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Gathering For Worship

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GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF WITNESS

On the hill of Calvary—
Place to end all hope of living—
The most precious Word of life
Breathed his last and died, forgiving,
For the good of us all.

And he's here when we call him ...

John Bell & Graham Maule © The Iona Community



So we will embrace this grace and turn our hearts to face grace.
Loosening the locks on our personal space, we'll make each home a place of grace.

We'll drink from your wells 'til we're wasted on grace; we'll speak out your words 'til our tongues taste of grace.

And we'll live to love your laws until our lives are laced with grace.

Down dark and dingy alleys
we will chase grace.
We will hold as something precious
every trace of grace.
We will celebrate and consecrate this grace,
because this grace we have been given
is enough.

Gerard Kelly Spoken Worship Zondervan © 2007

IN A BYRE NEAR BETHLEHEM,

Passed by many a wandering stranger, The most precious Word of life Was heard gurgling in a manger, For the good of us all.

And he's here when we call him, Bringing health, love and laughter To life now and ever after, For the good of us all.

Quiet was Gethsemane, Camouflaging priest and soldier; The most precious Word of life Took the world's weight on his shoulder, For the good of us all.

And he's here when we call him ...

THE ARREST

While he was still speaking a crowd came up, and the man who was called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him, but Jesus asked him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"

When Jesus' followers saw what was going to happen, they said, "Lord, should we strike with our swords?" And one of them struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear.

But Jesus answered, "No more of this!" And he touched the man's ear and healed him.

Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple guard,and the elders, who had come for him, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come with swords and clubs? Every day I was with you in the temple courts, and you did not lay a hand on me. But this is your hour—when darkness reigns."

Luke 22:47-53

Loving God,
today, in remembrance and awe,
we tread the holy ground of Calvary:
this place of abandonment
that has become the scene of our adoration,
this place of suffering
that has become the source of our peace,
this place of violence
that has become the battlefield
on which love is victorious.

Merciful God,
as we relive the events of this day,
it is with awe
that we count again the cost of our salvation.
Words cannot be found
to express our thanksgiving.
Accept our adoration;
in Jesus' name.
Amen.

JESUS CHRIST, I THINK UPON YOUR SACRIFICE,

You became nothing, poured out to death.

Many times I've wondered at Your gift of life,
and I'm in that place once again.
and I'm in that place once again.

And once again I look upon the cross where You died; I'm humbled by Your mercy and I'm broken inside. Once again I thank You, once again I pour out my life.

Thank You for the cross, thank You for the cross, thank You for the cross, my Friend. Thank You for the cross, thank You for the cross, thank You for the cross, my Friend.

And once again I look upon the cross where You died; I'm humbled by Your mercy and I'm broken inside. Once again I thank You, once again I pour out my life.

Matt Redman © 1995 Thankyou Music

DEATH

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, "Surely this was a righteous man." When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away. But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Luke 23:44-49

This grace we have been given is enough.
When the mountains set before us
won't move by faith
until by faith we start to climb,
it is enough.
When our cry for heaven's miracles
rings hollow,
like a doorbell howling in an empty house,
it is enough.

When from our waiting rooms of weakness
we say yes to pressing on,
it is enough.
When we have reached the end of our energies
and face the end of ourselves
but can't yet see the end of the task,
it is enough.

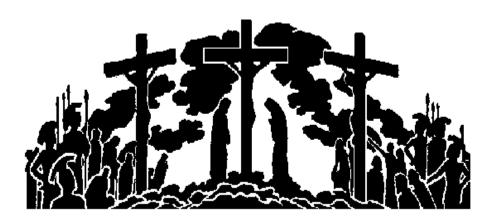
Enough
to know that you have loved us.
Enough
that we are called before all time.
Enough
that every fingerprint is valued.
Enough
that you remember every name.

YOU CHOSE THE CROSS

with every breath,
the perfect life, the perfect death:
you chose the cross.
A crown of thorns you wore for us,
and crowned us with eternal life:
you chose the cross.
And though your soul
was overwhelmed with pain,
obedient to death, you overcame.

I'm lost in wonder, I'm lost in love, I'm lost in praise for evermore. Because of Jesus' unfailing love, I am forgiven, I am restored.

Martin Layzell ©2002 Thankyou Music



THE TRIAL

At daybreak the council of the elders of the people, both the chief priests and the teachers of the law, met together, and Jesus was led before them. "If you are the Messiah," they said, "tell us."

Jesus answered, "If I tell you, you will not believe me, and if I asked you, you would not answer. But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the mighty God ."

They all asked, "Are you then the Son of God?"

He replied, "You say that I am."

Then they said, "Why do we need any more testimony? We have heard it from his own lips."

Then the whole assembly rose and led him off to Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying, "We have found this man subverting our nation. He opposes payment of taxes to Caesar and claims to be Messiah, a king."

So Pilate asked Jesus, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

"You have said so," Jesus replied.

Then Pilate announced to the chief priests and the crowd, "I find no basis for a charge against this man."

But they insisted, "He stirs up the people all over Judea by his teaching. He started in Galilee and has come all the way here."

On hearing this, Pilate asked if the man was a Galilean. When he learned that Jesus was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod,who was also in Jerusalem at that time.

Luke 22:66-23:7

God, when we choose the way of violence, responding to terror with aggression and striking back in hatred and revenge:

Forgive us, and help us to choose the way of the cross.

God, when we collude with injustice, accepting as inevitable the ways of the world and refusing to stand for your truth:

Forgive us, and help us to choose the way of the cross.

God, when we betray our deepest ideals, taking the safer step of compromise and turning away from integrity:

Forgive us, and help us to choose the way of the cross.

God, who met evil with love, lies with truth, and collusion with integrity, help us to choose your way.

Help us to choose the way of the cross.

Amen.

MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN,

My Saviour's love to me:
Love to the loveless shown,
That they might lovely be.
O who am I, that for my sake
My Lord should take frail flesh and die?

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.

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.

Samuel Crossman (1624-1683)

THE CRUCIFIXION

As the soldiers led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. Jesus turned and said to them, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. For the time will come when you will say, 'Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then

"they will say to the mountains, "Fall on us!" and to the hills, "Cover us!"

For if people do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One."

The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."

There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

Luke 23:26-38



We keep silence