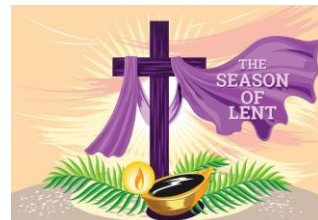
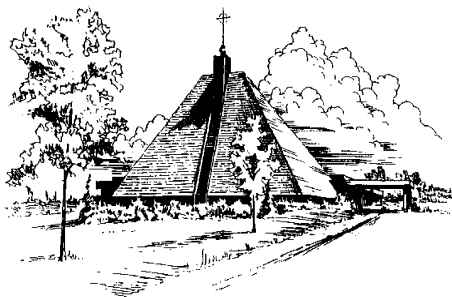


COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CINNAMINSON, NEW JERSEY



5th SUNDAY IN LENT

10:00 AM

MARCH 17, 2024

PRELUDE

"Ah, Holy Jesus"

Cruger

GREETING AND OPENING PRAYER

Mary Lou Newborg

CHORAL INTROIT

"For God So Loved the World"

Lloyd Larson

CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day God has promised: the day of the new covenant.

We are here, because our hearts are filled with love for our God.

No longer carved on cold stone, this covenant is engraved on our hearts.

Our hearts are open so God's Word can shape us.

We will reach out to our neighbors, our friends and family, even to strangers.

Our hearts are ready to serve God and all of God's people.

With prayer and praise, in scripture and in song, let us Worship the Living God!

HYMN

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

(See page 9)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Heart which seeks our own: we yearn for your presence in our lives, yet turn away from you time and again. We want to serve others, but become obsessed with our own desires. We need your Word to fill our emptiness, yet let it be silenced by the noise of our world. Our hearts are clogged with the foolishness of our lives, and often struggle to beat in rhythm with your own. In this silence, and in the depths of our hidden souls, come to us and make us whole, Steadfast Love. Write grace upon our hearts, so we might be more forgiving people; write mercy on our hearts, so we might become more welcoming people; write hospitality upon our hearts that we might become more like Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who came for all people, even us.



SILENT MEDITATION

LORD HAVE MERCY (3x)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Through Christ, we are cleansed; through Christ, we are healed; through Christ, we become new people. Thanks be to God. Amen.

WE ARE FORGIVEN (1x)

SHARING THE PEACE

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

JEREMIAH 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

“Near the Cross”

arr. Joel Raney

PSALM 51: 1-12

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

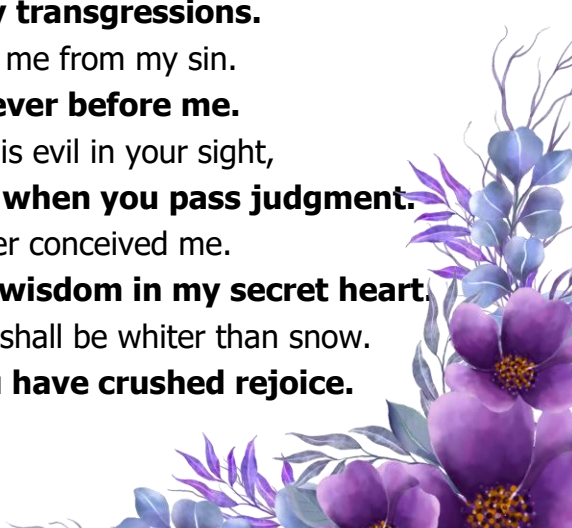
Against you, you alone, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

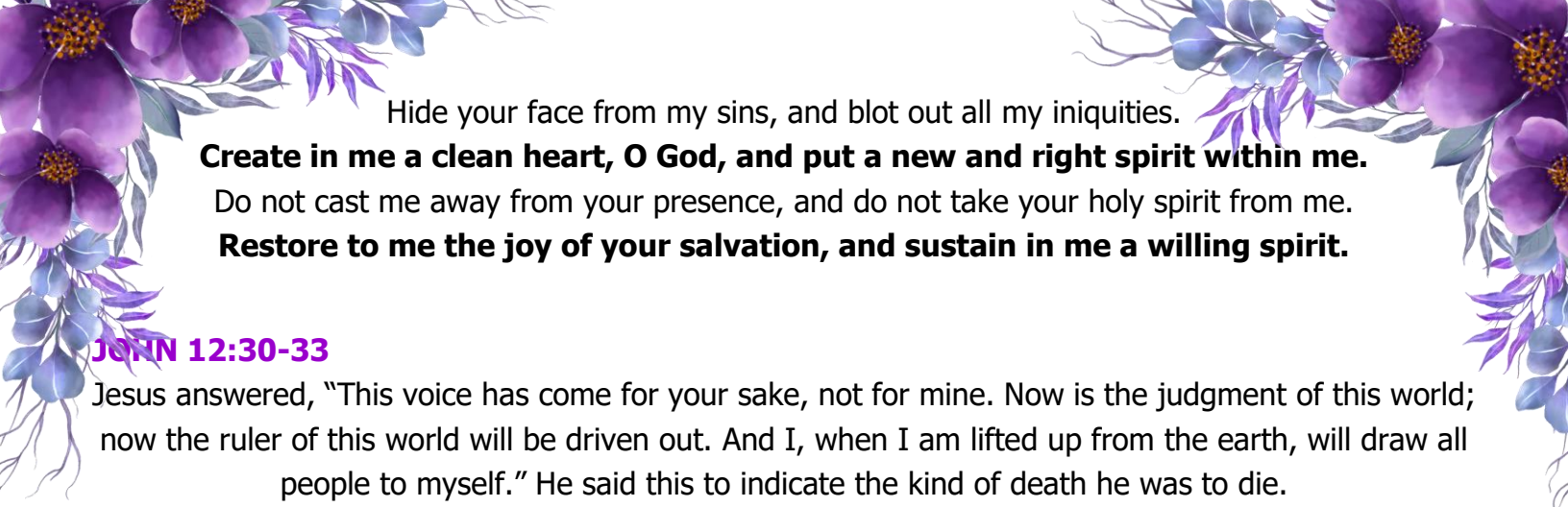
Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.





Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

JOHN 12:30-33

Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Dying Seeds"

Rev. Dr. Robert Higgs

PRAYER AND REFLECTION

If you wish, you may want to use the following breath prayer (or any of your choice). The words may be said aloud or in silence

Breathe in: "Help me rest ...

Breathe out: "... give me peace"

HYMN

"Jesus Calls Us"

(See page 10)

LITANY: WAITING

As Sarah waited...Ninety years for a son to fulfill God's promise.

We wait in hope for what we thought had been spoken to us.

As Moses waited...40 years in the desert, being prepared by God to lead his people.

We wait for emptiness and humility; for bravado to wither.

As Israel waited...40 years of wandering, hungry, depressed, thirsting, unsure.

We wait for the right time to act

As the Prophets waited...1000 years of promises that God would raise up a Savior.

We wait for the signs that God has not forgotten.

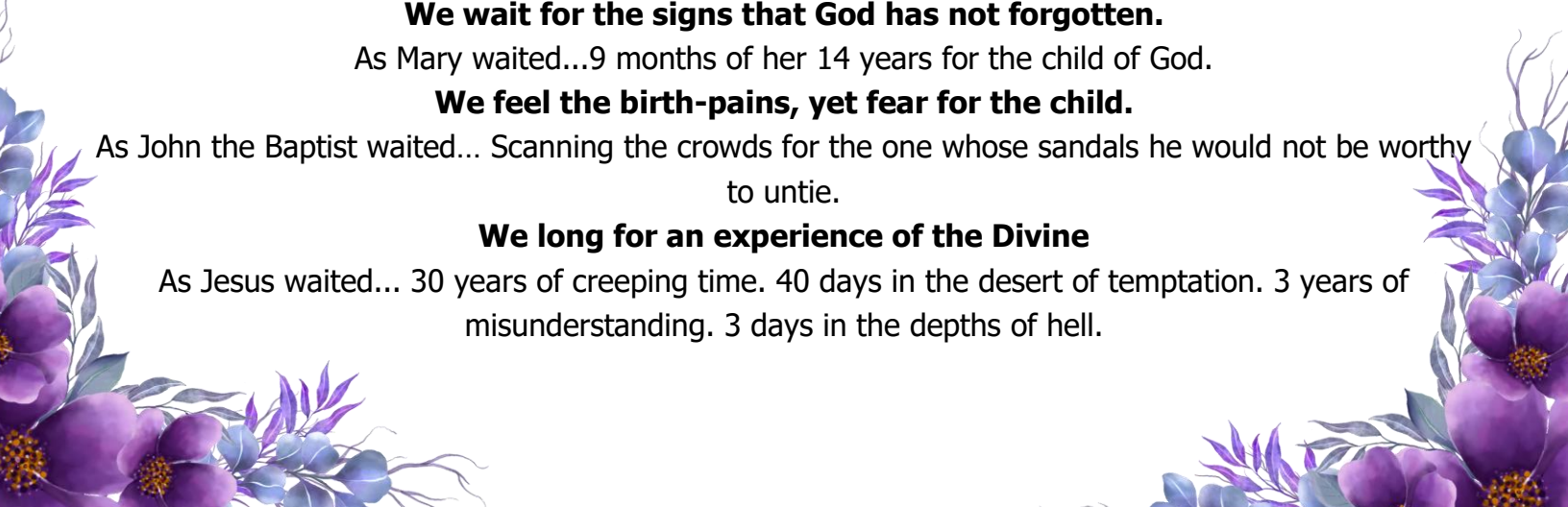
As Mary waited...9 months of her 14 years for the child of God.

We feel the birth-pains, yet fear for the child.

As John the Baptist waited... Scanning the crowds for the one whose sandals he would not be worthy to untie.

We long for an experience of the Divine

As Jesus waited... 30 years of creeping time. 40 days in the desert of temptation. 3 years of misunderstanding. 3 days in the depths of hell.



So we wait for God's time. Preparing the way. Our turn to toil on leveling mountains and straightening paths. Our turn to watch the horizon. Our turn to pass on the hope that He who promised is faithful and will come back.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray for the church.....God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray for creation..... God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray for the world.....God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray for peace.....God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray for those who govern us.God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray for this community.....God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray for all families and those who live alone.....God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray for all who suffer any sorrow or trial.....God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us give thanks for the lives of the departed who now have rest in God.

God of glory, you see how all creation groans in labor as it awaits redemption. As we work for and await your new creation, we trust that you will answer our prayers with grace, and fulfill your promise that all things work together for good for those who love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY

“Praise Ye the Father for His Loving Kindness”

Flemming

DOXOLOGY

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings”

#809

OFFERTORY PRAYER



LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

HYMN

"Were You There"

(See page 11)

CHARGE AND BLESSING

Go out into the world ... be with us all. Amen.

O Lord, may you this week open up doors for us to share your love!

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Amen"

Lloyd Larson

POSTLUDE

"Londonderry Air"

Irish Melody

MINISTERS: Cynthia Joffe and Karen Schwartz (Ushers), Cynthia Joffe (Flower Delivery), Robin Sutton (Refreshments)

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS presented to the Glory of God by Mary Lou Newborg in loving memory of her parents Ruth and Frank Murphy.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. HOLY WEEK SERVICES:

Maundy Thursday will be held at Epworth Methodist in Palmyra at 7PM. There will be a Good Friday Breakfast at Asbury Methodist in Cinnaminson at 7:30. A Good Friday service remember the last seven words of Christ will also be at Asbury Methodist from noon to 3PM. There will be an evening Good Friday service at Central Baptist in Palmyra at 6:30PM. Community Easter Sunrise Service will be at Lakeview Memorial Park at 6:30AM.

2. BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR BOB Online Bible study will resume Wednesday March 20 at 7PM. A link will be emailed to you.

3. EASTER LILY FORM You can purchase an Easter Lily to honor a loved one! Please find the form in your bulletin and return it to the church office with your payment. All names will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.

4. SUNDAY SCHOOL DATES: Calling all children ages 4 and above! Join us for Sunday school on the following dates! March 24th, April 21st and May 19th.

5. DAILY PRAYER

Covenant is now offering Daily Prayer videos narrated by our new Pastor, Bob! This is a wonderful way to begin each day in prayer. If you are not receiving them, please notify Bob, or Greg and you will be placed on the email list.

6. YOUR PARTICIPATION IS NEEDED! Members are invited to participate in our services. Please contact Bonnie Cain or Greg DiBona if you are interested in reading scripture or leading our worship services. We are also in need of more volunteers to operate the camera and soundboard. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

7. BIBLE STUDY The Bible Study will be located in the lounge on Mondays at 11AM. All are welcome!

8. STEWARDSHIP: Total Income for 3/10: \$1015.00, Envelope Giving: 1015.00, Deacons Fund: \$125.00. Capital Improvements Fund: \$25.00, Soup Sale: \$360.00.

9. PIANO DUET CONCERT

Join Music Directors Diana Dohrmann and Greg DiBona for a concert of piano duets on Sunday, May 19 at 3PM at Calvary Presbyterian Church.



JOIN MUSIC DIRECTORS
DIANA DOHRMANN AND
GREG DIBONA FOR A

 **PIANO
DUET
CONCERT**

 **MAY 19 2024, 3PM**



A DONATION BASED BENEFIT
CONCERT

 Calvary Presbyterian Church
300 Fourth Street
Riverton, NJ 08077

PRAYER LIST



Pastor Bob presented a thoughtful sermon - thank you very much. Thank you to Bonnie Cain as she shared Scripture reading, responsive readings and announced upcoming activities and worship services as well as birthday greetings to Cynthia and Leslie.

The music and anthem by our choir and Greg are so appreciated and provide peaceful moments.

Pray for our communities, country and world.

Prayers for our Covenant friends and families:

Prayers for quiet time and special remembrances for the family of Betty Graham who quietly passed away. There will be a service for her on April 5th. Prayers for healing results for her daughter, Julia, who will have hip replacement surgery on March 25th.

Joan Samph - suffering from a severe case of Covid that she will recover soon

Chris Todd - prayers for successful surgery on his eye

Linda Ballenger's cousin, Sally - receiving very good care for cancer

Dave DuBois - healing and strength as he recovers from a recent fall

Lisa Grace - relief from numerous health concerns

Kathy Hood - peace of mind and comfort

Karen Schwartz's friend, Rita, good care and recovery

Betty Herskovitz's son, Mike - thankful that he is home from the hospital and doing well

Janette Hutchinson - return to feeling better

Barbara Van Tassel's friend, Judy - continued good progress with therapy

Dale Neas - longtime friend and original organizer of the men's breakfast group - very good care and able to feel better

Carol's son, Bruce - completed second chemo treatment - prayers for strength and less discomfort

Sr. Mary William - good treatment for cancer

Prayers for Pat and Ann who recently lost their sister, Sunny. Prayers for Sunny's family

Mary Lou Newborg - requesting prayers for:

Arlene - healing following heart surgery

Logan - 2 year old battling rare cancer - prayers for careful treatment

Dave - serious health issues

Marchelle - being treated for cancer

Melissa - joyful prayers that she is cancer free

I wish to purchase _____ Easter Lily (s) at \$13.00 each.

The Easter morning bulletin will include a listing of names of donors (if desired) and mention the names of those in whose memory or honor the lily (s) are presented.

For example:

The Easter Lilies in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God by:

Mrs. J. Smith in memory of her parents, Mr. & Mrs. J. Doe
Mr. & Mrs. J. Smith in honor of their children
Mr. & Mrs. J. Smith in gratitude for loved ones
The Smith Family



Name _____

In Memory/Honor/Gratitude _____

Enclosed please find my check for the sum of \$ _____

Signed _____ Phone _____

LILIES MAY BE PICKED UP AFTER THE EASTER MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE, MARCH 31, 2024

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LILIES MAY BE PICKED UP AFTER THE EASTER MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE, MARCH 31, 2024

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross 223

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down; did e'er such love and
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

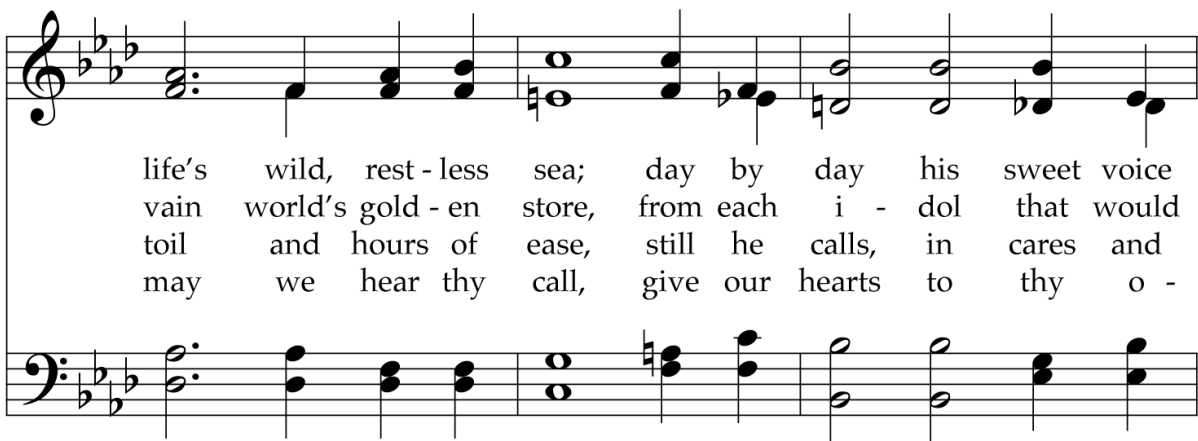
This familiar text from the beginning of the 18th century grew out of Isaac Watts's desire to give Christians the ability to sing about gospel events. It is set here to a very restrained tune from the early 19th century inspired by the patterns of Gregorian chant.

Jesus Calls Us

720



1 Je - sus calls us: o'er the tu - mult of our
 2 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
 3 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
 4 Je - sus calls us: by thy mer - cies, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his sweet voice
 vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
 toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
 may we hear thy call, give our hearts to thy o -



sound - eth say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me."
 keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
 plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
 be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

228

Were You There

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you
3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you
4 Were you there when the sun re-fused to shine? (Were you
5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you

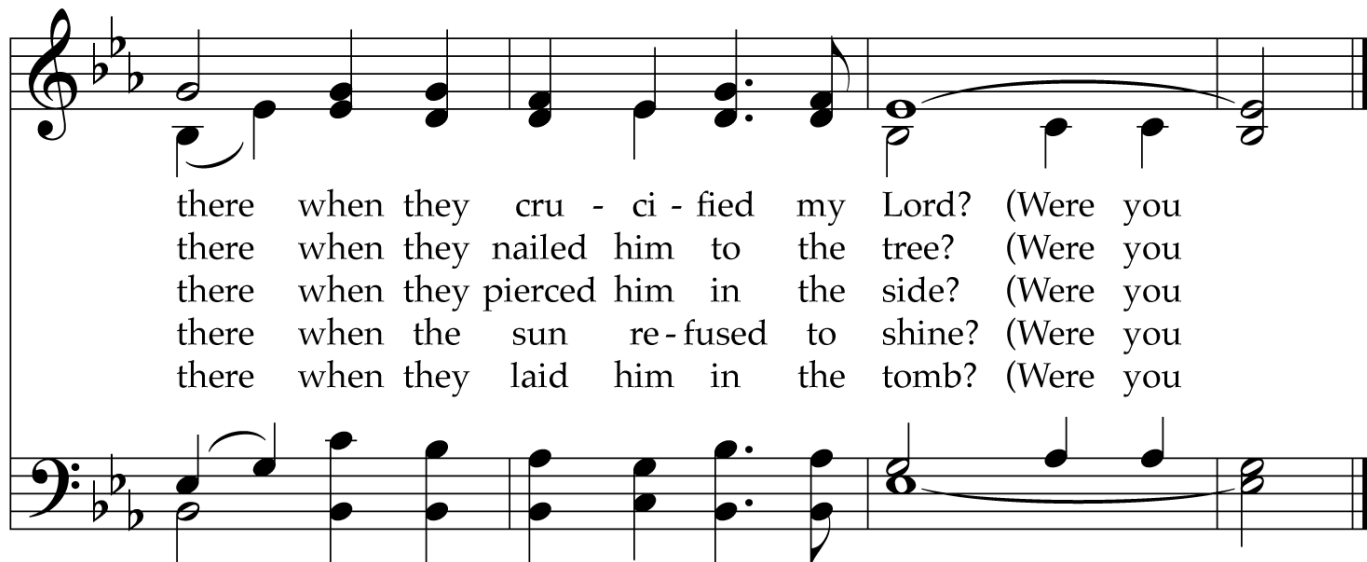
there?) Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
there?) Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
there?) Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
there?) Were you there when the sun re-fused to shine?
there?) Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

O! Some-times it caus - es me to

trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble. Were you

Few hymns from any culture have captured the pathos of Jesus' crucifixion as movingly as this African American spiritual. Its emotional climax (and highest pitch) comes in the great "O!" at the center of each stanza, a moment that moves beyond anything words can convey.

JESUS CHRIST: PASSION AND DEATH



there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you
there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you
there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you
there when the sun re - fused to shine? (Were you
there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you

The image shows a musical score for a vocal line. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The music ends with a double bar line.

Opt. 6 Were you there when he rose up from the dead?