

Midtown Fellowship

Good Friday Readings

Reading 1

The Prediction

When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

“You will all fall away,” Jesus told them, “for it is written: ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’ But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.”

Peter declared, “Even if all fall away, I will not.”

“I tell you the truth,” Jesus answered, “today—yes, tonight—before the rooster crows twice you yourself will disown me three times.”

But Peter insisted emphatically, “Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.” And all the others said the same.

Mark 14:26-31

Lamb of God

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Verse 1

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

Chorus 1

Have mercy, mercy on us.

Verse 2

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

Chorus 2

Have mercy, mercy on us.
Have mercy, mercy on us.

Chorus 3

Have mercy, mercy on us.
Have mercy, mercy on us.

Verse 3

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

Bridge

Grant us peace. Grant us peace.
Grant us peace. Grant us peace.

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Reading 2

Jesus' Agony

And they went to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. And he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch."

And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. And he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."

And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer him. And he came the third time and he said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

Mark 14:32-42

Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul

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Verse 1

Dear refuge of my weary soul
On Thee, when sorrows rise
On Thee, when waves of trouble roll
My fainting hope relies
To Thee I tell each rising grief
For Thou alone canst heal
Thy Word can bring a sweet relief
For every pain I feel

Verse 2

But oh! When gloomy doubts prevail
I fear to call Thee mine
The springs of comfort seem to fail
And all my hopes decline
Yet gracious God, where shall I flee
Thou art my only trust
And still my soul would cleave to Thee
Though prostrate in the dust

Verse 3

Hast Thou not bid me seek Thy face
And shall I seek in vain
And can the ear of sovereign grace
Be deaf when I complain
No still the ear of sovereign grace
Attends the mourner's prayer
Oh, may I ever find access
To breathe my sorrows there

Verse 4

Thy mercy seat is open still
Here let my soul retreat
With humble hope attend Thy will
And wait beneath Thy feet
Thy mercy seat is open still
Here let my soul retreat
With humble hope attend Thy will
And wait beneath Thy feet

What Wondrous Love Is This

©Public Domain. Words and music: American folk hymn.

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

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.

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.

Verse 4

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.

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Reading 3

Jesus' Betrayal and Arrest

And immediately, while he was speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man. Seize him and lead him away under guard."

And when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" And he kissed him. And they laid hands on him and seized him. But one of those who stood by drew his sword and struck the servant-of the high priest and cut off his ear.

And Jesus said to them, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But let the Scriptures be fulfilled." And they all left him and fled.

Mark 14:43-50

Not What My Hands Have Done

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Verse 1

Not what my hands have done can save my guilty soul
Not what my toiling flesh has borne can make my spirit whole
Not what I feel or do can give me peace with God
Not all my prayers, and sighs and tears
Can bear my awful load

Verse 2

Thy work alone, O Christ, can ease this weight of sin
Thy blood alone O Lamb of God, can give me peace within
Thy love to me O God, yea, only love from Thee
Can rid me of this dark unrest
And set my spirit free

Verse 3

Thy grace alone, O God, to me can pardon speak
Thy power alone O Son of God, can this sore bondage break
No other work, save Thine, no other blood will do
No strength save that which is divine
Can bear me safely through

Verse 4

I bless the Christ of God; I rest on love divine
And with unfaltering lip and heart, I call this Savior mine
His cross dispels each doubt, I bury in His tomb
My unbelief, and all my fear
Each lingering shade of gloom.

Verse 5

I praise the God of grace, I trust His truth and might
He calls me His, I call Him mine, My God, my joy, my light
'Tis He Who saveth me, and freely pardon gives
I love because He loveth me
I live because He lives

Rock of Ages

©Public Domain. Authors: Thomas Hastings and Augustus Montague Toplady.

Verse 1

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood, from thy wounded side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure; save from wrath and make me pure.

Verse 2

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

Verse 3

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

Verse 4

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyes shall close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

Tag

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

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Reading 4

Peter's Denial

And as Peter went below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, "You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus." But he denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you mean." And he went out into the gateway and the rooster crowed.

And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, "This man was one of them." And again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean."

But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know this man of whom you speak." And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

Mark 14:66-72

Laden With Guilt and Full of Fears

©2001 *Same Old Dress Music (ASCAP)*. Words: Isaac Watts. Music: Sandra McCracken.

Verse 1

Laden with guilt and full of fears
I fly to Thee, my Lord
And not a glimpse of hope appears
But in Thy written Word
The volumes of my Father's grace
Does all my griefs assuage
Here I behold my Savior's face
In every page

Verse 2

This is the field where, hidden, lies
The pearl of price unknown
That merchant is divinely wise
Who makes the pearl his own
Here consecrated water flows
To quench my thirst of sin
Here the fair tree of knowledge grows
No danger dwells within

Verse 3

This is the judge that ends the strife
Where wit and reason fail
My guide to everlasting life
Through all this gloomy vale
Oh may Thy counsels, mighty God
My roving feet command
Nor I forsake the happy road
That leads to Thy right hand

Tag

Oh may Thy counsels, mighty God
My roving feet command
Nor I forsake the happy road
That leads to Thy right hand

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Reading 5

Jesus Is Condemned

Now at the feast (Pilate) used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them.

And he answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead.

And Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" And they cried out, "Crucify him." And Pilate said to them, "Why? What evil has he done?" But they shouted out 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.

Mark 15:6-15

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

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Verse 1

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

Verse 2

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

Verse 3

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

Verse 4

Were the whole realm of Nature mine
That were an offering far too small
Love so amazing, so divine
Demands my soul, my life, my all
Love so amazing, so divine
Demands my soul, my life, my all

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Good Friday Readings

Reading 6

Jesus Is Crucified

And it was the third hour when they crucified him. And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left.

And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!"

So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

Mark 15:25-32

Jesus Paid It All

©Public Domain. Authors: John Thomas Grape and Elvina Mabel Hall.

Verse 1

I hear the Savior say, "Thy strength indeed is small.
Child of weakness, watch and pray. Find in me thine all in all."

Chorus 1

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe.
Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

Verse 2

For nothing good have I, whereby Thy grace to claim.
I'll wash my garments white in the blood of Calv'ry's Lamb

Chorus 2

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe.
Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

Verse 3

Lord, now indeed I find, Thy power and Thine alone
can change the leper's spots, and melt the heart of stone.

Chorus 3

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe.
Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

Verse 4

And when before the throne I stand in Him complete,
I'll lay my trophies down, all down at Jesus' feet.

Chorus 4

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe.
Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

Tag

Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

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Reading 7

Redemption Complete

And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Mark 15:33-34

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.

Luke 23:46