

Good Friday Worship 7:00pm

April 3, 2026

{Prayers come from "The Way of the Cross" in *This Far By Faith*}

READER 1: EDIE GOODWIN

READER 2: LANE PLUGGE

READER 3: DAVE WAYMIRE

We Gather in Silence

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

PSALM 22

(Pastor) ¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

² O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest.

³ Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴ In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.

⁵ To you they cried, and were saved;

in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

⁶ But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people.

⁷ All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;

⁸ "Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver—
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"

⁹ Yet it was you who took me from the womb;

you kept me safe on my mother's breast.

¹⁰ On you I was cast from my birth,

and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

¹¹ Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

¹² Many bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me;

¹³ they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.

¹⁴ I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint;

my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;

¹⁵ my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws;

you lay me in the dust of death.

¹⁶ For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles me.

My hands and feet have shriveled;

¹⁷ I can count all my bones. They stare and gloat over me;

¹⁸ they divide my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.

- ¹⁹ But you, O LORD, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid!
²⁰ Deliver my soul from the sword, my life from the power of the dog!
²¹ Save me from the mouth of the lion!
From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.
²² I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
²³ You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
²⁴ For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.
²⁵ From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.
²⁶ The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD.
May your hearts live forever!
²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.
²⁸ For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.
²⁹ To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.
³⁰ Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord,
³¹ and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

INVOCATION (PASTOR)

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.** Lord, have mercy.

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC – BONNIE DUNKELBERGER “WHEN HE PRAYED BENEATH THE TREES”

SYMBOLS OF THE PASSION
A SERVICE OF SCRIPTURE, SONG, AND PRAYER

OPENING PRAYER (PASTOR)

We will glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
in whom is our salvation, our life, and resurrection.

As we hear again the story of Jesus' passion and contemplate these symbols of Christ's betrayal, suffering, death, and burial, let us pray for the Holy Spirit to bring to us a recognition of our need for salvation.

Mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may remember with joy the mighty acts whereby you have given us life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

ELW 803

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.

SCRIPTURE – JOHN 18:1-11**READER 1**

¹ [Jesus] went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. ² Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place because Jesus often met there with his disciples. ³ So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. ⁴ Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" ⁵ They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus replied, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. ⁶ When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground. ⁷ Again he asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." ⁸ Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these people go." ⁹ This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me." ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

SYMBOL: THE SWORD (PASTOR) Lord Christ, your disciple Peter committed violence with the sword in your name. We confess our own complicity in the violence perpetrated for the cause of religion, and we ask your Spirit to guide us.

PRAYER (PASTOR) Let us pray. Almighty God, your Son our Savior suffered at the hands of sinners and endured the shame of the cross. Grant that we may walk in the way of his cross and find in it the way of life and peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, **have mercy and hear us.**

SCRIPTURE – JOHN 18:12-27**READER 2**

¹² So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. ¹³ First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. ¹⁴ Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people.

¹⁵ Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, ¹⁶ but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. ¹⁷ The woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." ¹⁸ Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

¹⁹ Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. ²⁰ Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret." ²¹ Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said." ²² When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" ²³ Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" ²⁴ Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

²⁵ Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." ²⁶ One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" ²⁷ Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

SYMBOL: THE ROOSTER (PASTOR) Lord Christ, in the courtyard of the High Priest, your disciple Peter denied knowing you. Give us reminders of our faithlessness so that we might confess the fears that keep us from proclaiming you as our Savior. We ask your Spirit to guide us.

PRAYER (PASTOR) Let us pray. Almighty God, whose beloved Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption: Give us courage to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns forever and ever. **Amen**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, **have mercy and hear us.**

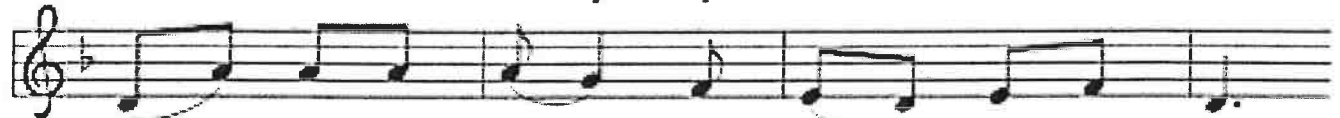
SONG

“LAMB OF GOD, MOST HOLY”

ACS 932



1 Lamb of God most ho - ly, up - on the cross ex - tend - ed,
2 Mine is the trans - gres - sion that caus - es you to suf - fer.
3 Lamb of God most ho - ly, up - on the cross for - sak - en,



all my sin you car - ry, the bur - den of my soul.
Mine is the re - bel - lion, but you re - ceive the blame.
for our sin you suf - fered, so far from God on high.



What love a - maz - ing! What price un - bound - ed!
My guilt be - fore me, I come be - fore you;
Your life sur - ren - dered in mer - cy frees us;



Your bod - y, wound - ed, will make me whole.
Lord, I im - plore you, re - move my shame.
your name, O Je - sus, we glo - ri - fy.

SCRIPTURE – JOHN 18:28-38A**READER 3**

²⁸ Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. ²⁹ So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" ³⁰ They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you." ³¹ Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The Jews replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death." ³² (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

³³ Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴ Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵ Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶ Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷ Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that 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." ³⁸ Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

SYMBOL: THE CROWN (PASTOR) Lord Christ, you were named a King by Pontius Pilate, a man who understood power. We confess that we lose sight of your kingdom of mercy in our own desire for power, and we ask your Spirit to guide us.

PRAYER (PASTOR) Let us pray. Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, **have mercy and hear us.**

SCRIPTURE – JOHN 18:38B-19:3**READER 1**

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him." ³⁹ But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" ⁴⁰ They shouted in reply, "Not this man but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a rebel.

^{19:1} Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. ² And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. ³ They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face.

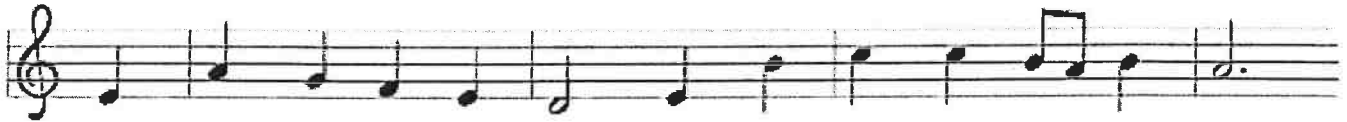
SYMBOL: THE SCOURGE (PASTOR) Lord Christ, you took upon yourself the punishment for our iniquity. We confess our guilt, and we ask your Spirit to guide us.

PRAYER (PASTOR) Let us pray. Teach your church, O Lord, to mourn the sins of which it is guilty, and to repent and forsake them; that, by your pardoning grace, the results of our iniquities may not be visited upon our children and our children's children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, **have mercy and hear us.**



1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
 2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
 how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
 Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.

SCRIPTURE – JOHN 19:4-16A

READER 2

⁴ Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." ⁵ So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" ⁶ When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." ⁷ The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."

⁸ Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. ⁹ He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰ Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you and power to crucify you?" ¹¹ Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." ¹² From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against Caesar."

¹³ When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. ¹⁴ Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover, and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" ¹⁵ They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." ¹⁶ Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

SYMBOL: THE CROWN OF THORNS (PASTOR) Lord Christ, you were given a crown not of power, but of pain. We fail to recognize that true power does not mean inflicting pain upon others, but taking their pain for ourselves so that we might offer comfort and healing. We confess our confusion, and we ask your Spirit to guide us.

PRAYER (PASTOR) Let us pray. O God, your Son chose the path which led to pain before joy and the cross before glory. Plant his cross in our hearts, so that in its power and love we may come at last to joy and glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, **have mercy and hear us.**

SCRIPTURE – JOHN 19:16B-25A

READER 3

So they took Jesus, ¹⁷ and carrying the cross by himself he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. ¹⁸ There they crucified him and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. ¹⁹ Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." ²⁰ Many of the Jews read this inscription because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹ Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" ²² Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." ²³ When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. ²⁴ So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots." ²⁵ And that is what the soldiers did.

SYMBOL: THE DICE (PASTOR) Lord Christ, by the casting of lots your clothes were divided by the soldiers at the cross. We confess that we gamble with our lives and the lives of others when we put personal gain ahead of compassion. We ask your Spirit to guide us.

PRAYER (PASTOR) Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace. So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your name. **Amen.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, **have mercy and hear us.**

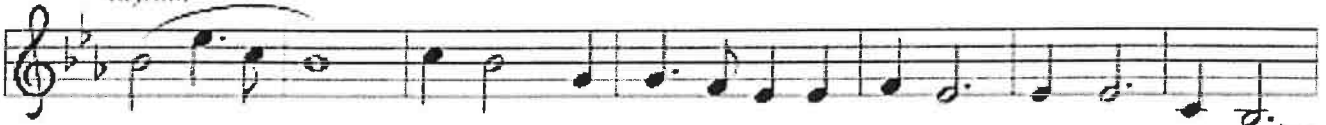


1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Refrain



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

SCRIPTURE – JOHN 19:25B-30

READER 1

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

²⁸ After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." ²⁹ A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. ³⁰ When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

SYMBOL: THE SOUR WINE (PASTOR) Lord Christ, you were given to drink wine that had gone sour, which would not quench your thirst. We confess that we attempt to fulfill our longings with many things that will not satisfy, when you have already given us all that is needed; the love of family, friends, community, and your own love for us. We ask your Spirit to guide us.

PRAYER (PASTOR) Let us pray. O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, so that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, **have mercy and hear us.**

³¹ Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the Sabbath, especially because that Sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. ³² Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³ But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴ Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. ³⁵ (He who saw this has testified so that you also may continue to believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) ³⁶ These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." ³⁷ And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

SYMBOL: THE SPEAR (PASTOR) Lord Christ, your side was pierced to confirm your death, and we continue to poke and prod to see whether you are alive today. We confess our doubt in the importance of your death for our lives and for the world, as we ask your Spirit to guide us.

PRAYER (PASTOR) Let us pray. O God, your blessed Son was laid in a tomb in a garden, and rested on the Sabbath day. Grant that we who have been buried with him in the waters of baptism may find our perfect rest in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns forever and ever. **Amen.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, **have mercy and hear us.**

SONG

"WERE YOU THERE" V. 3, 5

ELW 353

3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Refrain
Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

³⁸After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission, so he came and removed his body. ³⁹Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴²And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

SYMBOL: THE SPICES (PASTOR) Lord Christ, your disciples Joseph and Nicodemus covered your body in cloth, anointed you with burial spices, and placed you in a tomb. We confess our desires to keep you wrapped up and enclosed, to smother the stink of death with things less off-putting. But death is not clean and clinical; it is messy and painful and fills us with grief. We thank you that your salvation comes to us through the very things we seek to avoid, and we ask your Spirit to guide us.

PRAYER (PASTOR)

Savior of the world, by your cross and precious blood you have redeemed us. **Save us and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord.**

Let us pray. We thank you, heavenly Father, that you have delivered us from the dominion of sin and death and brought us into the kingdom of your Son; and we pray that, as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his love he may raise us to eternal joys; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

To Christ our Lord who loves us, washed us in his own blood, and made us a kingdom of priests to serve his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. **Amen.**

1. On a hill far a - way stood an old rug-ged cross, The em - blem of
 2. Oh, that old rug-ged cross, so de-spised by the world, Has a won-drous at-
 3. In the old rug-ged cross, stained with blood so di - vine, Such a won - der - ful
 4. To the old rug-ged cross I will ev - er be true; Its shame and re-

suf - fring and shame: And I love that old cross where the dear - est and best
 trac - tion for me; For the dear Lamb of God left His glo - ry a - bove
 beau - ty I see; For 'twas on that old cross Je - sus suf - fered and died
 proach glad - ly bear. Then He'll call me some - day to my home far a - way,

Chorus

For a world of lost sin - ners was slain.
 To bear it to dark Cal - va - ry. So I'll cher-ish the old rug-ged
 To par - don and sanc - ti - fy me. cross, the
 Where His glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.

cross,
 old rug-ged cross, Till my tro - phies at last I lay down: I will cling to the

old rug - ged cross, And ex - change it some - day for a crown.
 cross, the old rug - ged cross.

All may depart in silence.