

HOMILY — *Embracing an Instrument of Death?*

13 Behold, my servant shall act wisely;  
 he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted.

14 As many were astonished at you—  
 his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,  
 and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—

15 so shall he sprinkle many nations.  
 Kings shall shut their mouths because of him,  
 for that which has not been told them they see,  
 and that which they have not heard they understand.

5 But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities;  
 upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,  
 and with his wounds we are healed.

11 Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge  
 shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous,  
 and he shall bear their iniquities.

12 Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the  
 spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death  
 and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many,  
 and makes intercession for the transgressors.

Isaiah 52:13-15; 53:5, 11-12 (ESV)

MEDITATIVE RESPONSE  
*The Old Rugged Cross*

Clyde Patterson  
George Bennard

*LITANY ON THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS*  
**THE PASSION OF OUR LORD**

LESSON I — **Matthew 26:36-46**

*Jesus' disciples fall asleep in the Garden of Gethsemane*

RESPONSE

*(134) Jesus Paid It All*

ALL TO CHRIST

{FIRST CANDLE EXTINGUISHED}

LESSON II — **Matthew 26:47-56**

*Judas betrays Jesus with a kiss*

RESPONSE

*(146) Oh How He Loves You and Me*

PATRICIA

{SECOND CANDLE EXTINGUISHED}

LESSON III — **Matthew 26:57-68**

*Jesus before the Sanhedrin*

MEDITATIVE RESPONSE

*What Wondrous Love Is This*

Karen Sawyer

William Walker

{THIRD CANDLE EXTINGUISHED}

LESSON IV — **Matthew 26:69-75**

*Peter's denial*

MEDITATIVE RESPONSE

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

Jane Gravely/Flute

Watts/Mason

{FOURTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED}

LESSON V — **Matthew 27:15-26**

*Jesus before Pilate*

RESPONSE

*(145) Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed*

AVON

{FIFTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED}

LESSON VI — **Matthew 27:27-44**

*The soldiers mock Jesus*

MEDITATIVE RESPONSE

*O Sacred Head Now Wounded*

Clyde Patterson

J. S. Bach

{SIXTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED}

LESSON VII — **Matthew 27:45-50**

*The death of Jesus*

RESPONSE

*(156) Were You There* stanzas 1-3

WERE YOU THERE

{CHRIST CANDLE EXTINGUISHED}

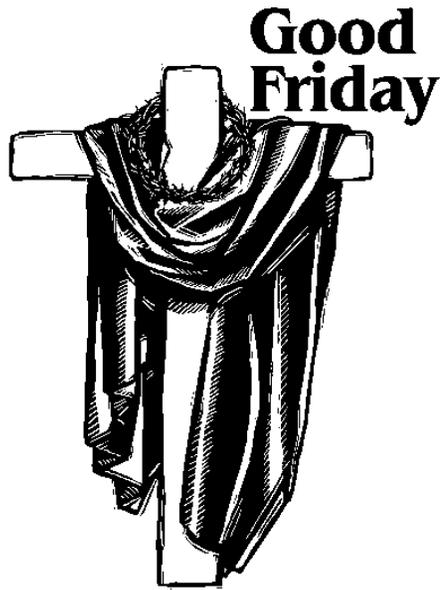
(Brief Silence)  
(Bell Tolling)

LESSON VIII — **Matthew 27:51-54**

*"Surely, he was the Son of God."*

SILENCE

*(Please remain seated in silence until lighting is returned to facilitate leaving. Silence is observed throughout the sanctuary from this time forward. Each person is encouraged to pray and meditate as he or she desires, then to depart in silence.)*



*“Tenebrae” is a Latin word meaning shadows or darkness. This service is a commemoration of the Passion; its most significant feature is the gradual extinguishing of the candles on the altar. The bare altar table emphasizes the starkness of the events recalled. The candles represent the apostles of Christ, and the larger candle represents Christ. The climax of the service is the complete darkness and the tolling of the bell signifying the death of Jesus.*

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### MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Preacher	The Reverend J. Kenneth Byrd, Jr. <i>Pastor of Nashville Baptist Church</i>
Director of Music	Blaine Pittman <i>Director of Church Music &amp; Education</i>
Pianist	Karen Sawyer <i>Church Musician</i>
Organist	Clyde Patterson <i>Organist</i>

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# NASHVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

## Solemn Service of Tenebrae

**GOOD FRIDAY**  
**APRIL 7, 2023**  
**SEVEN O’CLOCK IN THE EVENING**



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ORGAN PRELUDE: Karen Sawyer and Clyde Patterson  
*God So Loved the World* Stainer/arr. Smith/Hustad

OPENING PRAYER: Rev. J. Kenneth Byrd, Jr.

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: Let us pray: *(a brief silence)*

Suffering God, whose compassion is with all your children in their times of need and whose purposes will prevail in spite of opposition, injustice, and death, take us once more to Gethsemane and to Calvary to face the cross. Let us share the experience of loneliness, rejection, and pain in such a way that we are strengthened to live as people of the covenant who inspire one another to love and give encouragement to those facing bitter trials. Forsake not your children, we pray, for we trust you and want to respond to your leading.

All: **Amen.**