



A progressive, radically inclusive, anti-racist community

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**Honor the Earth / Black Lives Matter
No Human Being Is "Illegal" / No Muslim Ban Ever
Stop Hate Against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders**



**Good Friday
The Seven Last Words
April 15, 2022
6pm ET**

“The land upon which we gather is part of the traditional territory of the Lenni-Lenape, called “Lenapehoking.” The Lenape People lived in harmony with one another upon this territory for thousands of years. During the colonial era and early federal period, many were removed west and north, but some also remain among the continuing historical tribal communities of the region: The Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation; the Ramapough Lenape Nation; and the Powhatan Renape Nation, The Nanticoke of Millsboro Delaware, and the Lenape of Cheswold Delaware. We acknowledge the Lenni-Lenape as the original people of this land and their continuing relationship with their territory. In our acknowledgment of the continued presence of Lenape people in their homeland, we affirm the aspiration of the great Lenape Chief Tamanend, that there be harmony between the indigenous people of this land and the descendants of the immigrants to this land, “as long as the rivers and creeks flow, and the sun, moon, and stars shine.”

PRELUDE

Fear Not the Pain

**Fear not the pain.
Let its weight fall back into the earth;
for heavy are the mountains,
heavy are the seas.**

Musical notation for the first line of the prelude. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in 4/4 time and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics "Fear not the pain. Let its weight fall back in-to the earth;" are written below the treble staff.

Musical notation for the second line of the prelude. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in 4/4 time and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics "for hea - vy are the moun-tains, hea-vy are the seas." are written below the treble staff.

WELCOME

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross UMH 298

**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 an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

**Were you there when they crucified our God?
Were you there when they crucified our God?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified our God?**

THE FIRST WORD

When they reached the place called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there – together with the criminals,
one on his right and one on his left.

And Jesus said, *“Abba forgive them. They don’t know what they are doing.”*
Then they divided his garments, rolling dice for them.

– Luke 23:33-34 (The Inclusive Bible)

REFLECTION

Sarah Capers

Jesus – we see your suffering.
You are not alone. We are not alone.

**Were you there when they crucified our God?
Were you there when they crucified our God?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified our God?**

THE SECOND WORD

One of the criminals who hung there beside him insulted Jesus, too, saying,
“Are you really the Messiah? Then save yourself—and us!”
But the other answered the first with a rebuke:
“Don’t you even fear God? We are only paying the price
for what we have done, but this one has done nothing wrong!”
Then he said, “Jesus remember me when you come into your glory.”
Jesus replied, ***“The truth is, today you will be with me in paradise!”***

– Luke 23:39-43 (The Inclusive Bible)

REFLECTION

Pastor Alexis Lillie

Jesus – we see your suffering.
You are not alone. We are not alone.

**Were you there when they crucified our God?
Were you there when they crucified our God?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified our God?**

THE THIRD WORD

After the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothing and divided it into four pieces, one piece for each soldier. They also took the seamless robe. The soldiers said to one another, “Let’s not tear it.
We can throw dice to see who will get it.”

This happened in order to fulfill the scripture, “They divided my garments among them and,
for my clothing, they cast lots.” And this is what they did.

Standing close to Jesus’ cross were his mother; his mother’s sister, Mary, the wife of Clopas; and Mary of Magdala. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing there, he said to his mother,
“Here is your son.” Then he said to his disciple, ***“Here is your mother.”***
From that moment, the disciple took her into his household.

– John 19:23-27 (The Inclusive Bible)

REFLECTION

Riot Mueller

Jesus – we see your suffering.
You are not alone. We are not alone.

**Were you there when they crucified our God?
Were you there when they crucified our God?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified our God?**

THE FOURTH WORD

When noon came, darkness fell on the whole countryside and lasted until about three in the afternoon.
At three, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Eloi, eloi, lama sabachthani?” which means,
“My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?”

– Mark 15:33-34 (The Inclusive Bible)

REFLECTION

Lead, a poem by Mary Oliver
Maurice White

Here is a story
to break your heart.
Are you willing?
This winter
the loons came to our harbor
and died, one by one,
of nothing we could see.
A friend told me
of one on the shore
that lifted its head and opened
the elegant beak and cried out
in the long, sweet savoring of its life
which, if you have heard it,
you know is a sacred thing.,
and for which, if you have not heard it,
you had better hurry to where
they still sing.
And, believe me, tell no one
just where that is.
The next morning
this loon, speckled
and iridescent and with a plan
to fly home
to some hidden lake,
was dead on the shore.
I tell you this
to break your heart,
by which I mean only
that it break open and never close again
to the rest of the world.

Jesus – we see your suffering.
You are not alone. We are not alone.

**Were you there when they crucified our God?
Were you there when they crucified our God?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified our God?**

THE FIFTH WORD

After this, Jesus knew that now all was completed, and to fulfill scripture perfectly he said, "*I am thirsty.*" There was a jar of cheap wine nearby, so they put a sponge soaked in the wine on a hyssop stick and raised it to his lips.

– John 19:28-29 (Inclusive Bible)

REFLECTION

Paul Pillitteri

Jesus – we see your suffering.
You are not alone. We are not alone.

**Were you there when they crucified our God?
Were you there when they crucified our God?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified our God?**

THE SIXTH WORD

Jesus took the wine and said, "*It is finished.*"
Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

– John 19:30 (The Inclusive Bible)

REFLECTION

Becca Love

Jesus – we see your suffering.
You are not alone. We are not alone.

**Were you there when they crucified our God?
Were you there when they crucified our God?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified our God?**

THE SEVENTH WORD

It was about noon, and darkness fell on the whole land until three in the afternoon, because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the curtain in the sanctuary was torn in two, and Jesus uttered a loud cry and said,
“Abba, into your hands I commit my spirit.”

Saying this, Jesus breathed for the last time.
The centurion who saw this glorified God, saying, “Surely this one was innocent.”

– Luke 23:44-47 (The Inclusive Bible)

REFLECTION

We Adore You, O Christ
Omega Dance Company & COTV Dancers

Jesus – we see your suffering.
You are not alone. We are not alone.

Do you feel moved to speak or pray with a Minister of Care?
If you are online, you please type “CARE” in the Zoom chat.
If you are onsite, you can go to the right of the narthex/lobby
at the back of the sanctuary and someone will be there to help.

WORSHIP HOSTS

Worship Design Team: Pastor Jeff Wells, Pastor Alexis Lillie, Jorge Lockward, Alfida Figueroa, Riot Mueller, Katie Reimer

Worship Leader: Riot Mueller

Dance Ministry: COTV Dance Ministry: Maura Burns, Megan Haugns, Jeana Musacchio

Omega Dance Company (in residence): Martha Chapman, Vanity David, Aliyah Miller

Ministers of Care: Virginia Riker (online), Riot Mueller & Pastor Jeff (onsite)

Altar Design: Suzie Wilder

Keyboard: Abigail Lumsden

Ushers: Maurice White & Sam Winfrey

Zoom Host: Paul Pillitteri

Chat Host: TBD

Sound Engineer: Inti Maldonado

CREDITS

Cover Image: Heaven Came Down, by Stushie Art, Used by Permission

Fear Not the Pain

W: Rainer Maria Rilke

M: Rachel Pollak Kroh

Music © 2013 Rachel Pollak Kroh

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When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

W: Isaac Watts

M: Anon.; arr. By Edward Miller

Were You There?

W & M: African American Spiritual

“Lead”

Mary Oliver, (*New and Selected Poems Volume Two*), Beacon Press.