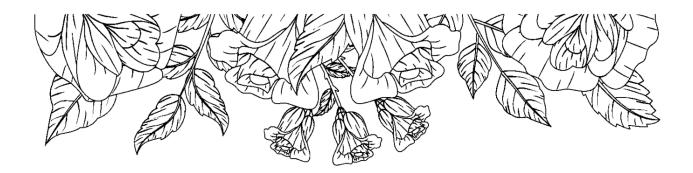


Holy Week 2021



A Family Worship Guide From Hanna City Presbyterian Church

A word from Pastor Dave

For generations, the Church has called the next few days "Holy Week." I'm not too hung up on titles, and in the most beautiful sense, every second of every day of every week of every year ought to be set apart for God's glory and should thus be called "holy." Every moment is meant to be lived under the holy gaze of our God and is a gift. Nonetheless, we value moments for reflection, especially in our current climate of fear with COVID-19, to remember the God who is still on His throne. The events of Holy Week, like our present crisis, seem quite dark and foreboding and completely out of control. All seems lost. The disciples certainly thought so by the time Friday came and Jesus hung lifeless on the cross. But, as the old sermon declared, "It's Friday... but Sunday's coming."

To capture this, we're inviting your family to make a symbolic journey through the darkening days leading up to the Cross, culminating in our Savior's life being snuffed out on Good Friday... only for ultimate power to be revealed when the Light returns and the lifeless body of our Lord rises on Resurrection (Easter) Sunday! Each day, you'll be invited to light a progressively smaller number of candles representing another day closer to the last day of Jesus' earthly life before His death to take away our sin debt. May the Lord use this guide to strengthen faith in His life-saving death, and build your hope for His ultimate return because of His promise-securing resurrection.

Supplies:

- 6 candles
- Bible
- For Easter week, a recording of Handel's Messiah (One great option can be found at https://www.thetabernaclechoir.org/messiah.html)

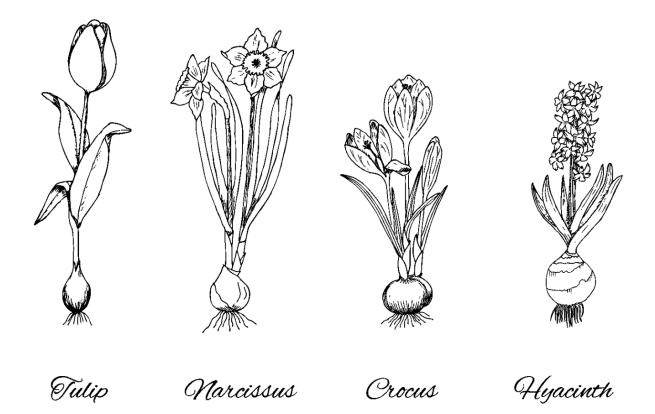
Prep/Process:

- Gather 6 candles from around the house and make an arrangement on your dinner table or another surface. Starting on Palm Sunday, light all the candles, then snuff one out after the reading. Each night, fewer candles will be lit, until the last one is extinguished on Good Friday. (Think of it as the opposite of Advent candles.) Saturday is a day of darkness and silence as we wait and anticipate Easter morning. On Easter morning, re-light all the candles to celebrate Christ's Resurrection.
- Set aside time each day, whether after a meal or before bed, to use this guide.
- "Sharing gratitude" is included each day to help develop a habit of praise and to foster joy and love for God and each other. Our hearts are more ready then to receive God's Word.
- Think of creative ways to involve everyone in your family.
 - Make a special centerpiece for the candles together
 - Let older children help light and snuff out the candles
 - Act out some of the events of Holy Week together
 - Provide paper for children to draw during or after the story as they process and reflect

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" - John 1:29

Keep back nothing. Nothing that you have not given away will ever be really yours. Nothing in you that has not died will ever be raised from the dead. Look for yourself, and you will find in the long run only hatred, loneliness, despair, rage, ruin, and decay. But look for Christ and you will find Him, and with Him, everything else thrown in.

- C. S. Lewis, Mere Christianity



Saturday before Palm Sunday

Preparing Our Hearts

Share gratitude

Sing/Listen: What Wondrous Love Is This (p. 18)

Read and reflect: Matthew 23:37

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!"

> "Jesus Weeps" by Malcolm Guite

Jesus comes near and he beholds the city And looks on us with tears in his eyes, And wells of mercy, streams of love and pity Flow from the fountain whence all things arise. He loved us into life and longs to gather And meet with his beloved face to face How often has he called, a careful mother, And wept for our refusals of his grace, Wept for a world that, weary with its weeping, Benumbed and stumbling, turns the other way, Fatigued compassion is already sleeping Whilst her worst nightmares stalk the light of day. But we might waken yet, and face those fears, If we could see ourselves through Jesus' tears.

Close in prayer

Palm Sunday

Begin by lighting all 6 candles

Share gratitude

Sing/Listen: Hosanna, Loud Hosanna (p. 19)

Read and reflect: Matthew 21:1-11 | Jesus Triumphantly Enters Jerusalem This morning, Pastor Dave preached about the Triumphal Entry from Mark 11. Compare that to the telling of the same event in Matthew. If you have young children, consider acting it out! Point out how amazing it is that this event (and others of the coming week) were prophesied in the Old Testament!

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

"Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."

Zechariah 9:9

Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. Psalm 24:7-8 Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!

Snuff out the 1st candle. Do not light it again until Easter.

Pray: Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*



Monday

Begin by lighting 5 candles

Share gratitude

Sing/Listen: Man of Sorrows, What a Name (p. 20)

Read and reflect: Mark 15:1-15 | Jesus Is Delivered to Pilate

And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." And the chief priests accused him of many things. And Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you." But lesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed. Now at the feast he 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 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.

Isaiah 53:3-7

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way;

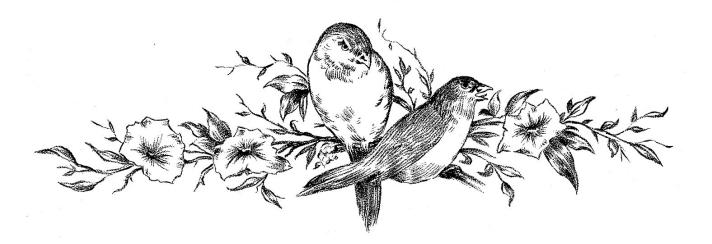


and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

Snuff out the next candle. Do not light it again until Easter.

Pray: Almighty God, whose dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other that the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*



Tuesday

Begin by lighting 4 candles

Share gratitude

Sing/Listen: Were You There, When They Crucified My Lord? (p. 21)

Read and reflect: Mark 15:21-32 | Jesus Is Crucified

And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. 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.

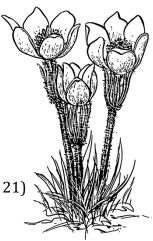
Psalm 22:1-2

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish?

My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, but I find no rest.

Snuff out the next candle. Do not light it again until Easter.

Pray: O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life: Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ, that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*



Wednesday

Begin by lighting 3 candles

Share gratitude

Sing/Listen: O Sacred Head, Now Wounded (p.22)

Read and reflect: Mark 15:33-41 | The Death of Jesus

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?" And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, he is calling Elijah." And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. When he was in Galilee, they followed him and ministered to him, and there were also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.

Isaiah 53:10-12

Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.

Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

Snuff out the next candle. Do not light it again until Easter.

Pray: Lord God, whose blessed Son our Savior gave his body to be whipped and his face to be spit upon: Give us grace to accept joyfully the sufferings of the present time, confident of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*



Thursday

Begin by lighting 2 candles

Share gratitude

Sing/Listen: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (p.23)

Read and reflect: Mark 15:42-47 | The Burial of Jesus

And when evening had come, since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate was surprised to hear that he should have already died. And summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the corpse to Joseph. And Joseph bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud and laid him in a tomb that had been cut out of the rock. And he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid.

Isaiah 53:9 And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Snuff out the next candle. Do not light it again until Easter.

Pray: Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Good Friday

Begin by lighting the last candle

Share gratitude

Sing/Listen: How Deep the Father's Love for Us (p.24)

Read and reflect: Mark 14:12-25 | The Last Supper *Read this passage if you are unable to attend the Good Friday service.*

Luke 22:15: And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer."

Good Friday By Christina Rossetti Am I a stone, and not a sheep, That I can stand, O Christ, beneath Thy cross, To number drop by drop Thy blood's slow loss, And yet not weep? Not so those women loved Who with exceeding grief lamented Thee; Not so fallen Peter, weeping bitterly; Not so the thief was moved; Not so the Sun and Moon Which hid their faces in a starless sky, A horror of great darkness at broad noon – I, only I. Yet give not o'er, But seek Thy sheep, true Shepherd of the flock; Greater than Moses, turn and look once more And smite a rock.

Snuff out the last candle. Do not light it again until Easter.

Sit quietly for a few moments in the darkness.

Pray: Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*



Holy Saturday

No singing today. *Instead, spend some time in silence, meditating on the Scriptures from this week. As Jesus' body lay in the tomb, imagine how his mother and disciples were feeling.*

Read and reflect: Poem for Easter Vigil by Christina Rossetti

Easter Even

The tempest over and gone, the calm begun, Lo, "it is finished" and the Strong Man sleeps: All stars keep vigil watching for the sun, The moon her vigil keeps.

A garden full of silence and of dew Beside a virgin cave and entrance stone: Surely a garden full of Angels too, Wondering, on watch, alone.

They who cry "Holy, Holy, Holy," still Veiling their faces round God's Throne above, May well keep vigil on this heavenly hill And cry their cry of love,

Adoring God in His new mystery, Of Love more deep than hell, more strong than death; Until the day break and the shadows free, The Shaking and the Breath.

Pray: O God, Creator of heaven and earth: Grant that, as the crucified body of your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so we may await with him the coming of the third day, and rise with him to newness of life; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Easter Sunday

Begin by relighting ALL of the candles!

Share the Easter greeting: "He is risen!" and "He is risen indeed!"

Read "Easter Day" by Christina Rossetti.

Words cannot utter Christ His returning: Mankind, keep jubilee, Strip off your mourning, Crown you with garlands, Set your lamps burning.

Speech is left speechless; Set you to singing, Fling your hearts open wide, Set your bells ringing: Christ the Chief Reaper Comes, His sheaf bringing.

Earth wakes her song-birds, Puts on her flowers, Leads out her lambkins, Builds up her bowers: This is man's spousal day, Christ's day and ours.



Sing: Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Read and reflect: Matthew 28 | The Resurrection of Jesus!

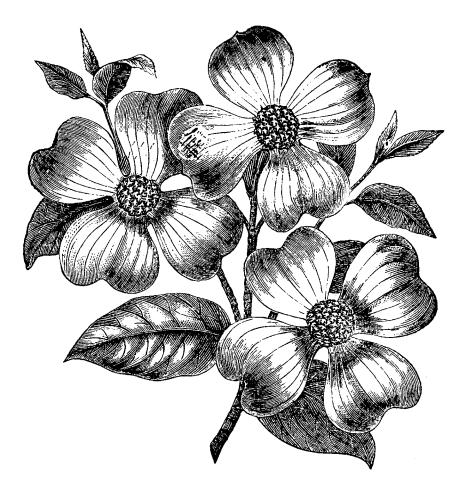
Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

Revelation 19:6

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out,

"Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns."

Pray: Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*



Easter M')eek

Handel's Messiah

Relight the candles each day. Share gratitude. Then listen to a short selection from Handel's Messiah and read the accompanying verse (verses are in KJV to match the words being sung.) Close in prayers of praise.

<u>Monday</u>

Listen: Chorus – Hallelujah

Read and reflect: Revelation 19:6; 11:15; 19:16

And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord,31 and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

And he hath on *his* vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

<u>Tuesday</u>

Listen: Air -- I Know that My Redeemer Liveth

Read and reflect: Job 19:25-26

For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God:

1 Corinthians 15:20

But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

Wednesday

Listen: Duet – O Death, Where is Thy Sting? **Read and reflect:** 1 Corinthians 15:55-56 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

<u>Thursday</u>

Listen: Chorus -- But Thanks Be to God Read and reflect: 1 Corinthians 15:57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

<u>Friday</u>

Listen: Air – If God Be For Us Read and reflect: Romans 8:31-34

What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.

Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

<u>Saturday</u>

Listen: Chorus – Worthy is the Lamb

Read and reflect: Revelation 5:9-14

And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

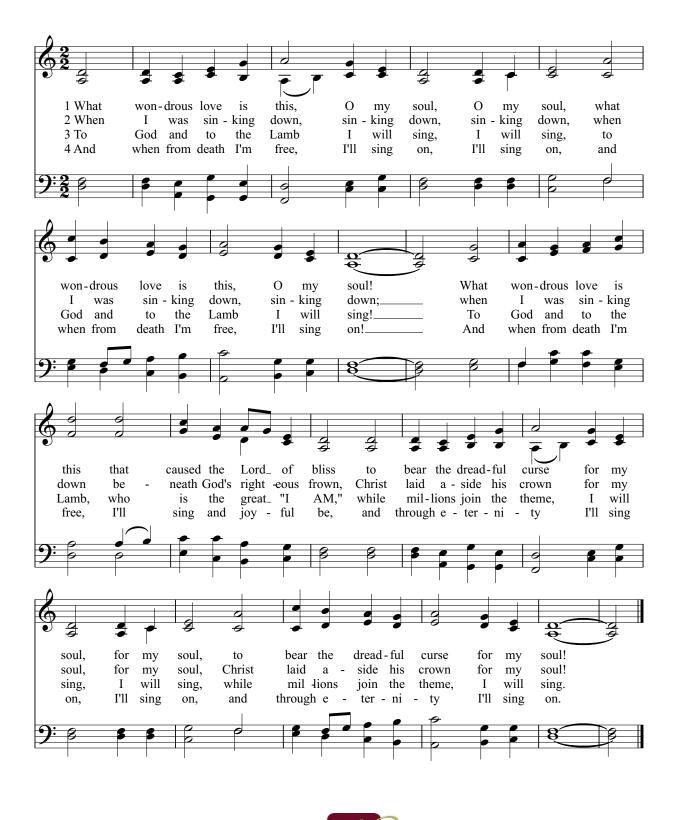
And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth. And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;

Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.

And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.

What Wondrous Love Is This



Text: Appalachian folk hymn Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835 12 9 12 12 9 WONDROUS LOVE www.hymnary.org/text/what_wondrous_love_is_this_o_my_soul_o_m

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna



Man of Sorrows— What a Name





77 78 HALLELUJIAH! WHAT A SAVIOR www.hymnary.org/text/man_of_sorrows_what_a_name

Text and tune: Philip P. Bliss, 1875, alt.

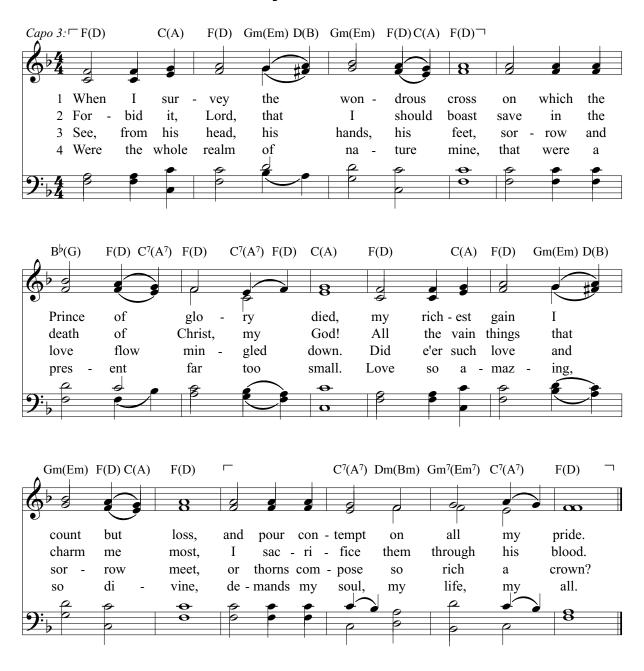
Were You There



O Sacred Head, Now Wounded



When I Survey the Wondrous Cross





Text: Isaac Watts, 1707 Tune: Lowell Mason, 1824

How Deep the Father's Love for Us how vast be-yond all mea - sure; 1. How deep the Fa-ther's love for us, my sin up - on His shoul - ders; 2. Be - hold the Man up - on a cross, no gifts, no pow'r, no wis - dom; 3. I will not boast in an - y - thing: to make a wretch His trea - sure. Son That He should give His on - ly A - shamed, I hear my mock-ing voice call out a-mong the scof - fers. will boast in Je - sus Christ; His death and res - ur - rec - tion. But Ι great the pain of sear-ing loss; the Fa-ther turns His face a - way How was my sin that held Him there un - til it was ac-com - plished. It Why should I gain from His re-ward? can-not give an an swer. Ι bring man - y sons to glo - ry. As wounds which mar the Cho-sen One dy-ing breath has brought me life; know that it is fin - ished. His Ι But this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ran - som.

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

