

A Service of Worship  
April 15, 2022  
*Good Friday*

## **We Gather at God's Call**

We Gather in Silence

An Excerpt from *The Dream of the Rood*, an Anonymous Eighth-Century Old English Poem

I beheld sorrowful the tree of the Savior,  
until I heard it utter a sound;  
it began to speak words, the best of wood:

"That was very long ago, I remember it still,  
that I was cut down from the edge of the wood,  
ripped up by my roots. They seized me there, strong enemies,  
made me a spectacle for themselves there, commanded me to raise up their  
criminals.

Men carried me there on their shoulders, until they set me on a hill,  
enemies enough fastened me there. I saw then the Savior of mankind  
hasten with great zeal, as if he wanted to climb up on me.

There I did not dare, against the word of the Lord,  
bow or break, when I saw the  
corners of the earth tremble. I might have  
felled all the enemies; even so, I stood fast.  
He stripped himself then, young hero - that was God almighty -  
strong and resolute; he ascended on the high gallows,  
brave in the sight of many, when he wanted to ransom mankind.

I trembled when the warrior embraced me; even then I did not dare to bow to  
earth,  
fall to the corners of the earth, but I had to stand fast.  
I was reared a cross. I raised up the powerful King,  
the Lord of heaven; I did not dare to bend.

They pierced me with dark nails; on me are the wounds visible,  
the open wounds of malice; I did not dare to injure any of them.

They mocked us both together. I was all drenched with blood  
poured out from that man's side after he had sent forth his spirit.

I have experienced on that hillside many  
cruelties of fate. I saw the God of hosts  
violently stretched out. Darkness had  
covered with clouds the Ruler's corpse,  
the gleaming light. Shadows went forth  
dark under the clouds. All creation wept,  
lamented the King's fall. Christ was on the cross.

\*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

\*Hymn

What Wondrous Love Is This

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*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!*

*And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;  
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,  
and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
and through eternity I'll sing on.*

### **We Gather around God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

### **The Passion of the Lord Jesus Christ According to John's Gospel (John 18)**

\*Hymn

Ah, Holy Jesus

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*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.*

*Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered;  
the slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered;  
for our atonement, while we nothing heeded,  
God interceded.*

*For me, kind Jesus, was thine incarnation,  
thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation,  
thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion,  
for my salvation.*

*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 Passion of the Lord Jesus Christ According to John's Gospel (John 19)**

### **We Respond to God's Word**

Time of Silence

The Solemn Reproaches of the Cross

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.

**Holy God,  
Holy and mighty,  
Holy immortal One,  
have mercy upon 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.

**Holy God,  
Holy and mighty,  
Holy immortal One,  
have mercy upon us.**

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,  
Holy and mighty,  
Holy immortal One,  
have mercy upon us.**

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,  
Holy and mighty,  
Holy immortal One,  
have mercy upon us.**

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,  
Holy and mighty,  
Holy immortal One,  
have mercy upon us.**

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,  
Holy and mighty,  
Holy immortal One,  
have mercy upon us.**

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,  
Holy and mighty,  
Holy immortal One,  
have mercy upon us.**

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,  
Holy and mighty,  
Holy immortal One,  
have mercy upon us.**

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.

**Holy God,  
Holy and mighty,  
Holy immortal One,  
have mercy upon us.**

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,  
Holy and mighty,  
Holy immortal One,  
have mercy upon us.**

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,**

**Holy and mighty,  
Holy immortal One,  
have mercy upon us.**

\*Hymn

Jesus, Remember Me

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We will sing this four times, becoming softer each time

*Jesus, remember me  
when you come into your kingdom.*

*Jesus, remember me  
when you come into your kingdom.*

**We Are Sent to the World**

Depart in Silence