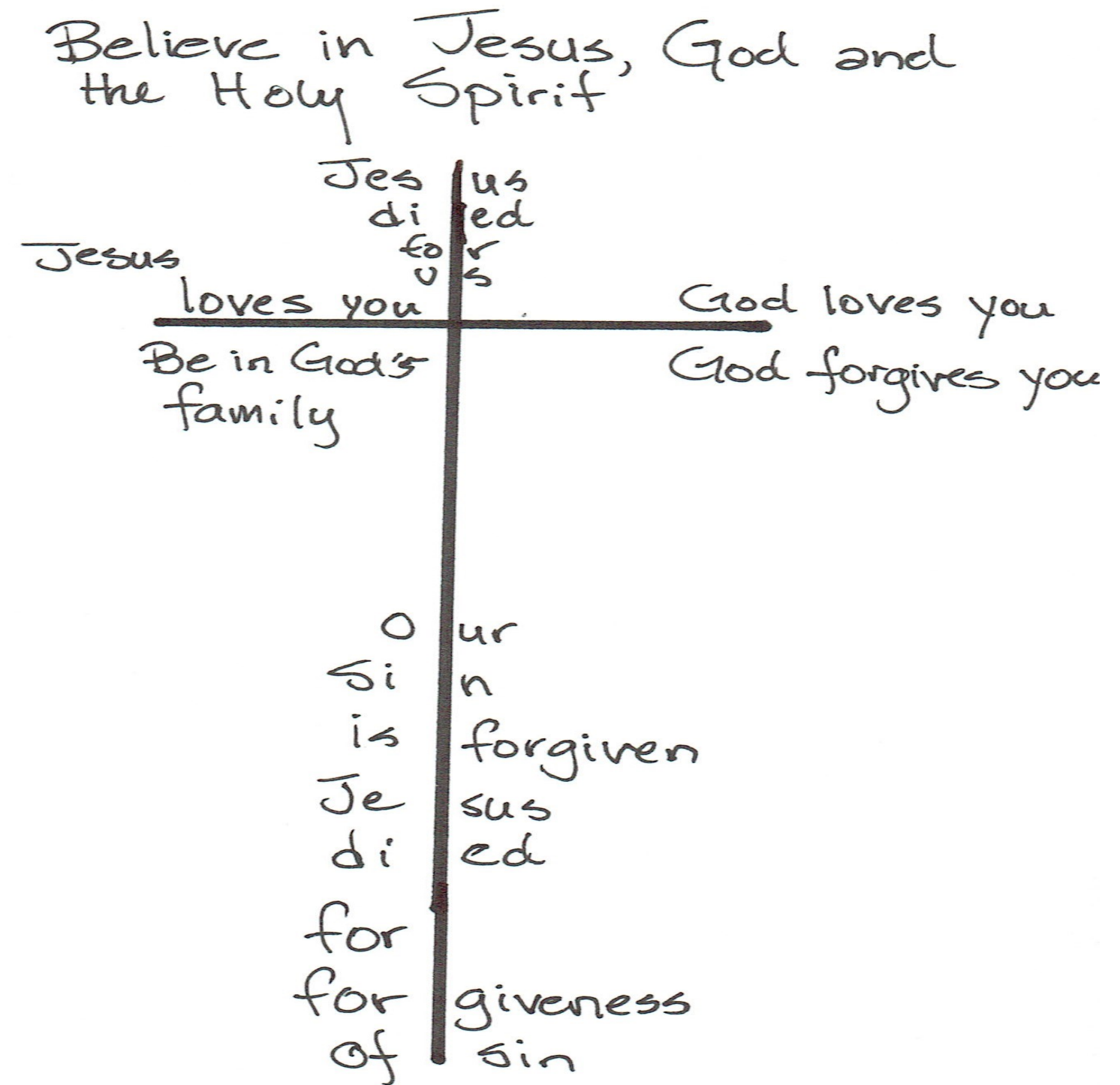


Listening for the Promise
Weekly Devotional
Palm/Passion Sunday - April 2, 2023

“And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many.” -Matthew 27:50-53-

When our first parents fell into sin, three things happened: 1) they were cast out of Eden; 2) they became mortal, and 3) God's curse fell upon creation. Thus, the wages of their sin were death, the curse, and separation from God. But in His life, death, and resurrection, Jesus undid the effects of sin. As the second Adam, Jesus did what the first Adam should have done, and He also made up for what the first Adam did wrong. Jesus lived a holy life in our place, took our sins upon Himself, died in our place, and rose from the dead. Through His death on the cross, Jesus removed the guilt of our sin. And through His resurrection, He broke the power of sin and death. In the verses above, we see that Jesus' death and resurrection reversed the effects of Adam's sin: death, the curse, and separation from God. When Jesus died “the earth shook, and the rocks were split.” This was a sign that Jesus' death echoed throughout the creation, reversing the curse in principle. Also, the raising of the dead showed that Jesus had broken the power of death in principle. But the most immediate effect was the tearing of the temple curtain in two. This was a sign that Jesus' death restored our communion with God, not merely in principle but in effect.

The Temple demonstrated that God was present in the midst of His people. However, God's presence was separated from the rest of the Temple by a curtain. God dwelt in the Holy of Holies, and no one could enter this space except the High Priest. And he could enter only once per year on the Day of Atonement to make atonement for the sins of the people. The curtain was thus a sign that God remained separated from His people even in the midst of His presence with them. And He remained separated since a full and proper atonement had yet to be made for sin. However, when Jesus died upon the cross, He took our sins upon Himself and made a full atonement for us. As a result, full communion with God was permanently restored to humanity. The curtain separating us from God has been permanently removed. We have been restored to Eden. And one day creation itself will be a New Eden, even as death will be no more. Christ's atonement is not just personal but is also cosmic in its scope.



WB

PALM SUNDAY—PASSION SUNDAY

Holy Communion 11:00 AM

April 2, 2023

*Gathering

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna to the Son of David.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

.....through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

*The Processional Gospel:

John 12:12-19

C: Glory to you, O Lord. (response after announcement of the Gospel)

C: Praise to you, O Christ. (response after conclusion of the Gospel)

*Blessing of the Palms

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: We praise and thank You, O God.....now and forever.

C: Amen.

*The Procession

P: Let us go forth in peace.

C: in the name of Christ. Amen

*The Processional Hymn

All Glory Laud and Honor

(ELW) No. 344

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna in the highest.

*The Confession and Forgiveness

(ELW) page 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy.....of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Sign-up sheets are posted to host a coffee hour in 2023. Please write your names under the month you would like to host. The coffee hours have been a wonderful time of fellowship and the hosts have been awesome! Thank you!!

Sign-up sheets are posted for Lay Readers in 2023. Please sign up.

Bell Choir practice on Monday at 6 PM..

April 6th at 7:00 PM will be Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion.

April 7th at 3 PM will be Good Friday Service (one service only).

April 9th at 11 AM Easter Sunday Service with Holy Communion.

Counters and Greeters today are R. Williams and L. Coleman.

Welcome to our Visitors! The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have questions, please see the pastor or contact the church office.

Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church? Please contact Pastor Grewe.

Nursery: We welcome all children to be a part of worship, but we realize that sometimes the service can be too long for the little ones. We have a nursery for those attending to the needs of infants and small children. There is a speaker in the nursery so that parents can still hear the service. You are welcome to use the nursery for the entire service, or just a small part.

Please remember to continue contributing donations to our girls in Ethiopia.
Please consider this as a call to help others in need.

The Flower Chart for 2023 is posted in the narthex. If you wish to place flowers, (real or artificial) near the altar, sign your name opposite the date of your choice. You will be reminded of your date and asked for the wording you want in the bulletin two weeks before the due date. Thank you.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God,.....in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*The Apostolic Greeting (ELW) page 138

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

*The Kyrie (*sung response*) (ELW) page 138

P:, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

*The Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: Almighty and everlasting God, You have sent Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross, that all of humanity should follow the example of His great humility. Mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of His patience and also be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.

First Lesson

L: The Word of the Lord
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Musical Offering

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

(Bell Choir)

The Psalmody For The Day (read responsively)

Psalm 31:9-16

⁹ Have mercy upon me, O LORD, for I am in trouble: mine eye is consumed with grief, yea, my soul and my belly.

¹⁰ For my life is spent with grief, and my years with sighing: my strength faileth because of mine iniquity, and my bones are consumed.

¹¹ I was a reproach among all mine enemies, but especially among my neighbours, and a fear to mine acquaintance: they that did see me without fled from me.

¹² I am forgotten as a dead man out of mind: I am like a broken vessel.

¹³ For I have heard the slander of many: fear was on every side: while they took counsel together against me, they devised to take away my life.

¹⁴ But I trusted in Thee, O LORD: I said, Thou art my God.

¹⁵ My times are in Thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me.

¹⁶ Make Thy face to shine upon Thy servant: save me for Thy mercies' sake.

First Lutheran Church

92 W. Walnut St., Washington, PA

724-225-4040

e-mail: secretary@flcwash.church

website: www.flcwash.church

The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

revrob@flcwash.church

Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

The Flowers on the Chancel are given to the glory of God .

Lay Reader is Dennis Schmidt.

Acolytes are Jacin Flowers and Trevor Flowers

Counters are R. Williams and L. Coleman

Please pray for those in need of healing:

Janet Burke, Eveline Reihner, Carol, Shari Kienzle, Chiquita, Stacy Carroll, Billie Sue Serbak, Susan Westott, Fred Dupas, baby Isaac Christian, the Pollana family, Amy Verderber, Sylvia Sunstrum, Kevin Ryan, baby Ryan, Dan, Fritz Group, Amy, Lucy & Dave Mehaffey, Jessi, Bill Hisiro, Richard, Klaus Behrens, Joanne Reck, Bill Stewart, Morgan, Sharon Fritz, Tim & Karen Edwards, Tom Liam, Gary, Daniel, Judy Dombrowsky, Emily Buchleitner, Jean Erdmann, Greg Mason, Alexandra Perry, Lu Mayne, Pat, Chaz Sands, Rev. Phil Gagnon, Jacob, Maxine Banko, Brooke, Ellen, Jacob Orr, USN, Jammie, Roger, John Bartanus, Becky & Chuck, Rosemary Dittman, Marty Hebrank, Noah Walker, Janet Williams, Nathan, Mary, the Lobach Family, Pastor Grewe, Debbie, and Sayward

Lift High the Cross

660

Second Lesson

Philippians 2:5-11

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Gospel

St. Matthew 26:1-27:66

*Please rise at St. Matthew 27:15

*The Hymn of the Day

My Song is Love Unknown

(SBH) No. 65

*The Prayers of the Church

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our Prayer.

*Sharing the Peace

*The Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

(ELW) No. 188

*The Great Thanksgiving

(ELW) page 144

The Distribution

Communion Hymn

Ah, Holy Jesus

(ELW) No. 349

*The Benediction (sung response)

C: Amen, Amen, Amen.

*The Recessional Hymn

Lift High the Cross

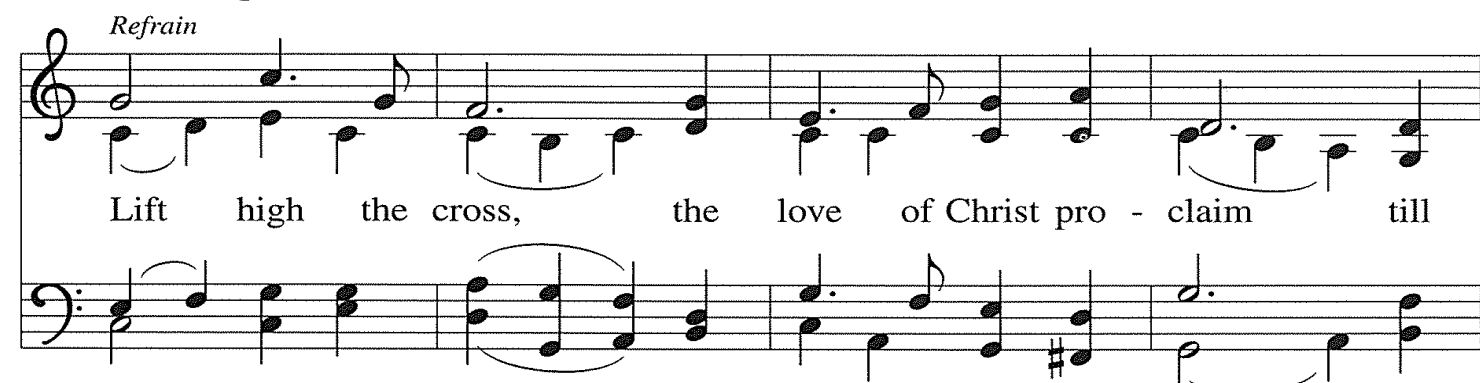
(ELW) No. 660

*The Dismissal (response)


C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

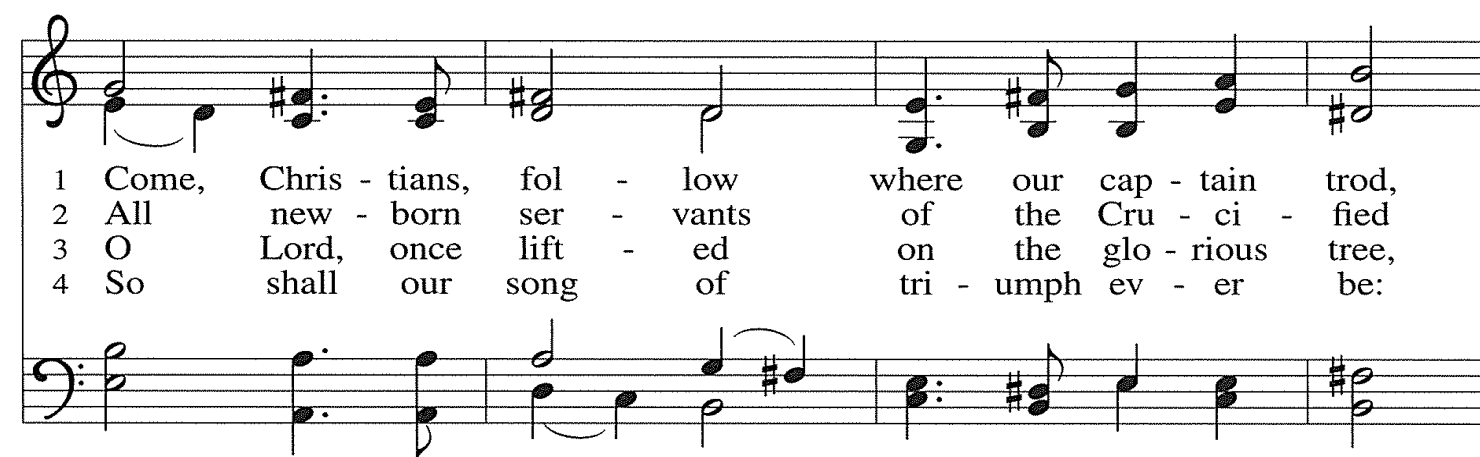
Refrain



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

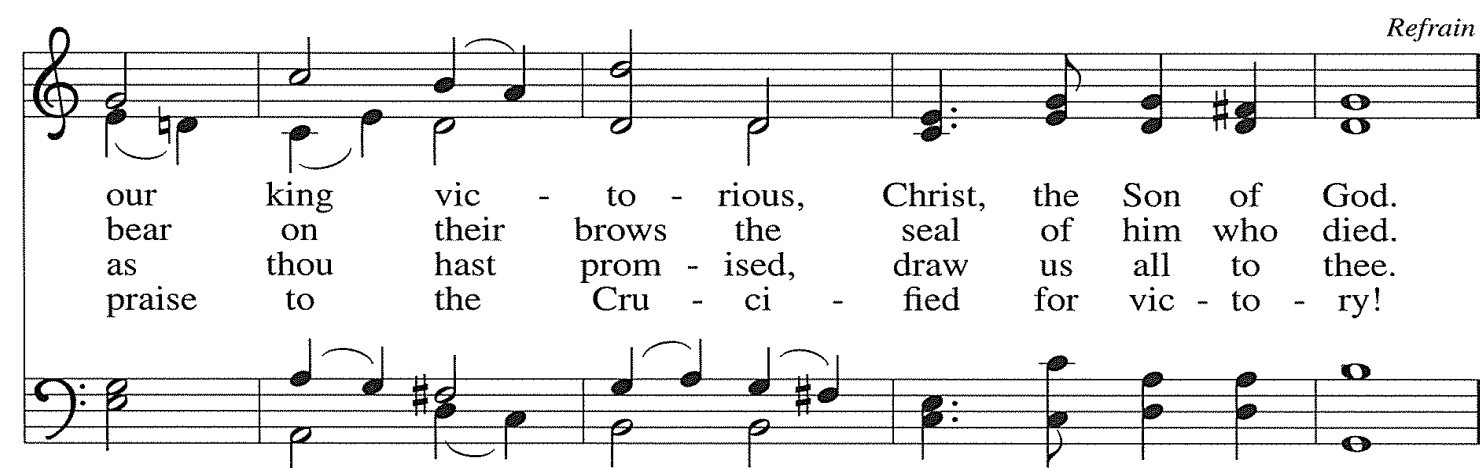


all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;
 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
 4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
 5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain

now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.
 cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.
 our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
 To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that we to
 2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
 3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath
 4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
 5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -

judge thee have in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
 trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
 sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,
 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish
 dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee; think on thy pit - y

by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
 I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.
 while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.
 and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
 and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Slowly and devotionally

1. My song is love un-known, My Sav-iour's love to me; Love to the love-less
2. He came from his blest throne Sal - va-tion to be-stow; But men made strange, and

shown That they might love-ly be. O who am I, That for my sake My
none The longed-for Christ would know. But O, my friend, My friend in - deed, Who

Lord should take Frail flesh, and die? My Lord should take Frail flesh, and die?
at my need His life did spend! Who at my need His life did spend!

3 Sometimes they strew his way
And his sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day
Hosannas to their king.
Then 'Crucify!'
Is all their breath,
And for his death
They thirst and cry.

5 They rise, and needs will have
My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save,
The Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful he
To suffering goes,
That he his foes
From thence might free.

4 Why, what hath my Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
He gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries!
Yet they at these
Themselves displease,
And 'gainst him rise.

6 Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine;
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like thine.
This is my friend,
In whose sweet praise
I all my days
Could gladly spend.