

A painting featuring a dark, gnarled, and thorny branch that forms a heart shape. The branch is set against a vibrant, textured background of various flowers in shades of red, pink, yellow, and teal. The overall style is expressive and painterly, with visible brushstrokes and a rich color palette. The text "Good Friday" is overlaid in the center of the heart shape.

Good
Friday

Tenebrae: a service of darkness

Please enter humbly, worship deeply, and leave quietly this evening with your heart centered on the suffering of Christ for you and your salvation. You will observe a diminishing of light through the service in the pattern of tenebrae worship.

Welcome

Pastor Dan Adamson

Stripping of the Cross

Elliot Lewis and Desmond Fisher

The cross and table are stripped of the red drapes reflecting the abandonment of Jesus by his disciples and the stripping of Jesus by the soldiers before crucifixion. Red reflects the Passion of Christ in the shedding of his blood and sacrifice for sin.



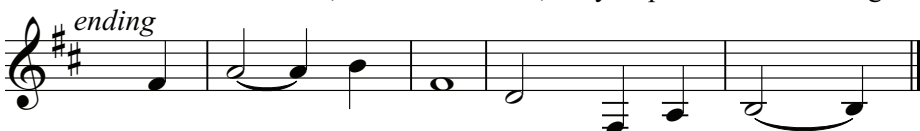
1. Ride__ on! Ride on in maj-es - ty! Hark, all the tribes Ho-
2. Ride__ on! Ride on in maj -es -ty! In__ low - ly pomp ride
3. Ride__ on! Ride on in maj-es - ty! The wing - ed ar-mies
4. Ride__ on! Ride on in maj-es - ty! Thy last and fierc - est
5. Ride__ on! Ride on in maj-es - ty! In__ low - ly pomp ride



san - na cry!__ O Sav - ior meek, pur - sue Thy road__
on to die;__ O Christ, Thy tri - umphs now be - gin__
of the sky__ look down with sad and won-dring eyes__
strife is nigh;__ The Fa - ther on His sap - phire throne__
on to die,__ bow Thy meek head to mor - tal pain__



— with__ palms__ and__ scat - tered gar - ments strewed.
— o'er__ cap - tive__ death and con - quered sin.
— to__ see__ the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
— a - waits__ His__ own a - noint - ed Son.
— then__ take,__ O__ Christ, Thy power and reign.



Ride on,__ ride on, Ride on to die__

the shadow of betrayal

Matthew 26:20-25, 30-34

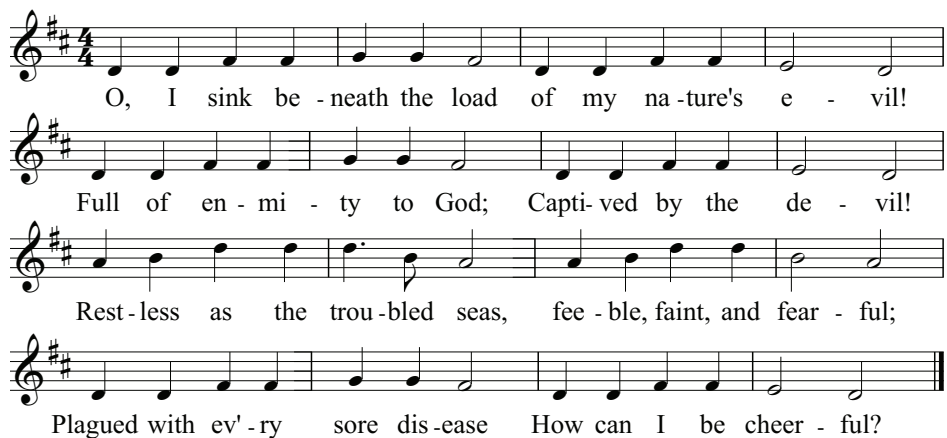
read by Sharon Durling

When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. And as they were eating, he said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, "Is it I, Lord?" He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born." Judas, who would betray him, answered, "Is it I, Rabbi?" He said to him, "You have said so."

Leader: The word of the Lord

All: Lord Have Mercy

Leader: Come, my soul and let us try, For a little season,
Ev'ry burden to lay by, Come and let us reason.
What is this that casts you down, Who are those that grieve you?
Speak and let the worst be known; Speak and God will hear you.



Leader: Think on what your Saviour bore in the gloomy garden.
Sweating blood at every pore to procure thy pardon!
See him stretched upon the wood, bleeding, grieving, crying,
Suffering all the wrath of God, groaning, gasping, dying!

**All: This by faith I sometimes know and those thoughts relieve me;
But like Judas, I alone, with my heart betray thee.
Nothing good within me dwells; E'en God's love rejected,
Have not I, if any soul, cause to be dejected?**

Leader: Pour not on thyself too long, lest it sink thee lower;
Look to Jesus, kind and strong, mercy joined with power;
Every work that you must do, will your gracious Saviour
For thee work, and in thee too, for his laud and honor.

Draping of the Cross

Priscilla and Brianna Locke

The cross is covered in black to represent the rejection of Christ by the Father and to reflect the mockery, suffering, and crucifixion of Christ on the cross.

musical interlude, Sarabande De Scriabin

Brian Riggs

Judas, Peter

read by Molly Lewis

because we are all
betrayers, taking
silver and eating
body and blood and asking
(guilty) is it I and hearing
him say yes
it would be simple for us all
to rush out and hang ourselves

but if we find grace
to cry and wait
after the voice of morning
has crowed in our ears
clearly enough
to break our hearts
he will be there
to ask us each again
do you love me?

— Luci Shaw

The musical score is written on two staves in 4/4 time. The melody is simple, using quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated to fit the rhythm. The first staff contains the first two lines of the poem, and the second staff contains the remaining lines. The score ends with a double bar line.

1. Have mer- cy_ on_ me. Have mer- cy_ on_ me. Oh_
2. Oh, help my_ un- be- lief. Oh, help my_ un- be- lief. Oh_
Lord, have mer - cy. Oh_ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy. Oh_ Lord, have mer - cy.

the shadow of inner agony

Luke 22:40-44

read by Linda Gehrs

And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. And when he came to the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation." And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, saying, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done." And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

Leader: The word of the Lord

All: Christ Have Mercy

musical interlude, Tis Midnight

Paul van der Bijl

Tis midnight, and on Olive's brow
The star is dimmed that lately shone;
Tis midnight in the garden now,
The suff'ring Savior prays alone.

Tis midnight, and from ether plains
Is borne the song that angels know;
Unheard by mortals are the strains
That sweetly soothe the Savior's woe.

Tis midnight, and from all removed,
The Savior wrestles lone with fears—
And even that one whom He loved
Heeds not his Master's grief and tears.

Tis midnight, and for other's guilt
The Man of Sorrows weeps in blood;
Yet He that hath in anguish knelt
Is not forsaken by His God.



1. What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2. When I was sin-king down, sin-king down, sin-king down, When
3. To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing; To



won-drous love is this, O my soul!— What won-drous love is
I was sin-king down, sin-king down,— When I was sin-king
God and to the Lamb, I will sing.— To God and to the



this That caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse
down, what won-drous love_ I found. Christ laid a - side his crown
Lamb Who is the great "I Am"; While mil-lions join the theme,



for my soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul.
for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
I will sing, I will sing; While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.

the shadow of loneliness

Matthew 26:40-45

read by Ben Harvey

And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, “So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.”

And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.”

Leader: The word of the Lord

All: Lord Have Mercy

1. Though I have borne the fruit of sin, though I have
2. With tears of blood that long-est night, He took the
felt the ser-pent's sting, though I de-serve the en-mi-
cup that ought be mine. Though in the dark I fell a-
ty, there in the gar-den, what do I see?
sleep, there in the gar-den, I wake to see,
Christ stands for me, Christ stands for me. There in the
Christ prays for me, Christ prays for me. There in the
gar-den, He stands for me. Where I have fal-len, He in-ter
gar-den, He prays for me. Up on the hill-side, Geh-se-ma
cedes. Ha-le-lu-jah, He stands for me.
ne, Ha-le-lu-jah, He prays for me.

the shadow of desertion

Matthew 26:47-56

read by Sandra Zimmerman

While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; seize him." And he came up to Jesus at once and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" And he kissed him. Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you came to do."



1. Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast Thou of - fend - ed,
2. Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on Thee?
3. For me, kind Je - sus, was Thy in - car - na - tion,
4. There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay Thee,



That man to judge Thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de -
A - las, my trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done Thee! 'Twas I, Lord
Thy mor - tal sor - row, and Thy life's ob - la - tion; Thy death of
I do a - dore Thee, and will ev - er pray Thee, Think on Thy



rid - ed, by Thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed!
Je - sus, I it was de - nied Thee; I cru - ci - fied Thee.
an - guish and Thy bit - ter pas - sion, For my sal - va - tion.
pit - y and Thy love un - swerv - ing, Not my de - serv - ing.

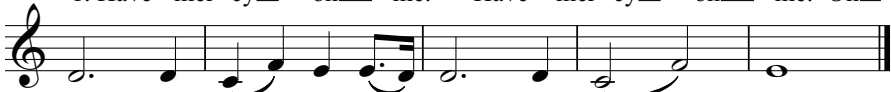
Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?" At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples left him and fled.

Leader: The word of the Lord

All: Christ Have Mercy



1. Have mer - cy on me. Have mer - cy on me. Oh



Lord, have mer - cy. Oh Lord, have mer - cy.

the shadow of accusation

Matthew 26:59-68

read by David and Michele Dillon

Now the chief priests and the whole Council were seeking false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, "This man said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days.'" And the high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" But Jesus remained silent.

musical interlude, Not a Word

Melissa Norton

They led him to Pilate's bar
Not a word, not a word...

We nailed him unto a tree,
Not a word, not a word...

They all cried, "Crucify!"
Not a word, not a word...

And the high priest said to him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your judgment?" They answered, "He deserves death." Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him, saying, "Prophesy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?"

Leader: The word of the Lord

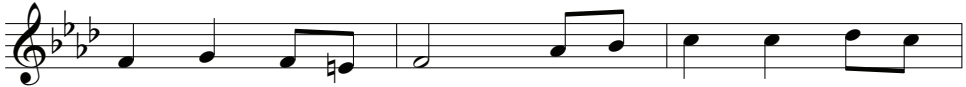
All: Lord Have Mercy



1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af - flict-ed, See him dy-ing on the
2 Tell me, ye who hear him groan-ing, Was there ev - er grief like
3 We who think of sin but light-ly nor sup-pose the e - vil
4 Here we have a firm foun-da-tion, Here the ref-uge of the



tree! 'Tis the Christ by man re - ject - ed; Yes, my
his? Friends thro' fear his cause dis - own - ing, Foes in -
great Here may view our na - ture right - ly, Here our
lost. Christ's the Rock of our sal - va - tion, His the



soul, 'tis he, 'tis he! 'Tis the long - ex - pect - ed
sult - ing his dis - tress; Man - y hands were raised to
guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the Sac - ri - fice ap -
name of which we boast. Lamb of God, for sin - ners



pro - phet, Da - vid's Son, yet Da-vid's Lord; By his
wound him, None would in - ter - pose to save; But the
point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the
wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt! None shall



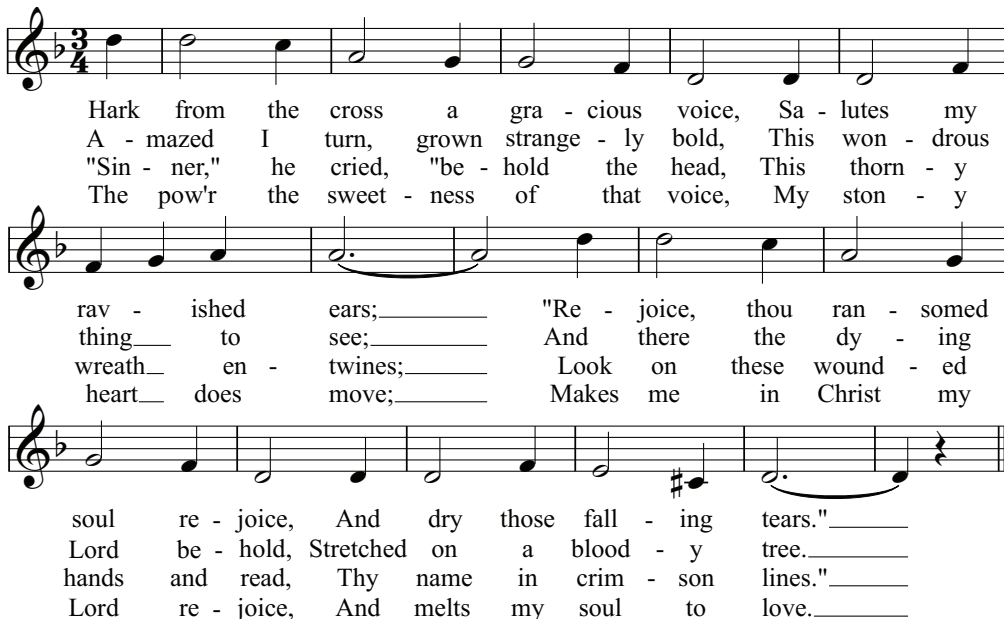
Son God now has spok - en; 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.
deep-est stroke that pierced him was the stroke that Jus - tice gave.
Word, the Lord's A - noint-ed, Son of Man and Son of God.
ev - er be con - found-ed Who on him their hope have built.

the shadow of mockery

Mark 15:12-20

read by Kara Shroyer

And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" And they cried out again, "Crucify him." And Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him." So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.



Hark from the cross a gra - cious voice, Sa - lutes my
A - mazed I turn, grown strange - ly bold, This won - drous
"Sin - ner," he cried, "be - hold the head, This thorn - y
The pow'r the sweet - ness of that voice, My ston - y
rav - ished ears; _____ "Re - joice, thou ran - somed
thing _____ to see; _____ And there the dy - ing
wreath _____ en - twines; _____ Look on these wound - ed
heart _____ does move; _____ Makes me in Christ my
soul re - joice, And dry those fall - ing tears." _____
Lord be - hold, Stretched on a blood - y tree. _____
hands and read, Thy name in crim - son lines." _____
Lord re - joice, And melts my soul to love. _____

And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

Leader: The word of the Lord

All: Christ Have Mercy

a time of silent meditation

musical interlude, Lachrimae Pavan

Brian Riggs and Paul David Young

a poem for reflection -

Jesus is Condemned to Death

The very air that Pilate breathes, the voice
With which he speaks in judgment, all his powers
Of perception and discrimination, choice,
Decision, all his years, his days and hours,
His consciousness of self, his every sense,
Are given by this prisoner, freely given.
The man who stands there making no defence,
Is God. His hands are tied, His heart is open.
And he bears Pilate's heart in his and feels
That crushing weight of wasted life. He lifts
It up in silent love. He lifts and heals.
He gives himself again with all his gifts
Into our hands. As Pilate turns away
A door swings open. This is judgment day.

~Macolm Guite

The Belgic Statement of Faith

led by Larissa Bossemeyer

Leader: What do you believe about the work of God?

All: We believe that God—who is perfectly merciful and also very just—sent his Son to assume the nature in which the disobedience had been committed, in order to bear in it the punishment of sin by his most bitter passion and death.

Leader: What do you believe about the work of Jesus Christ?

All: We believe that Jesus Christ presented himself in our name before his Father, to appease his wrath with full satisfaction by offering himself on the tree of the cross and pouring out his precious blood for the cleansing of our sins, as the prophets had predicted.

Leader: Why did he endure all this?

All: He endured all this for the forgiveness of our sins.

Leader: What comfort does this give you?

All: We find all comforts in his wounds and have no need to seek or invent any other means to reconcile ourselves with God than this one and only sacrifice, once made, which renders believers perfect forever. Amen.

3. The Lamb of God will lead us home where pain is
past and tears are gone. E - den re - stored, as it should
be. There in the gar - den, oh let me see.
Christ waits for me, Christ waits for me. There in the
gar - den, He waits for me. On gol - den shores of e - ter - n -
ty, Ha - le - lu - jah, He waits for me.

the shadow of death

Luke 23:33-46

read by Pastor Aaron Baker

And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."



1. O sa-cred Head, now woun - ded, With grief and shame weighed down,
2. What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered Was all for sin - ners' gain;
3. What lan - guage shall I bor - row To thank Thee, dear - est Friend,
Now scorn - ful - ly sur - roun - ded With thorns, Thine on - ly crown;
Mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain;
For this Thy dy - ing sor - row, Thy pi - ty with - out end?
How pale Thou art with an - guish, With sore a - buse and scorn!
Lo, here I fall, my Sa - vior! 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;
O make me Thine for - e - ver, And should I fain - ting be,
How does that vi - sage lan - guish Which once was bright as morn!
Look on me with Thy fa - vor, Vouch - safe to me Thy grace.
Lord, let me ne - ver, ne - ver Out - live my love to Thee.

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last.

Musical Benediction

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Ohh, 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?
Ohh, sometimes it causes me to
Tremble, tremble, tremble
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
sung by Laelia & Isla van der Bijl

Please leave in Silence

Songs in order of appearance:

Ride On! Ride On in Majesty, Words: Henry Hart Milman, 1820; Music, J. Fred Wolle, 1888, arr., vdBijl, 2010

The Grieved Soul, Words: Joseph Hart, 1759; Music, M.A. Hendon, 1859, Sacred Harp tune.

Have Mercy on Me: Words and Music by Sandra McCracken, 2015

What Wondrous Love is This. Words: Alexander Means. Music: William Walker, 1835.

‘Tis Midnight, and on Olive’s Brow, Words: William B. Tappan, 1822; Music, Paul van der Bijl, 2014

The Garden by Sandra McCracken, 2023

Ah Holy Jesus. Words: Johann Heerman, 1630. Music: Johann Cruger, 1640.

He Never Said A Mumblin’ Word, Words: Traditional, Music: Vito Aiuto.

Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted, Words: Thomas Kelly, 1804, Music: Paderborn, 1850

Melt My Soul to Love: Joseph Swain, 1761; Music: Benj Pocta, Brian T. Murphy, 2006

O Sacred Head Now Wounded: Words: Bernard of Clairvaux, 1153. Music: Hanns Hassler, 1601.

Were You There, African-American spiritual

Eden Inversed

Jesus,
Apple of God's eye,
dangling solitaire
on leafless tree,
bursting red.

As he drops
New Eden dawns
and once again
we Adams choose:
God's first fruit
or death.

It has always been a choice
no longer forbidden
we are invited to first fruit

He offers Himself
broken open

so our hearts
might burst red
with Him

~Christine F. Nordquist

