



12 NOON – MARCH 29, 2024

## Gathering in Silence

## Opening Sentences

1 Peter 2:24

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

## Hymn

### *Rejected and Despised*

RESIGNATION

1 Re - ject - ed and de - spised by men and wom - en  
2 In all the vic - tims of our age, the bat - tered  
3 For - give us, Lord, as you for - gave with your ex -

of our race, he bears trans - gres - sion's wound - ing weight and  
and the bruised, Christ lives a - gain, a - like with them by  
pir - ing breath the ones whose guilt - y hands, like ours, re -

an - guish mars his face. This Man of Sor - rows, born to  
hu - man sin a - bused: as - cend - ing on a cross to  
quired a guilt - less death. O mys - t'ry of such cost - ly

loss, ac - quaint - ed with our grief: this Christ of  
die, de - scend - ing in - to hell; in tor - ment,  
love, O depth of grace re - vealed: in scourge - marked

God now cru - ci - fied as - ton - ish - es be - lief.  
suf - f'ring, scorn, and pain, we meet our God as well.  
flesh, we find our Christ, and by his stripes are healed.


Since apostolic times (see Acts 8:26-39), Christians have seen parallels between the Fourth Servant Song (Isaiah 52:13-53:12) and Christ's Passion. This reflection on that passage reminds us how the suffering Christ continues to be present in the victimized people of our own day.

## Prayer for Illumination

### Psalm 22

Frank Schoen

Refrain (*cantor first, then all*)



My God, my God, why have you a - ban-doned me?

### Gospel

Luke 23:13-49

### Hymn

*Were You There*

WERE YOU THERE

1. 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?
2. 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?
3. Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

— African American spiritual

## Solemn Intercessions

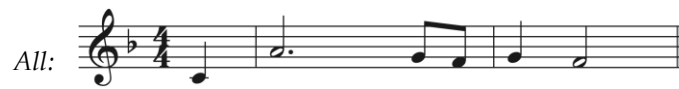
### Lord's Prayer

### Solemn Reproaches of the Cross

*Cantor:* Behold the wood of the cross,  
on which has hung the Savior of the world,  
oh come, oh come, let us worship.

Richard Proulx


*All:*



O come, let us wor - ship.

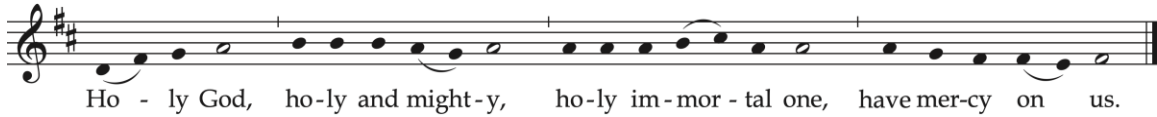
O my people, O my church,  
what more could I have done for you?  
Answer me!

I led you out of slavery into freedom,  
and delivered you through the waters of rebirth,  
but you have made a cross for your Savior.



Ho - ly God, ho-ly and might-y, ho-ly im-mor - tal one, have mer-cy on us.

Forty years I led you through the desert,  
feeding you with manna on the way;  
I saved you from the time of trial  
and gave you my body, the bread of heaven,  
but you have made a cross for your Savior.



I led you on your way in a pillar of cloud and fire,  
but you led me to the judgment hall of Pilate;  
I guided you by the light of the Holy Spirit,  
but you have made a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, ...**

I planted you as my fairest vineyard,  
but you brought forth bitter fruit;  
I made you branches of the vine  
and never left your side,  
but you have made a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, ...**

I poured out saving water from the rock,  
but you gave me vinegar to drink;  
I poured out my life  
and gave you the new covenant in my blood,  
but you have made a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, ...**

I gave you a royal scepter,  
but you gave me a crown of thorns;  
I gave you the kingdom  
and crowned you with eternal life,  
but you have made a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, ...**

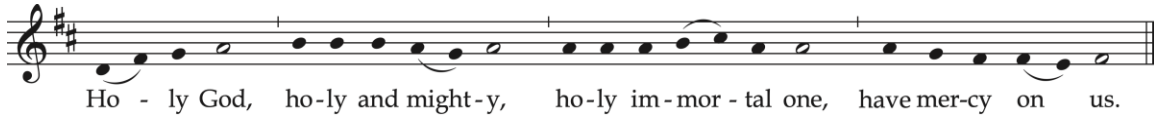
I struck down your enemies,  
but you struck my head with a reed;  
I gave you my peace,  
but you draw the sword in my name,  
and you have made a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, ...**

I opened the waters  
to lead you to the promised land,  
but you opened my side with a spear;  
I washed your feet as a sign of my love,  
but you have made a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, ...**

I lifted you up to the heights,  
 but you lifted me high on the cross;  
 I raised you from death  
 and prepared for you the tree of life,  
 but you have made a cross for your Savior.



I grafted you into my people Israel,  
 but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt,  
 and you have made a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, ...**

I was hungry and you gave me no food,  
 thirsty and you gave me no drink,  
 a stranger and you did not welcome me,  
 naked and you did not clothe me,  
 sick and in prison and you did not visit me,  
 and you have made a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, ...**

**Closing Meditation**

*O Sacred Head, Surrounded*

PASSION CHORALE



1. O Sa - cred Head, sur - round - ed By crown of pierc - ing thorn!  
 2. I see your strength and vig - or All fad - ing in the strife,  
 3. In this, your bit - ter pas - sion, Good Shep - herd, think of me



O bleed - ing Head, so wound - ed, Re - viled and put to scorn!  
 And death with cru - el rig - or, Be - reav - ing you of life;  
 With your most sweet com - pas - sion, Un - worth - y though I be:



The pow'r of death comes o'er you, The glow of life de - cays,  
 O ag - o - ny and dy - ing! O love to sin - ners free!  
 Be - neath your cross a - bid - ing For ev - er would I rest,



Yet an - gel hosts a - dore you And trem - ble as they gaze.  
 Je - sus, all grace sup - ply - ing, O turn your face on me.  
 In your dear love con - fid - ing, And with your pres - ence blest.

Text: *Salve caput cruentatum*; ascr. to Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. by Henry Baker, 1821–1877  
 Tune: PASSION CHORALE, 7 6 7 6 D; Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612; harm. by J. S. Bach, 1685–1750

**Depart in Silence**

John Wurster & Omar Rouchon, pastors | Cecilia Duarte, cantor