

Good Friday
Meditations on the Seven Last Words of Christ from the Cross
March 29, 2024

HYMN 111 Jesus, in thy dying woes

Swedish Litany

Part I

“Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.” (Luke 23:34)

1. Jesus, in thy dying woes, / Even when thy lifeblood flows,
Craving pardon for thy foes: / Hear us, holy Jesus.
2. Savor, for our pardon sue, / When our sins thy pangs renew,
For we know not what we do: / Hear us, holy Jesus.
3. O may we, who mercy need, / Be like thee in heart and deed,
When with wrong our spirits bleed: / Hear us, holy Jesus.

Part II

“Verily I say unto thee, today shalt thou be with me in paradise.” (Luke 23:43)

1. Jesus, pitying the sighs / Of the thief who near thee dies,
Promising him paradise: / Hear us, holy Jesus.
2. May we, in our guilt and shame, / Still thy love and mercy claim,
Calling humbly on thy name: / Hear us, holy Jesus.
3. O remember us who pine, / Looking from our cross to thine;
Cheer our souls with hope divine: / Hear us, holy Jesus.

Part III

“Woman, behold thy son!” “Behold thy mother!” (John 19:26, 27)

1. Jesus, loving to the end / Her whose heart thy sorrows rend,
And thy dearest human friend: / Hear us, holy Jesus.
2. May we in thy sorrows share, / And for thee all peril dare,
And enjoy thy tender care: / Hear us, holy Jesus.
3. May we all thy loved ones be, / All one holy family,
Loving for the love of thee: / Hear us, holy Jesus.

Part IV

"My god, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46)

1. Jesus, whelmed in fears unknown, / With our evil left alone,
While no light from heav'n is shown: / Hear us, holy Jesus.
2. When we vainly seem to pray, / And our hope seems far away,
In the darkness be our stay: / Hear us, holy Jesus.
3. Though no Father seem to hear, / Though no light our spirits cheer,
Tell our faith that God is near: / Hear us, holy Jesus.

Part V

"I thirst." (John 19:28)

1. Jesus, in thy first and pain, / While thy wounds thy life-blood drain,
Thirsting more our love to gain: / Hear us, holy Jesus.
2. Thirst for us in mercy still, / All thy holy work fulfill,
Satisfy thy loving will: / Hear us, holy Jesus.
3. May we thirst thy love to know; / Lead us in our sin and woe
Where the healing waters flow: / Hear us, holy Jesus.

Part VI

"It is finished." (John 19:30)

1. Jesus, all our ransom paid, / All thy Father's will obeyed,
By thy suff'rings perfect made: / Hear us, holy Jesus.
2. Save us in our soul's distress; / Be our help to cheer and bless,
While we grow in holiness: / Hear us, holy Jesus.
3. Brighten all our heav'nward way / With an ever holier ray
Till we pass to perfect day: / Hear us, holy Jesus.

Part VII

"Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34)

1. Jesus, all thy labor vast, / All thy woe and conflict past,
Yielding up thy soul at last: / Hear us, holy Jesus.
2. When the death shades round us lower, / Save us from the tempter's pow'r,
Keep us in that trial hour: / Hear us, holy Jesus.
3. May thy life and death supply / Grace to live and grace to die,
Grace to reach the home on high: / Hear us, holy Jesus.

Text: Thomas Benson Pollock, 1870. Tune: Swedish melody, 1697.

HYMN 122 O sorrow deep!

O Traurigkeit

1. O sorrow deep!
Who would not weep / With heartfelt pain and sighing!
Now and even unto death, / Dearest Lord, be near me.

2. O Jesus blest,
My help and rest, / With tears I pray thee: hear me.
Now and even unto death, / Dearest Lord, be near me.

Text: st. 1, Friedrich von Spee (1591-1635); st. 2, Johann Rist (1607-1667);
tr. Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). Tr. © Church Publishing, Inc. Tune: *Himmlische Harmony*, 1628.

HYMN 118 Go to dark Gethsemane

Petra

1. Go to dark Gethsemane, / Ye that feel the tempter's power;
Your Redeemer's conflict see, / Watch with him one bitter hour;
Turn not from his griefs away, / Learn of Jesus Christ to pray.
2. Follow to the judgment hall; / View the Lord of life arraigned;
O the wormwood and the gall! / O the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; / Learn of him to bear the cross.
3. Calvary's mournful mountain climb; / There, adoring at his feet,
Mark the miracle of time, / God's own sacrifice complete;
"It is finished!" hear him cry; / Learn of Jesus Christ to die.

Text: James Montgomery, 1825. Tune: Richard Redhead, 1853.