

Reading 'Suffering' Anonymous

HYMN - My Song is love unknown

My song is love unknown, my Saviour's love to me, love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be. O, who am I that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh, and die.



He came from his blest throne, salvation to bestow but men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know. But O, my friend, my friend indeed, who at my need his life did spend.

Sometimes they strew his way, and his sweet praises sing; resounding all the day hosannas to their King. Then 'Crucify!' is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry.

Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite? He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight. Sweet injuries! Yet they at these themselves displease, and 'gainst him rise.

They rise, and needs will have my dear Lord made away; a murderer they save, the Prince of life they slay. Yet cheerful he to suffering goes, that he his foes from thence might free.

Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine; never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine! This is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend.

Samuel Crossman (1624-83) Public Domain

HYMN - When I survey

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.

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.

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?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.



Isaac Watts (1674-1748) Public Domain

Music Song - 'Adoramus Te Dominus' Translates - *We Adore you, Christ*

SONG- How deep the Father's love for us

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure, that He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure. How great the pain of searing loss~ the Father turns His face away, as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders; ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers. It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished; His dying breath has brought me life~ I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom; but I will boast in Jesus Christ His death and resurrection. Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer, but this I know with all my heart, His wounds have paid my ransom.



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HYMN - O thou who camest from above

O thou who camest from above, the pure celestial fire to impart, kindle a flame of sacred love on the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn with inextinguishable blaze, and trembling to its source return in humble prayer, and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire to work, and speak, and think for thee; still let me guard the holy fire, and still stir up thy gift in me.

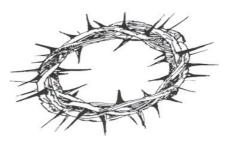
Ready for all thy perfect will, my acts of faith and love repeat, till death thy endless mercies seal, and make my sacrifice complete

Charles Wesley (1707-88) Public Domain

SONG - What kind of love is this

1.

What kind of love is this that gave itself for me I am the guilty one yet I go free; What kind of love is this A love I've never known I didn't even know his name what kind of love is this?



2.

What kind of man is this that died in agony? He who had done no wrong was crucified for me. What kind of man is this who laid aside His throne That I may know the love of God? What kind of love is this?

3.

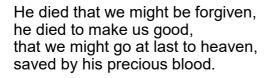
By grace I have been saved it is the gift of God He destined me to be His child such is His love. No eye has ever seen no ear has ever heard nor has the heart of man conceived what kind of love is this?

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HYMN - There is green hill

There is a green hill far away, without a city wall, where the dear Lord was crucified, who died to save us all.

We may not know, we cannot tell, what pains he had to bear, but we believe it was for us he hung and suffered there.

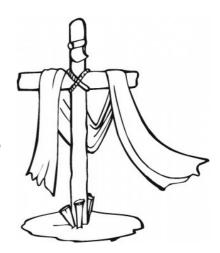


There was no other good enough to pay the price of sin; he only could unlock the gate of heaven, and let us in.

O dearly, dearly has he loved, and we must love him too, and trust in his redeeming blood, and try his works to do.

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-95) Public Domain





CONCLUSION

"Brothers and sisters in Christ, we have heard again of the events of Good Friday, and yet the end result was the death of Christ on the Cross

Our Cross here in Church and blazoned upon our foreheads at baptism is a reminder to us and to all of the greatest price ever paid for mankind.



We have recounted the story of that Friday in History

As we await to declare that "CHRIST IS RISEN" so may we return to our homes remembering that as part of the human race we played our part in the death of the Son of God.

As we go to prepare ourselves may we be ever conscious of the true victory over death which is our in CHRIST JESUS.

THE LORD GO WITH YOU

PLEASE LEAVE CHURCH IN SILENCE

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