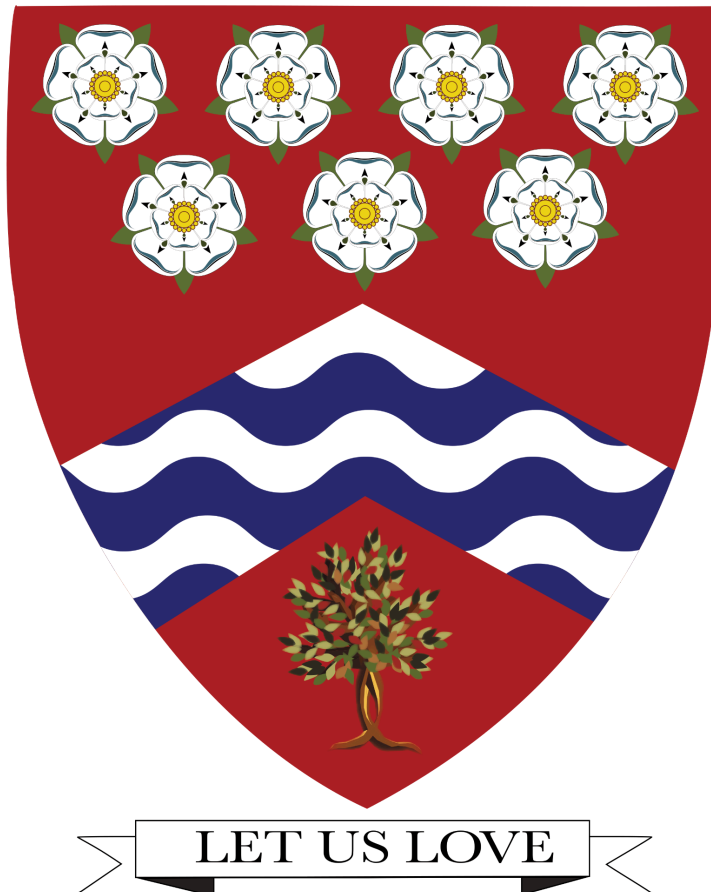


Church of the Little Flower
Berkeley Heights, NJ



Celebration of the Lord's Passion
April 18, 2025

First Reading
Isaiah 52:13-53:12

See, my servant shall prosper,
 he shall be raised high and greatly exalted.
Even as many were amazed at him--
 so marred was his look beyond human semblance
 and his appearance beyond that of the sons of man--
so shall he startle many nations,
 because of him kings shall stand speechless;
for those who have not been told shall see,
 those who have not heard shall ponder it.

Who would believe what we have heard?
 To whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?
He grew up like a sapling before him,
 like a shoot from the parched earth;
there was in him no stately bearing to make us look at him,
 nor appearance that would attract us to him.
He was spurned and avoided by people,
 a man of suffering, accustomed to infirmity,
one of those from whom people hide their faces,
 spurned, and we held him in no esteem.

Yet it was our infirmities that he bore,
 our sufferings that he endured,
while we thought of him as stricken,
 as one smitten by God and afflicted.
But he was pierced for our offenses,
 crushed for our sins;
upon him was the chastisement that makes us whole,
 by his stripes we were healed.
We had all gone astray like sheep,
 each following his own way;
but the LORD laid upon him
 the guilt of us all.

Though he was harshly treated, he submitted
and opened not his mouth;
like a lamb led to the slaughter
or a sheep before the shearers,
he was silent and opened not his mouth.
Oppressed and condemned, he was taken away,
and who would have thought any more of his destiny?
When he was cut off from the land of the living,
and smitten for the sin of his people,
a grave was assigned him among the wicked
and a burial place with evildoers,
though he had done no wrong
nor spoken any falsehood.
But the LORD was pleased
to crush him in infirmity.

If he gives his life as an offering for sin,
he shall see his descendants in a long life,
and the will of the LORD shall be accomplished through him.

Because of his affliction
he shall see the light in fullness of days;
through his suffering, my servant shall justify many,
and their guilt he shall bear.
Therefore I will give him his portion among the great,
and he shall divide the spoils with the mighty,
because he surrendered himself to death
and was counted among the wicked;
and he shall take away the sins of many,
and win pardon for their offenses.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 31

Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

In you, O LORD, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.
In your justice rescue me. Into your hands I commend my spirit;
you will redeem me, O LORD, O faithful God.

Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

For all my foes I am an object of reproach,
a laughingstock to my neighbors, and a dread to my friends;
they who see me abroad flee from me.
I am forgotten like the unremembered dead;
I am like a dish that is broken.

Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

But my trust is in you, O LORD;
I say, "You are my God. In your hands is my destiny; rescue me
from the clutches of my enemies and my persecutors."

Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your kindness. Take courage and be stouthearted,
all you who hope in the LORD.

Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

Second Reading
Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

Brothers and sisters:

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession.

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin. So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help.

In the days when Christ was in the flesh, he offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence.

Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; and when he was made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**


Gospel Acclamation

FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (GOOD FRIDAY), cont. (2)

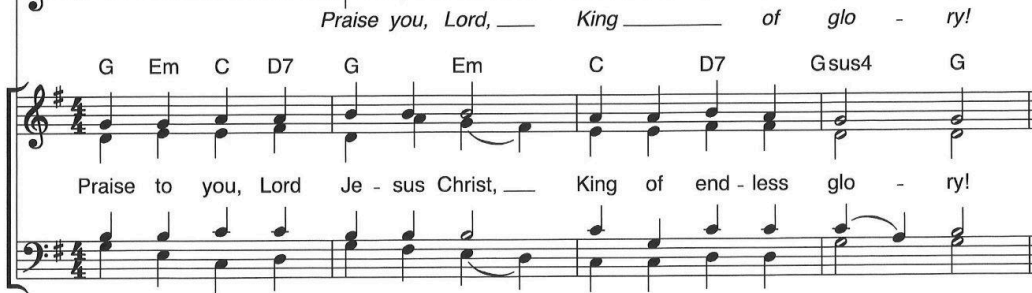
Gospel Acclamation: Philippians 2:8-9

Acclamation: (Organ/SATB) No. IX-a

Optional Descant



Praise you, Lord, King of glo - ry!

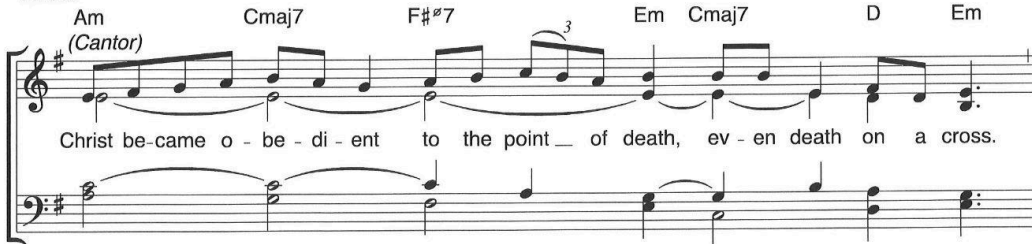


G Em C D7 G Em C D7 Gsus4 G

Praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ, King of end - less glo - ry!

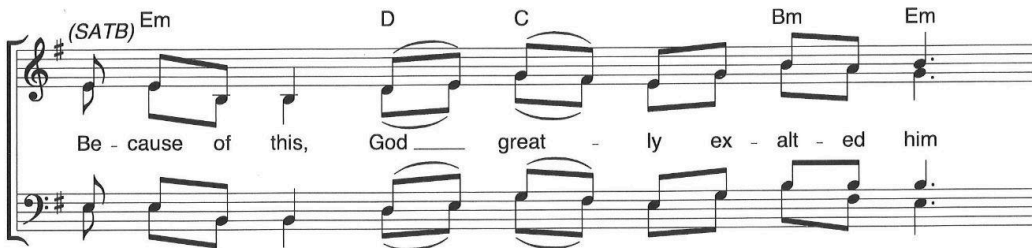
Verse:

Am (Cantor) Cmaj7 F#°7 Em Cmaj7 D Em



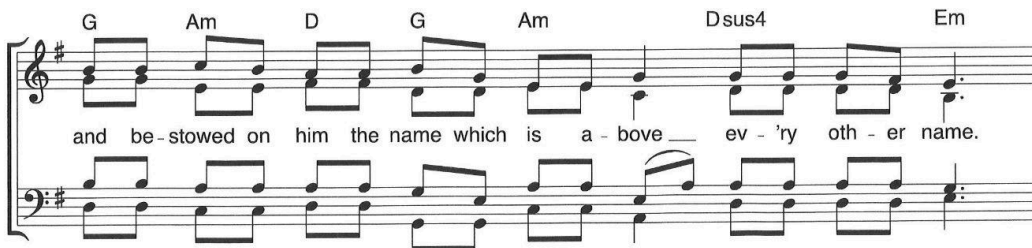
Christ be - came o - be - di - ent to the point of death, ev - en death on a cross.

(SATB) Em D C Bm Em



Be - cause of this, God great - ly ex - alt - ed him

G Am D G Am Dsus4 Em



and be - stowed on him the name which is a - bove ev - 'ry oth - er name.

Music: Owen Alstott, © 1977, 1990, OCP. All rights reserved.

Gospel
PASSION OF OUR LORD
GOSPEL OF JOHN 18:1-19:42

Fr. Matthew: The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Kathy:

Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley
to where there was a garden,
into which he and his disciples entered.
Judas his betrayer also knew the place,
because Jesus had often met there with his disciples.
So Judas got a band of soldiers and guards
from the chief priests and the Pharisees
and went there with lanterns, torches, and weapons.
Jesus, knowing everything that was going to happen to him,
went out and said to them, "Whom are you looking for?"
They answered him, "Jesus the Nazorean."
He said to them, "I AM."
Judas his betrayer was also with them.
When he said to them, "I AM, "
they turned away and fell to the ground.
So he again asked them,
"Whom are you looking for?"
They said, "Jesus the Nazorean."
Jesus answered,
"I told you that I AM.
So if you are looking for me, let these men go."
This was to fulfill what he had said,
"I have not lost any of those you gave me."

Jeanellen:

Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it,
struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear.
The slave's name was Malchus.
Jesus said to Peter,
"Put your sword into its scabbard.
Shall I not drink the cup that the Father gave me?"

Response: Father, into your hands I commend my spirit, I
commend my spirit.

Jeanellen:

So the band of soldiers, the tribune, and the Jewish guards seized
Jesus,
bound him, and brought him to Annas first.
He was the father-in-law of Caiaphas,
who was high priest that year.
It was Caiaphas who had counseled the Jews
that it was better that one man should die rather than the people.

Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus.
Now the other disciple was known to the high priest,
and he entered the courtyard of the high priest with Jesus.
But Peter stood at the gate outside.
So the other disciple, the acquaintance of the high priest,
went out and spoke to the gatekeeper and brought Peter in.
Then the maid who was the gatekeeper said to Peter,
"You are not one of this man's disciples, are you?"
He said, "I am not."
Now the slaves and the guards were standing around a charcoal
fire
that they had made, because it was cold,
and were warming themselves.
Peter was also standing there keeping warm.

Fr. Matthew:

The high priest questioned Jesus
about his disciples and about his doctrine.

Jesus answered him,

“I have spoken publicly to the world.

I have always taught in a synagogue

or in the temple area where all the Jews gather,

and in secret I have said nothing. Why ask me?

Ask those who heard me what I said to them.

They know what I said.”

When he had said this,

one of the temple guards standing there struck Jesus and said,

“Is this the way you answer the high priest?”

Jesus answered him,

“If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong;

but if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?”

Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

Now Simon Peter was standing there keeping warm.

And they said to him,

“You are not one of his disciples, are you?”

He denied it and said,

“I am not.”

One of the slaves of the high priest,

a relative of the one whose ear Peter had cut off, said,

“Didn’t I see you in the garden with him?”

Again Peter denied it.

And immediately the cock crowed.

Response: Father, into your hands I commend my spirit, I
commend my spirit.

Kathy:

Then they brought Jesus from Caiaphas to the praetorium.

It was morning.

And they themselves did not enter the praetorium,
in order not to be defiled so that they could eat the Passover.

So Pilate came out to them and said,

“What charge do you bring against this man?”

They answered and said to him,

“If he were not a criminal,
we would not have handed him over to you.”

At this, Pilate said to them,

“Take him yourselves, and judge him according to your law.”

The Jews answered him,

“We do not have the right to execute anyone,”
in order that the word of Jesus might be fulfilled
that he said indicating the kind of death he would die.

So Pilate went back into the praetorium
and summoned Jesus and said to him,

“Are you the King of the Jews?”

Jesus answered,

“Do you say this on your own
or have others told you about me?”

Pilate answered,

“I am not a Jew, am I?”

Your own nation and the chief priests handed you over to me.
What have you done?”

Jesus answered,

“My kingdom does not belong to this world.
If my kingdom did belong to this world,
my attendants would be fighting
to keep me from being handed over to the Jews.
But as it is, my kingdom is not here.”

So Pilate said to him,

“Then you are a king?”

Jesus answered,

“You say I am a king.
For this I was born and for this I came into the world,
to testify to the truth.
Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”
Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”

Jeanellen:

When he had said this,
he again went out to the Jews and said to them,
“I find no guilt in him.
But you have a custom that I release one prisoner to you at
Passover.
Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?”
They cried out again,
“Not this one but Barabbas!”
Now Barabbas was a revolutionary.

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him scourged.
And the soldiers wove a crown out of thorns and placed it on his
head,
and clothed him in a purple cloak,
and they came to him and said,
“Hail, King of the Jews!”
And they struck him repeatedly.

Fr. Matthew:

Once more Pilate went out and said to them,
“Look, I am bringing him out to you,
so that you may know that I find no guilt in him.”
So Jesus came out,
wearing the crown of thorns and the purple cloak.
And he said to them, “Behold, the man!”
When the chief priests and the guards saw him they cried out,
“Crucify him, crucify him!”

Pilate said to them,
“Take him yourselves and crucify him.
I find no guilt in him.”
The Jews answered,
“We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die,
because he made himself the Son of God.”
Now when Pilate heard this statement,
he became even more afraid,
and went back into the praetorium and said to Jesus,
“Where are you from?”
Jesus did not answer him.

Kathy:

So Pilate said to him,
“Do you not speak to me?
Do you not know that I have power to release you
and I have power to crucify you?”
Jesus answered him,
“You would have no power over me
if it had not been given to you from above.
For this reason the one who handed me over to you
has the greater sin.”
Consequently, Pilate tried to release him; but the Jews cried out,
“If you release him, you are not a Friend of Caesar.
Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.”

When Pilate heard these words he brought Jesus out
and seated him on the judge’s bench
in the place called Stone Pavement, in Hebrew, Gabbatha.
It was preparation day for Passover, and it was about noon.
And he said to the Jews,
“Behold, your king!”
They cried out,
“Take him away, take him away! Crucify him!”
Pilate said to them,

“Shall I crucify your king?”
The chief priests answered,
“We have no king but Caesar.”
Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

Response: Father, into your hands I commend my spirit, I
commend my spirit.

Jeanellen:

So they took Jesus, and, carrying the cross himself,
he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull,
in Hebrew, Golgotha.
There they crucified him, and with him two others,
one on either side, with Jesus in the middle.
Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross.
It read,
“Jesus the Nazorean, the King of the Jews.”
Now many of the Jews read this inscription,
because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city;
and it was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek.
So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate,
“Do not write ‘The King of the Jews,’
but that he said, ‘I am the King of the Jews’.”
Pilate answered,
“What I have written, I have written.”

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus,
they took his clothes and divided them into four shares,
a share for each soldier.
They also took his tunic, but the tunic was seamless,
woven in one piece from the top down.
So they said to one another,
“Let’s not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it will be, “
in order that the passage of Scripture might be fulfilled that says:

*They divided my garments among them,
and for my vesture they cast lots.*
This is what the soldiers did.

Fr. Matthew:

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother
and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas,
and Mary of Magdala.

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he
loved

he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son."

Then he said to the disciple,

"Behold, your mother."

And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

After this, aware that everything was now finished,
in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled,
Jesus said, "I thirst."

There was a vessel filled with common wine.

So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop
and put it up to his mouth.

When Jesus had taken the wine, he said,

"It is finished."

And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit.

<i>All kneel</i>

Kathy:

Now since it was preparation day,
in order that the bodies might not remain on the cross on the
sabbath,

for the sabbath day of that week was a solemn one,
the Jews asked Pilate that their legs be broken
and that they be taken down.

So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first
and then of the other one who was crucified with Jesus.
But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead,
they did not break his legs,
but one soldier thrust his lance into his side,
and immediately blood and water flowed out.
An eyewitness has testified, and his testimony is true;
he knows that he is speaking the truth,
so that you also may come to believe.
For this happened so that the Scripture passage might be fulfilled:
Not a bone of it will be broken.
And again another passage says:
They will look upon him whom they have pierced.

Jeanelle:

After this, Joseph of Arimathea,
secretly a disciple of Jesus for fear of the Jews,
asked Pilate if he could remove the body of Jesus.
And Pilate permitted it.
So he came and took his body.
Nicodemus, the one who had first come to him at night,
also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes
weighing about one hundred pounds.
They took the body of Jesus
and bound it with burial cloths along with the spices,
according to the Jewish burial custom.
Now in the place where he had been crucified there was a
garden,
and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had yet been
buried.
So they laid Jesus there because of the Jewish preparation day;
for the tomb was close by.

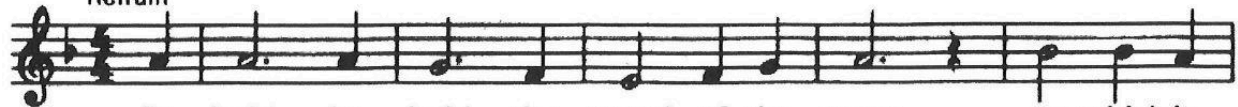
Fr. Matthew: The Gospel of the Lord.

Procession of the Cross

Behold the Wood

by Dan Schutte

Refrain




Be - hold, be - hold the wood of the cross, on which is
hung our sal - va-tion. O come, let us a - dore.

Verses



1. Un - less a grain of wheat shall fall up - on the ground and die, it
2. And when my hour of glo - ry comes as all was meant to be, $\frac{1}{2}$
3. For there can be no great-er love — shown up - on this land than
4. My Fa-ther, if it be your plan, this cup might pass me by; yet
5. For sure - ly he has borne our tears, is wound-ed by our sin, and
6. My bod - y now is torn with pain, my friends have left and gone. O



1. shall re - main but a sin - gle grain and not give life.
2. you shall see me lift - ed up up - on a tree.
3. in the one who came to die that we might live.
4. let it hap - pen as you will if I must die.
5. yet he o - pens not his mouth that we might live.
6. lov - ing Fa - ther, take my life in - to your hands.

to Refrain

Adoration of the Cross


Via Dolorosa

Through the painful way
In Jerusalem he arrived,
A certain man carrying a cross
Crowds wanted to see,
The man condemned to die
He was so wounded,
And bleeding without stopping,
Crowned with thorns He was
And in pain could hear, The mockery of those
Who put him to die
Through the painful way,
Which is the road of horror,
Like a lamb came Christ,
King Lord
He was the one who chose
to give his life for you and me
Through the painful way,
My Jesus suffered like this
He was so wounded,
And bleeding without stopping
Crowned with thorns He was
And in pain could hear,
The mockery of those
Who put him to die
Through the painful way...
Jesus surrendered
Showed his love,
Died on a cross in Jerusalem
Through the painful way
Which is the road of horror,
Like a lamb came Christ,
King Lord
He was the one who chose
to give his life for you and me
Through the painful way
My Jesus suffered like this

WE REMEMBER

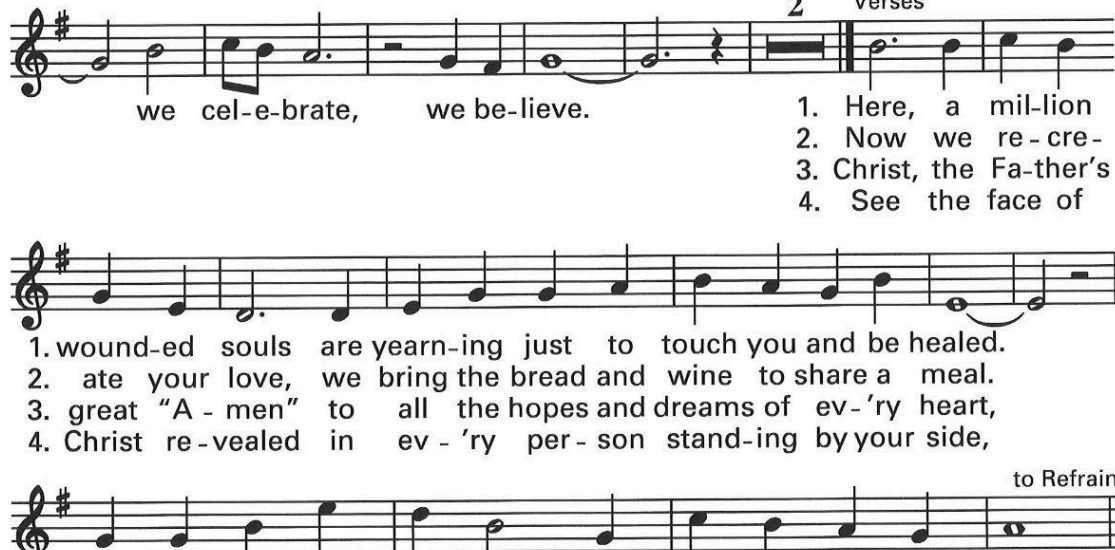
Marty Haugen

Refrain



We re-mem-ber how you loved us to your death, and still we
cel-e-brate, for you are with us here; And we be-lieve that we will
see you when you come in your glo-ry, Lord. We re-mem-ber,

2 Verses

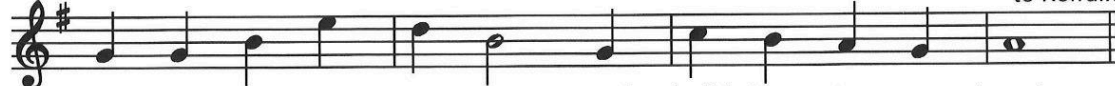


we cel-e-brate, we be-lieve.

1. Here, a mil-lion
2. Now we re-cre-
3. Christ, the Fa-ther's
4. See the face of

1. wound-ed souls are yearn-ing just to touch you and be healed.
2. ate your love, we bring the bread and wine to share a meal.
3. great "A - men" to all the hopes and dreams of ev-'ry heart,
4. Christ re-vealed in ev - 'ry per - son stand-ing by your side,

to Refrain



1. Gath - er all your peo - ple, and hold them to your heart.
2. Sign of grace and mer - cy, the pres-ence of the Lord.
3. Peace be - yond all tell - ing, and free-dom from all fear.
4. Gift to one an - oth - er, and tem - ples of your love.

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Communion

BEHOLD THE LAMB

Martin Willett

Verses



1. Those who were in the dark are thank - ful for the
2. Peace - ful now, those whose hearts are blessed with un - der -
3. Gen - tle one, Child of God, join with us at this
4. Lord of all, give us light. De - liv - er us from



1. sun - light; we who live, we who die are grate - ful for his
2. stand - ing of the wheat, of the wine u - nit - ed with his
3. ta - ble. Bless our lives; nour - ish all who hun - ger for this
4. e - vil. Make us one; be our shield. Make still the winds that

Refrain



1. gift, thank - ful for his love. Be - hold, be - hold the Lamb of
2. word and the love we share.
3. feast; shel - ter them with peace.
4. blow; cra - dle us with love.



God. All who eat, all who drink shall live; and all,



all who dwell in God shall come to know his glo - ry.

Text: Refrain based on John 1:29. Text and music © 1984, OCP. All rights reserved.

Communion - Cont'd

WERE YOU THERE

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 laid him in the tomb? Were you

1. there when they cru - ci-fied my Lord? Oh!
2. there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh!
3. there when they laid him in the tomb? Oh!

1-3. Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.

1. Were you there when they cru - ci-fied my Lord?
2. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
3. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Text: 10 10 14 10. Text and music: African American Spiritual

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.



The parish continues to minister and provide outreach to those of our community who are in need. Thank you for your continued financial support. You can drop your check or envelope to the parish center or donate via the link below:

Weekly E-Giving Donations: <https://lfbhnj.churchgiving.com>

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