

## A Service of Darkness

Seven Choral Meditations on the Last Words of Christ

Written by Dale Wood

FBC Chancel Choir, Directed by Billy Ralph Winkler

Accompanied by Joby Bell, organist

Narrated by Rev. Jordan Humler

*My God my God, why hast thou forsaken me? Matthew 27:46*

### **Bound Upon the Accursed Tree**

Bound upon the accursed tree, faint and bleeding, who is He?  
By the eyes so pale and dim, streaming blood and writhing limb?  
By the flesh with scourges torn, by the crown of twisted thorn  
By the side so deeply pierced, by the baffled, burning thirst?  
Bound upon the accursed tree, dread and awful, who is He?  
By the sun at noonday pale, shiv'ring rocks and rending veil?  
Lo, beneath the blackened sky, hear His last and bitter cry.  
Crucified, we know Thee now: Son of God! 'Tis Thou! 'Tis thou!

*I thirst. John 19:28*

### **Jesus, In Thy Thirst and Pain**

Jesus, in Thy thirst and pain, while Thy wounds Thy lifeblood drain;  
Thirsting more our love to gain, thirsting more our love to gain.  
Thirst for us in mercy still, all Thy holy work fulfill;  
Satisfy Thy loving will, satisfy Thy loving will.  
May we thirst Thy love to know; lead us in our sin and woe,  
Lead us where the healing waters flow, where the healing waters flow.

*It is finished. John 19:30*

### **O Perfect Life of Love**

O perfect life of love, o perfect life of love, all is finished now.  
O perfect life of love, o perfect life of love, all is finished now.  
All that He left His throne above to do for us below; all, all is finished now.  
No pain that we can share but He has felt its smart,  
All forms of human grief and care have pierced that tender heart.  
All is finished now, all is finished now. In perfect love He dies for me!  
All is finished now.  
O all-atoning sacrifice, I cling by faith to Thee, I cling by faith to Thee.  
All is finished now.

*Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit. Luke 23:46*

### **Behold the Lamb of God**

Behold the Lamb of God, bowed down in bitter pain;  
To God His dying prayer ascends.  
In death, my Lord and Savior, may I cry with Thee:  
"My Father I commend my Spirit into Thy loving hands."  
I die in Thee.

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

### **O Come and Mourn with Me Awhile**

O come and mourn with me awhile; O come ye to the Savior's side;  
O come together and let us mourn: Jesus, our Lord, is crucified!  
Have we no tears to shed for Him, while soldiers scoff and foes deride?  
How patiently, how patiently He hangs: Jesus, our Lord, is crucified.  
Seven times He spoke, seven words of love;  
And all three hours His silence cried for mercy on the souls of men:  
Jesus, our Lord, is crucified.  
O love of God, o sin of man! In this dread act your strength is tried:  
And victory remains with love. For He, our Love, is crucified!

*Today, shalt thou be with me in paradise. Luke 23:43*

### **Hear Us, Holy Jesus**

Hear us, Holy Jesus, hear us, Holy Jesus, hear us, Holy Jesus.  
Jesus, pitying the sighs of the thief, who near Thee dies, promising him paradise:  
Hear us, Holy Jesus.  
May we in our guilt and shame still Thy love and mercy claim,  
Calling humbly on Thy name: Hear us Holy Jesus,  
Hear us, holy Jesus, hear us, Holy Jesus.  
May our hearts to Thee incline, looking from our cross to Thine;  
Cheer our souls with hope divine: Here us, Holy Jesus. Hear us, Holy Jesus.

*Woman, behold thy son! Behold thy mother! John 19:26-27*

### **At the Cross, Her Station Keeping**

At the cross, her station keeping stood the mournful mother weeping,  
Where He hung, the dying Lord.  
For her soul, of joy bereaved, bowed with anguish,  
Deeply grieved, felt the sharp and piercing sword.  
O how sad and sore distressed now was she,  
That mother blessed, of the sole begotten One.  
Deep in woe of her affliction, when she saw the crucifixion of her ever glorious Son.  
Jesus, may her deep devotion stir in me the same emotion,  
Fount of love, Redeemer kind,  
That my heart, fresh ardor gaining and a purer love attaining,  
May with Thee acceptance find.