



Program

Monday, April 03, 2023 | 7pm | Central United Methodist Chapel

† You are invited to rise in body or spirit

GATHERING MUSIC

Nathan Clements, piano

Lamb of God

arr. Lloyd Larson
Music by Twila Paris

Paris's text stresses a sinless Christ with "no sin to hide" who was sent by God "to walk upon this guilty sod." Christ's sacrificial atonement is emphasized as "they laughed and scorned him as he died." As is a longstanding tradition, hymns on this theme often take a personal tone. For example, in James Alexander's (1804-1859) translation of Paul Gerhardt's (1607-1676) paraphrase of the Latin poem "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded," the hymn moves from a third-person description in stanza one to first-person reflection in later stanzas—"What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend...?" The third stanza, beginning with the text, "I was so lost I should have died," focuses on Christ's substitutionary atonement.

- C. Michael Hawn, Professor of Church Music, Perkins School of Theology

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed MARTYRDOM

arr. Duane Funderburk
Hugh Wilson, 1764-1824

So seamlessly does Isaac Watts (1674-1748) evoke pity, wonder, grief, humility, love and self-surrender in "Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed". Intense sorrow ("Alas! and did my Savior bleed? / and did my Sovereign die?") gives way to self-reproach ("Would he devote that sacred head / for sinners such as I?"), which then yields to stunned marvel ("Amazing pity! Grace unknown! / and love beyond degree!"), which in turn blends into gratitude ("Thus might I hide my blushing face / while his dear cross appears; / dissolve my heart in thankfulness, / and melt mine eyes to tears.")

- C. Michael Hawn, Professor of Church Music, Perkins School of Theology

Christ Arose

arr. Cindy Berry
Music by Robert Lowry

"Low in the Grave He Lay," called "Christ Arose" in many hymnals, was composed in 1874 while Lowry was the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Lewisburg, Pa. It first appeared in the collection *Brightest and Best* (1875) under the title "He is not here, but risen—Luke 24:5." When it was included in music evangelist Ira D. Sankey's *Sacred Songs and Solos* (1875), the song became very popular in the Moody-Sankey revivals. From that point it appeared in a number of 19th-century British and American hymnals.

- C. Michael Hawn, Professor of Church Music, Perkins School of Theology

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
HYFRYDOL

arr. John F. Wilson
Music by Rowland H. Prichard

Revelation 5:9 describes this eschatological scene of joy and glory: “And they sang a new song, saying: ‘You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God members of every tribe and language and nation.’” In the glorious hymn, “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!” author William C. Dix invites us to sing that new song of praise to our ascended Savior. This hymn is a declaration of Jesus’ victory over death, and his continued presence among his people. When a friend moves away or leaves us for a long time, our first response is to feel sad and lonely. In this hymn, however, Dix reminds us that though Christ physically left earth in the ascension, he does not leave us “as orphans”, but rather remains with us always, all the while interceding for us to the Father. And so we raise our voices to cry “Alleluia!” to the ascended, yet ever-present Christ.

- Hymnary.org

O HOW HE LOVES YOU AND ME

The Faith We Sing No. 2108

Kurt Kaiser

Text adapted from 1 John 3:1

Choral Ensemble | Mr. Frank Casstevens, piano

O how he loves you and me! O how he loves you and me! He gave his life. What more could he give? O how he loves you; O how he loves me; O how he loves you and me!

Jesus to Calv’ry did go; his love for sinners to show. What he did there brought hope from despair. O how he loves you; O how he loves me; O how he loves you and me!

O how he loves you; O how he loves me; O how he loves you and me!

REMARKS & INTRODUCTION

Nathan Clements

He was Tempted

Then the Spirit led Jesus up into the wilderness so that the devil might tempt him. 2 After Jesus had fasted for forty days and forty nights, he was starving. 3 The tempter came to him and said, “Since you are God’s Son, command these stones to become bread.” 4 Jesus replied, “It’s written, People won’t live only by bread, but by every word spoken by God.” 5 After that the devil brought him into the holy city and stood him at the highest point of the temple. He said to him, 6 “Since you are God’s Son, throw yourself down; for it is written, I will command my angels concerning you, and they will take you up in their hands so that you won’t hit your foot on a stone.” 7 Jesus replied, “Again it’s written, Don’t test the Lord your God.” 8 Then the devil brought him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9 He said, “I’ll give you all these if you bow down and worship me.” 10 Jesus responded, “Go away, Satan, because it’s written, You will worship the Lord your God and serve only him.” 11 The devil left him, and angels came and took care of him.

Matthew 4:1-11 CEB

† HYMN Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

Text: Claudia F. Hernaman, 1873

Alternate Tune: ST. COLUMBA | Irish Melody, 1906

SPEAK TO ME IN ASHES

Music by Douglas Nolan

Words by Karen Crane

Choral Ensemble | Frank Casstevens, piano

Speak to me in ashes, Speak to me in tears. Whisper to the silence in my soul. Lord, I wait in stillness, ready now to hear. Speak to me in ashes and in tears.

Speak to me in silence. Speak to me Your peace. Touch my heart and still my troubled mind. Words of calm assurance, all my fears release. Speak to me in silence. Give me peace.

Lord, speak to me. My heart is open to receive Your grace. Lord, speak to me. Here in these shadows, let me feel Your sure embrace.

Speak to me with mercy, Speak to me in love. By Your Word, my spirit is reborn. Echoes of compassion sounding from above. Speak to me with mercy and in love.

Speak to me in mercy and in love.

THERE IS A FOUNTAIN FILLED WITH BLOOD

arr. Marianne Kim

CLEANSING FOUNTAIN, American Melody

Nathan Clements, piano

William Cowper, suffered from a major mental breakdown while being examined before the House of Lords due to his depression. He was sent to St. Alban's asylum for eighteen months. There he began to read the Bible, which brought some peace to his mind. He was released and went to live with friend John Newton, author of Amazing Grace. He helped Cowper recover, and they wrote poetry and religious verse, which was later published into a hymnal. There is a Fountain Filled With Blood is an illustration of Cowper's faith. The mental breakdown gave Cowper a lisp and stutter that he had the rest of his life. However, he knew there was a greater song to be sang, a song of praise to the dying Lamb.

- Hymnary.org

A LENTEN PRAYER

arr. Hal H. Hopson

NEW BRITIAN, LONESOME VALLEY

Choral Ensemble | JC Hightower, soloist | Frank Casstevens, piano

Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray, teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.

Jesus walked this lonesome valley, he had to walk it by himself, oh, nobody else could walk it for him, he had to walk it by himself.

We must walk this lonesome valley, we have to walk it by ourselves; oh, nobody else can walk it for us, we have to walk it by ourselves.

You must go and stand your trial, you have to stand it by yourself, oh, nobody else can stand it for you, you have to stand it by yourself.

And through these days of penitence, and through thy Passiontide, yea, evermore, in life and death, O Lord with us abide.

Text: "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days," C. Hernaman, written in 1873 (PD)

Text: "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley," American spiritual (PD)

BENEATH THE CROSS OF JESUS/LEAD ME TO CALVARY

arr. Don Wyrzten

Inspired by Ludwig van Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata

ST. CHRISTOPHER, DUNCANNON

Nathan Clements, piano

Don Wyrzten weaves together one of Beethoven's most famous works with two hymn tunes, Beneath the Cross of Jesus and Lead Me to Calvary. What range of emotions this piece evokes as we are led to Calvary, a place beneath the cross of Jesus, our dying savior.

- Don Wyrzten

He entered in Triumph

28 After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. 29 As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 30 "Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. 31 If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' say, 'The Lord needs it.'" 32 Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. 33 As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" 34 They replied, "The Lord needs it." 35 They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. 36 As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. 37 When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: 38 "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" [a] "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" 39 Some of the Pharisees in the

crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!” 40 “I tell you,” he replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.” 41 As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it 42 and said, “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. 43 The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. 44 They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God’s coming to you.”

Luke 19:28-44 NIV

† HYMN **Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!**

1. Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Hark! all the tribes ho - san - na cry; O
 2. Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly pomp ride on to die: O
 3. Ride on, ride on in maj - est - ty! The wing - ed squad - rons of the sky look
 4. Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Your last and fierc - est strife is nigh; the
 5. Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly pomp ride on to die; bow

Sav - ior meek, pur - sue your road with palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.
 Christ, your tri - umphs now be - gin o'er cap - tive death an con - quered sin.
 down with sad and won - d'ring eyes to see th'ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
 Fa - ther on his sap - phire throne ex - pects his own a - noit - ed Son.
 your meek head to mor - tal paion, then take, O God, your pow'r and reign.

Text: Henry H. Milman, 1827, alt. Mod.

Tune: ST. DROSTANE | John B. Dykes, 1862

SING HOSANNA

Michael Jochen

Choral Ensemble | Frank Casstevens, piano

Sing Hosanna to him who comes, Sing Hosanna in the highest! Sing Hosanna to him who comes, Sing Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes, Comes in the name, Comes in the name of the Lord!

Sing Hosanna, Sing Hosanna! Sing Hosanna, Sing Hosanna! Sing Hosanna! Alleluia!

Comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna!

TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

arr. Joel Raney

ST. THEODULPH, ELLACOMBE

Nathan Clements, piano

Joel Raney molds two of the most well-known hymns used for Passion/Palm Sunday, “All Glory, Laud and Honor” and “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” with an arrangement of the setting he sees it was, on the day of Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the waving of palm branches and the shouts of “hosanna”. This also marks the start of the last week of Jesus’ earthly life. This piece is part I of his “Triptych for Holy Week”, a composition in three parts for the last week of Jesus’ earthly life.

-Joel Raney

He was Crucified

The lights will be dimmed at this time to signify the darkness of the Crucifixion

32 As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene, named Simon, and they forced him to carry the cross. 33 They came to a place called Golgotha (which means "the place of the skull"). 34 There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it. 35 When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots. 36 And sitting down, they kept watch over him there. 37 Above his head they placed the written charge against him: this is Jesus, the king of the jews. 38 Two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. 39 Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads 40 and saying, "You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!" 41 In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him. 42 "He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself! He's the king of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. 43 He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" 44 In the same way the rebels who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him. 45 From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land. 46 About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eli, Eli,[a] lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?").[b] 47 When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "He's calling Elijah." 48 Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. 49 The rest said, "Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to save him." 50 And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. 51 At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split 52 and the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. 53 They came out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection and[c] went into the holy city and appeared to many people. 54 When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"

Matthew 27: 32-54



HYMN

O Come and Mourn with Me Awhile

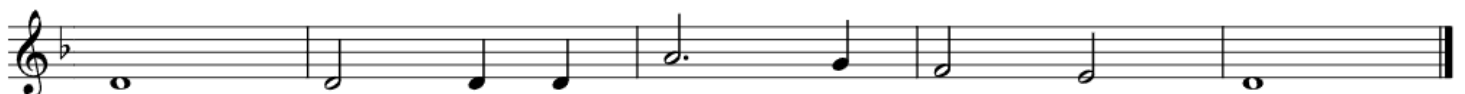


1.O come and mourn with me a - - while; O come ye
2.Sev'n times he speaks, sev'n words of love; and all three
3.O break, O break, hard heart of mine! Thy weak self -
4.A bro - ken heart, a fount of tears, ask, and they
5.O love of God! O sin of man! In this dread



to the Sav - ior's side; O come, to - geth - er let us
hours his si - lence cried for mer - cy on the souls of
love and guilt - y pride his Pi - late and his Ju - das
will not be de - nied; a bro - ken heart love's cra - dle
act your strength is tried, and vic - to - ry re - mains with

REFRAIN



mourn: Je - sus, our Lord, is cru - - ci - - fied!
men:
were:
is:
love:

AND CAN IT BE?

arr. Dan Forrest
PLEW

Nathan Clements, piano

Sometimes the mere thought of Christ's immeasurable love can wash over the believer in an overwhelming wave. Using Dan Forrest's own melody, this tender work captures the wonder of Christ's sacrifice in a devout and uplifting statement that will penetrate the soul.

And can it be that I should gain An interest in the Savior's blood? Died He for me, who caused His pain— For me, who Him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be, That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me? He left His Father's throne above So free, so infinite His grace— Emptied Himself of all but love, And bled for Adam's helpless race: 'Tis mercy all, immense and free, For O my God, it found out me! 'Tis mercy all, immense and free, For O my God, it found out me! No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in Him, is mine; Alive in Him, my living Head, And clothed in righteousness divine, Bold I approach th'eternal throne, And claim the crown, through Christ my own. (Charles Wesley, 1738)

- Dan Forrest

COME FIND HIS REST

arr. Dan Forrest

GENTLE AND LOWLY, KINGSFOLD

Choral Ensemble | Kayla Stewart, soloist | Frank Casstevens, piano

Oo I heard. Come weary one, leave thy labors; come, lift thy head, see thy Savior and Friend. His arms are opened wide; O soul, be satisfied. Come find his rest. Take his yoke upon thee, for he is gentle and lowly in heart. So learn from Christ the Lord, thy Portion and Reward. Come find his rest.

Come, weary one, come, weary one, lift thy head, I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest; lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast." I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn and sad; I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.

Take his yoke upon thee, for he is gentle and lowly in heart. So learn from Christ the Lord, thy Portion and Reward. Come find his rest. "Come unto me and rest. Come unto me and rest. Come. Come. Come."

Text: Erik Dewar (2021) and Horatius Bonar (1856)

DARKEST HOUR

arr. Joel Raney

PASSION CHORALE, WERE YOU THERE

Nathan Clements, piano

Joel Raney molds two of the most powerful hymns used to represent the crucifixion, "O Sacred Head Now Wounded" and "Were You There?" with an arrangement of the dark setting he sees it was, on the day of Jesus' crucifixion, the darkness that was felt over the earth. This piece is part II of his "Triptych for Holy Week", a composition in three parts for the last week of Jesus' earthly life.

-Joel Raney

He was Resurrected

The lights will return to brightness at this time to signify the light and joy of the Resurrection

28 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. 2 There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. 4 The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. 5 The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. 6 He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you." 8 So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9 Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Matthew 28:1-10

CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY!

arr. Kristina Langlois
ORIENTIS PARTIBUS

Choral Ensemble | John Hightower, *hand drum* | Frank Casstevens, *piano*

"Christ the Lord is ris'n today!" All on earth with angels say; raise you joys and triumphs high; sing, O heav'ns; and earth, reply.

Love's redeeming work is done, fought the fight, the battle won. Lo! The sun's eclipse is o'er. Lo! He sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has burst the gates of hell. Death in vain forbids his rise; Christ has opened paradise.

Lives again our glorious king! Where, O death, is now your sting? Once he died our souls to save; where your victory, O grave?

Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n! Praise to thee by both be giv'n. Thee we greet triumphant now: hail, the resurrection, thou!

King of glory, soul of bliss, everlasting life is this: thee to know thy pow'r to prove, thus to sing, and thus to love!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

LIFT HIGH THE CROSS

arr. Larry Shackley
CRUCIFER

Nathan Clements, piano

Larry Shackley lends his creative touches on mighty hymn that invites us to Lift High The Cross 'till all the world adore his sacred name! Jesus is risen! Spread the good news! Lift High The Cross! "Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name. Come, Christians, follow this triumphant sign. The hosts of God in unity combine. Each newborn servant of the Crucified bears on the brow the seal of him who died. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, as thou hast promised, draw the world to thee. So shall our song of triumph ever be: Praise to the Crucified for victory! Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name."

- Larry Shackley

ON THE THIRD DAY

Allen Pote

Choral Ensemble | John Hightower, timpani | Frank Casstevens, piano

Jesus was crucified. Jesus was crucified. He died and was buried, died and was buried. Jesus was crucified.

On the third day, on the third day, on the third day Christ arose. On the third day, on the third day, on the third day Christ arose.

He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, He will come again to judge the living and the dead, His kingdom will have no end.

Christ is risen from the dead, He is risen as He said, He is alive, He is alive, Alleluia! Christ has conquered death and sin, died for us our souls to win, He is alive, He is alive, alleluia!

He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, He will come again to judge the living and the dead, His kingdom will have no end. Ah, ah, ah, alleluia!

On the third day, on the third day, on the third day Christ arose!

Text: Adaptations from the Apostles' Creed with original text by Allen Pote

† HYMN

Thine Be the Glory

United Methodist Hymnal No. 308

Text: Edmond L. Budry, 1904 | JUDAS MACCABEUS, arr. G.F. Handel, 1747

HALLELUJAH FROM MESSIAH

arr. Larry Shackley
George Frideric Handel

Nathan Clements, primo & Frank Casstevens, secondo

Larry Shackley transforms the mighty work from Handel's Messiah, into a four-hand piano masterpiece! King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Hallelujah!

-Larry Shackley

Participants

Choral Ensemble

Soprano: Kayla Stewart

Alto: Jess and Sammie Febus

Baritone: David Clements and JC Hightower

Accompanist: Frank Casstevens

Director: Nathan Clements

Pianist

Nathan Clements, Frank Casstevens

Percussion

John Hightower

Many Thanks to

The musicians who took time to prepare and present this concert

Gabe Febus for his audio-visual help

Julie Miles for her help with the program

Central UMC Monroe for offering a place of worship for the concert

All of those who took time to join us this evening

Join us back at Central for other Holy Week Services:

*Thursday at 8pm: Maundy Thursday Service and
Upper Room Communion | Church Sanctuary*

*Friday at 8pm: Good Friday Service and
Interactive Prayer Stations | Church Sanctuary*

Easter Sunday at 9am: Easter Sunday Worship | Prayer Garden

**Fellowship Breakfast will follow 9am worship*

Easter Sunday at 11am: Easter Sunday Worship | Church Sanctuary