up from the dead?

## FIRST READING

Hear the Word of God! **Our ears are open.**

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

(Old Testament, pages 683-684 in your pew Bible)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## ANTHEM

Words: W. Walsham How

Music: Philip Moore

Susan Kelly & Sid Braunstein, soloists

It is a Thing Most Wonderful

It is a thing most wonderful,  
Almost too wonderful to be  
That God's own Son should come from heav'n,  
And die to save a child like me.

And yet I know that it is true:  
He chose a poor and humble lot,  
And wept and mourned and toiled and died,  
For love of those who loved him not.

I sometimes think about the cross,  
And shut my eyes and try to see  
The cruel nails and crown of thorns  
and Jesus crucified for me.

But even could I see him die,  
I could but see a little part  
of that great love which like a fire,  
Is always burning in his heart.

And yet I want to love thee Lord;  
O light the flame within my heart,  
That I may love thee more and more,  
Until I see thee as thou art.

It is a thing most wonderful.

## PSALM 22

*The response is sung first by the choir alone and the congregation repeats it.  
The verses are read aloud as shown below.*



My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

**Why are you so far from me, from the words of my groaning?**

O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;

**and by night, but find no rest.**

Yet you, the praise of Israel, are enthroned in holiness.

**In you our forebears trusted; they trusted and you delivered them.**

To you they cried, and were saved;

**In you they trusted, and were not disappointed. REFRAIN**

But I am a worm, and not human;

**Scorned by others, and despised by the people.**

All who see me mock at me,

**They make mouths at me, they wag their heads;**

“He committed his cause to the Lord;

Let the Lord deliver him.

Let the Lord rescue him, for the Lord delights in him!”

**Yet it was you who took me from the womb;**

**You kept me safe upon my mother’s breast.**

Upon you I was cast from my birth,

And since my mother bore me, you have been my God.

**Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is none to help. REFRAIN**

Many bulls encompass me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me;

**They open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.**

I am poured out like water

**And all my bones are out of joint;**

My heart is like wax,

**It is melted within my breast;**

My mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue cleaves to my jaws;

**You lay me in the dust of death.**

Indeed, dogs surround me;

**A company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet—**

I can count all my bones—

**They stare and gloat over me;**

They divide my garments among them,

**And for my raiment, they cast lots. REFRAIN**

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
**My vows I will pay before those who worship the Lord.**  
The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
**Those who seek the Lord shall praise the Lord!**  
**May your hearts live forever. REFRAIN**

## SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:16-25

*(New Testament, pages 224-225 in your pew Bible)*

## ANTHEM

Howard Goodall  
Susan Kelly, soloist

Recordare: Drop, Drop, Slow Tears

Drop, drop, slow tears,  
And bathe those beauteous feet  
Which brough from Heav'n  
The news and Prince of Peace:

Cease not, wet eyes,  
His mercies to entreat:  
To cry for vengeance  
Sin doth never cease.

Recordare Jesu pie,  
Quad sum causa tuae viae,  
Ne me perdas illa die.

In your deep floods  
Drown all my faults and fears:  
Nor let his eye See sin,  
but through my tears.

## GOSPEL READING

John 19:17-30

*(New Testament, pages 113-114 in your pew Bible)*

**ANTHEM**

Improperium  
(You Have Abandoned Me)

McNeil Robinson

You have abandon'd me  
and broken my heart,  
and I am full of woe.

I look about for someone  
who will be merciful,  
but there is no one.

No one will console me,  
no one will comfort my pain.  
But you gave me vinegar to drink,  
and when I was hungry  
you fed me the bitterest gall.

You have abandon'd me  
and broken my heart,  
and I am full of woe.

**THE SOLEMN INTERCESSION**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**SOLEMN REPROACHES OF THE CROSS**

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 a present far too small;  
Love, so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

Amen!

SILENT CHORAL PROCESSION *The congregation departs in silence following the choir.*

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## **Worship Leaders**

### **Preaching**

Rev. Dr. Donovan Drake  
Pastor and Head of Staff

### **Music**

Westminster Choir

John Semingson  
Director of Music Ministries

Stephen Z. Cook  
Guest Organist

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