

**Midweek Lenten Worship**  
**March 15, 2023**

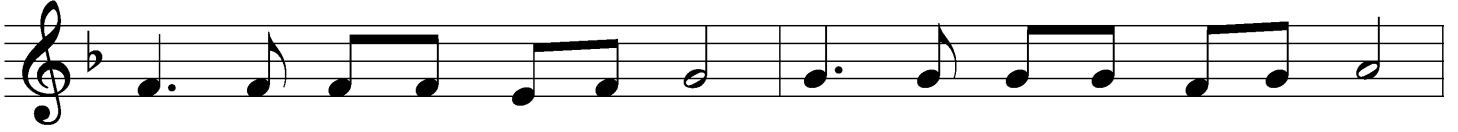


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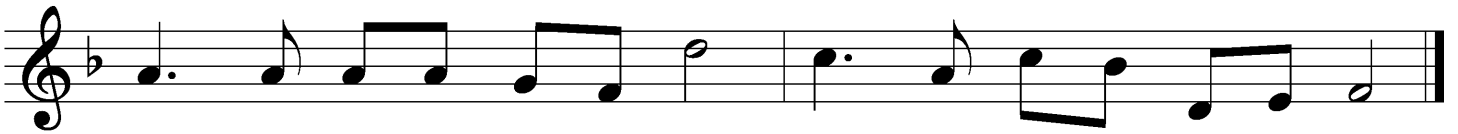
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## HIS FINAL STEPS

### 784 Now the Light Has Gone Away



1 Now the light has gone a - way; Fa - ther, lis - ten while I pray,  
2 Je - sus, Sav - ior, wash a - way all that I've done wrong to - day.  
3 Let my near and dear ones be safe with you e - ter - nal - ly.  
4 Now my eve - ning praise I give; you once died that I might live.  
5 Ah, my best and kind - est Friend, you will love me to the end.



ask - ing you to watch and keep and to send me qui - et sleep.  
Make me ev - er more like you, good and gen - tle, kind and true.  
O bring me and all I love to your hap - py home a - bove.  
All your pre - cious gifts are free— oh, how good you are to me!  
Let me love you more and more, al - ways bet - ter than be - fore.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.

Tune: Liederbuch für Kleinkinder-Schulen, Kaiserswerth, 1842

Text and tune: Public domain

### Confession of Sins

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
**we have sinned against you**

**in our thoughts, in our words, in our deeds,  
and in all that we have not done.**

**Forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Deliver and restore us, that we may rest in peace.**

By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven.  
Let us rest in his peace until the rising of the sun, when we shall serve him in  
newness of life.

**Amen.**

## Psalm

*Psalm 4*

Answer me when I call to you,  
my righteous God.

**Give me relief from my distress;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.**

How long will you people turn my glory into shame?

**How long will you love delusions and seek false gods**

Know that the LORD has set apart his faithful servant for himself;  
**the LORD hears when I call to him.**

Tremble and do not sin;

**when you are on your beds,  
search your hearts and be silent.**

Offer the sacrifices of the righteous  
**and trust in the LORD.**

Many, LORD, are asking, “Who will bring us prosperity?”

**Let the light of your face shine on us.**

Fill my heart with joy

**when their grain and new wine abound.**

In peace I will lie down and sleep,

**for you alone, LORD,  
make me dwell in safety.**

## Psalm Prayer

Grant peace to your people, Lord, that amid the stresses of life, we may rest quietly, knowing all is right with you. Since your Son has paid for every sin, defeated every enemy, and rules at the right hand of your throne in heaven, let us fall asleep each night in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Passion History

*Matthew 26:57–75*

### *Jesus Before the Sanhedrin*

<sup>57</sup>Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the teachers of the law and the elders had assembled. <sup>58</sup>But Peter followed him at a

distance, right up to the courtyard of the high priest. He entered and sat down with the guards to see the outcome.

<sup>59</sup>The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. <sup>60</sup>But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward.

Finally two came forward <sup>61</sup>and declared, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.' "

<sup>62</sup>Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, "Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?" <sup>63</sup>But Jesus remained silent.

The high priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God."

<sup>64</sup>"You have said so," Jesus replied. "But I say to all of you: From now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."

<sup>65</sup>Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy.

<sup>66</sup>What do you think?"

"He is worthy of death," they answered.

<sup>67</sup>Then they spit in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped him <sup>68</sup>and said, "Prophecy to us, Messiah. Who hit you?"

### *Peter Disowns Jesus*

<sup>69</sup>Now Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant girl came to him. "You also were with Jesus of Galilee," she said.

<sup>70</sup>But he denied it before them all. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said.

<sup>71</sup>Then he went out to the gateway, where another servant girl saw him and said to the people there, "This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth."

<sup>72</sup>He denied it again, with an oath: "I don't know the man!"

<sup>73</sup>After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them; your accent gives you away."

<sup>74</sup>Then he began to call down curses, and he swore to them, "I don't know the man!"

Immediately a rooster crowed. <sup>75</sup>Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly.

## 409 Jesus, Refuge of the Weary



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, blest Re - deem - er,  
2 Dare we pass that cross un - heed - ing, breath - ing no re -  
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing with more fer - vent



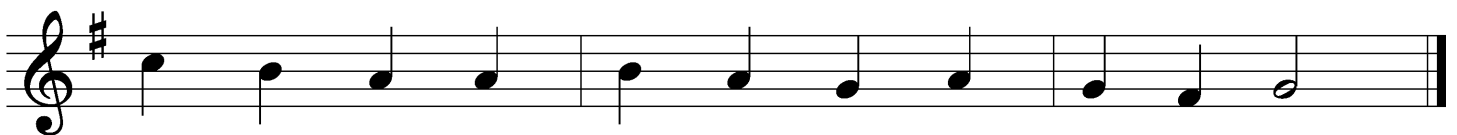
whom we love, foun - tain in life's des - ert drear - y, Sav - ior  
pent - ant vow, as we see you wound - ed, bleed - ing, see your  
love for you! May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing to be -



from the world a - bove, of - ten have your eyes, of - fend - ed,  
thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Since your sin - less death has brought us  
hold your cross a - new, till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er



gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; yet, up - on the  
life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest, on - ly what your  
from the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, grav - en in our



cross ex - tend - ed, you en - dured the pain of all.  
grace has taught us calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.  
hearts for - ev - er dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied!

Text: tr. Jane F. Wilde, 1826–1896, alt.; Girolamo Savonarola, 1452–1498

Tune: Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz, Basel, 1745

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

*Mark 11:12-14,20-25*

<sup>12</sup> The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry. <sup>13</sup> Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to find out if it had any fruit. When he reached

it, he found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs. <sup>14</sup> Then he said to the tree, “May no one ever eat fruit from you again.” And his disciples heard him say it.

<sup>20</sup> In the morning, as they went along, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots. <sup>21</sup> Peter remembered and said to Jesus, “Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has withered!”

<sup>22</sup> “Have faith in God,” Jesus answered. <sup>23</sup> “Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them. <sup>24</sup> Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. <sup>25</sup> And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.”

### **Responsive Prayer**

Gracious Lord, according to your will and promise,  
**you sent your Son into our world to atone for sin and restore eternal life.**

You planned his path to the cross,  
**and he followed it perfectly.**

He confronted the blindness of unbelief, the confusion of doubt, and the hurt of death  
**but was not deterred as he proclaimed your kingdom to the least, the last, and the lost.**

As we hear and contemplate the holy record of our Savior’s passion and death,  
**use the sharp message of the law to empty us of pride and self-reliance.**

Humble us as we view the Savior in his humility,  
**remembering and believing that he endured the cross so we might be freed from its horror.**

In his suffering show us our healing,  
**in his grief show us our joy,**

and in his death show us our life.

**Hear our prayers, Lord, for the sake of Jesus. Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

## Blessing

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us.  
May God bless us still, so that all the ends of the earth will fear him.

## 786 Now the Day Is Over



1 Now the day is o - ver, night is draw - ing nigh;  
2 Je - sus, give the wea - ry calm and sweet re - pose;  
3 Com - fort ev - 'ry suf - f'rer watch - ing late in pain;  
4 Thro' the long night watch - es may your an - gels spread  
5 When the morn - ing wak - ens, then may I a - rise



shad - ows of the eve - ning steal a - cross the sky.  
with your ten - d'rest bless - ing may my eye - lids close.  
those who plan some e - vil, from their sin re - strain.  
their bright wings a - bove me, watch - ing round my bed.  
pure and fresh and sin - less in your ho - ly eyes.

Text: Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924, abr., alt.

Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

Text and tune: Public domain

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