***Wind IN THE WILDERNESS***

**Lenten Worship Series – Good Friday**

***The Day I Was Crucified***

**April 15, 2022**

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| **WORSHIP SERVICE OUTLINE**S  Each worship outline contains all elements needed for your worship service. The order of each service presented is only a *suggestion*. No doubt changes will be needed to accommodate the flow and worship style of your corps. The outlines are flexible and allow opportunities to “cut and paste” as needed. If you are blessed with instrumental or vocal music resources, you may find there is more structured material here than needed. Sermon manuscripts are included as a *sample* and not to be preached verbatim. |

**[NOTE: This Good Friday Service is a drama in 6 scenes with three Readers. It portrays the crucifixion events from Jesus’ point of view. Meeting leader should be prepared to lead invitation near end of service. See script at end of document for production details.]**

**Welcome/Invocation**

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| **SB#89/HC#161/SOS#48 – O for a thousand tongues to sing** | TB-59 – Azmon  TB-75 – Grimsby  HC-161  SOS-48 | HTD3-T4 (4 vs.)  No HT CD  HCD15-T11 |
| **Additional Optional Songs** | | |
| **SB#451/HC#71/SOS#107 – Would you be free from your burden of sin?** | TB-945 – Wonder-working power  HC-71  SOS-107 | No HT CD  HCD6-T11 |
| **SB#379/HC#78/SOS#44 – Lord, I lift Your name on high** | TB-948 – You came from Heaven to earth  HC-78  SOS-44 | No HT CD  HCD6-T18 |
| **HC#162 – The Power of the Cross** | HC-162 | HCD15-T12 |
| **SB#160/HC#184 – Behold! behold the Lamb of God** | TB-290 – Behold the Lamb  HC-184 | No HT CD  HCD17-T14 |
| **SB#223/HC#278 – I know He rescued my soul** | TB-768 – My redeemer lives  HC-278 | No HT CD  HCD26-T18 |
| **HC#294 – Glorious Day** | HC-294 | HCD28-T14 |
| **SB#139 – He came to give us life** | TB-645 – same | No HT CD |
| **SB#167 – Hail, Thou once despisèd Jesus** | TB-370 – Hyfrydol | HTD1-T14 (3 vs.) |
| **SB#241 - And can it be** | TB-445 – Sagina | HTD4-T13 (4 vs.) |
| **SB#421/SOS#80 – Have you been to Jesus for the cleansing power?** | TB-557 – Are you washed?  SOS-80 | HTD7-T2 (3 vs.) |

***Scene 1***

**Reader 1:** I was whipped.

**Reader 2:** Mocked.

**Reader 3:** Beaten.

**Reader 1:** I was given a crown of thorns.

**Reader 2:** A scepter made of reeds.

**Reader 3:** A purple robe.

**Reader 1:** The soldiers showed me no mercy.

**Reader 2:** They called out the entire regiment.

**Reader 3:** They continued their ‘game’ until they tired of it.

**Reader 1:** Then they led me away to be crucified.

**Reader 2:** Jesus was in no shape to carry his cross through the streets.

**Reader 3:** He struggled under its weight; his body already broken.

**Reader 1:** I would not make it to Golgotha on my own.

**Reader 2:** The soldiers surveyed the crowd.

**Reader 3:** One man stood out.

**Reader 1:** [*‘looking at him’*] Simon of Cyrene.

**Reader 2:** The soldiers seized him.

**Reader 3:** Christ’s cross was forced upon him.

**Reader 2:** Simon hesitated, surprised that he had gone from spectator to participant.

**Reader 3:** He took a step [*slight pause*] and then another.

**Reader 1:** He knew who I was.

**Reader 2:** Simon knew of his teachings.

**Reader 3:** He knew of his miracles.

**Reader 2:** Some said he was the Son of God.

**Reader 3:** Some called him the Messiah.

**Reader 1:** Simon looked into my eyes. He *knew* who I was.

**Reader 2:** Simon adjusted the beam on his back and started moving with purpose.

**Reader 3:** They soon came to Golgotha, the Place of the Skull.

**Reader 2:** The cross was removed from Simon’s back. His task was done.

**Reader 3:** But he was not finished with this Jesus.

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| **HC#162 – The Power of the Cross** | HC-162 | HCD15-T12 |
| **Additional Optional Songs** | | |
| **SB#182/HC#12/SOS#121 – Lord, make Calvary real to me** | TB-741 – same  HC-12  SOS-121 | No HT CD  HCD1B-T12 |
| **HC#94/SOS#97 – Lamb of God** | HC-94  SOS-97 | HCD8-T14 |
| **SB#32/HC#127 – How deep the Father’s love for us** | TB-663 – same  HC-27 | No HT CD  HCD11-T17 |
| **HC#136 – We All Bow Down** | HC-136 | HCD12-T16 |
| **HC#156 – Enter In** | HC-156 | HCD14-T16 |
| **SB#160/HC#184 – Behold! behold the Lamb of God** | TB-290 – Behold the Lamb  HC-184 | No HT CD  HCD17-T14 |
| **SB#376/HC#219 – King of kings, majesty** | TB-722 – same  HC-219 | No HT CD  HCD20-T19 |
| **HC#226 – I Worship You** | HC-226 | HCD21-T16 |
| **SB#161 – Beneath the cross of Jesus** | TB-574 – same | No HT CD |
| **HC#253 – Jesus Paid it All** | HC-253 | HCD24-T13 |
| **SB#49/HC#274 – How great Thou art!** | TB-488 – same  HC-274 | HTD1-T12 (4 vs.)  HCD26-T14 |
| **SB#178/SOS#95 – Jesus, keep me near the cross** | TB-238 – Near the cross  TB-237 – Healing Stream  SOS-95 | HTD2-T5 (3 vs.)  HTD5-T8 (3 vs.) |
| **SB#190 – O sacred head** | TB-226 – Passion Chorale | No HT CD |
| **SB#191/SOS#112 – On a hill far away** | TB-520 – The old rugged cross  SOS-112 | HTD2-T9 (3 vs.) |
| **SB#208/SOS#63 – When I survey the wondrous cross** | TB-875 – The wonderful cross (first 16 bars, Boston)  HC-94 (use vs. 2 as chorus)  SOS-63 | No HT CD  HCD8-T14 |

***Scene 2***

**Reader 1:** As I lay on the ground on the cross that Simon had carried, I could hear the commotion around me, two thieves receiving the same penalty.

**Reader 2:** The thieves struggled, pushed to the ground with their arms forced down onto the beams of wood.

**Reader 3:** They cried out as nails were hammered through their hands into the wood.

**Reader 1:** I could hear their screams as they were pulled up on their crosses. I knew the same would be happening to me. “Oh my Father, is this truly what you want me to do?”

**Reader 2:** As the thieves called out curses in their misery, the soldiers drove a single nail into the feet of each man.

**Reader 3:** They were now completely suspended on their crosses, left alone to die a slow agonizing death.

**Reader 1:** I felt the soldier steady the nail against my wrist then felt the dull thud of the hammer. Blood spurted upon the soldiers and across my arms and face.

**Reader 2:** The wails of the two thieves filled the air as they continued to curse God and man.

**Reader 3:** “If you’re the Messiah, save yourself and us, too!”

**Reader 2:** “Don’t you fear God? We deserve to die. This man is innocent.”

**Reader 3:** “And yet, he’s hanging here with us. He’s getting what he deserves.”

**Reader 1:** Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they are doing.”

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| **SB#190 – O sacred head** | TB-226 – Passion Chorale | No HT CD |
| **Additional Optional Songs** | | |
| **SB#182/HC#12/SOS#121 – Lord, make Calvary real to me** | TB-741 – same  HC-12  SOS-121 | No HT CD  HCD1B-T12 |
| **SB#32/HC#127 – How deep the Father’s love for us** | TB-663 – same  HC-27 | No HT CD  HCD11-T17 |
| **SB#160/HC#184 – Behold! behold the Lamb of God** | TB-290 – Behold the Lamb  HC-184 | No HT CD  HCD17-T14 |
| **SB#376/HC#219 – King of kings, majesty** | TB-722 – same  HC-219 | No HT CD  HCD20-T19 |
| **HC#253 – Jesus Paid it All** | HC-253 | HCD24-T13 |
| **SB#178/SOS#95 – Jesus, keep me near the cross** | TB-238 – Near the cross  TB-237 – Healing Stream  SOS-95 | HTD2-T5 (3 vs.)  HTD5-T8 (3 vs.) |
| **SB#208/SOS#63 – When I survey the wondrous cross** | TB-875 – The wonderful cross (first 16 bars, Boston)  HC-94 (use vs. 2 as chorus)  SOS-63 | No HT CD  HCD8-T14 |

***Scene 3***

**Reader 1:** The pain was unbearable. I could only moan quietly.

**Reader 2:** The soldiers brought a sign and fastened it above Jesus on the cross.

**Reader 3:** It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.”

**Reader 2:** The Jewish leaders protested.

**Reader 3:** They wanted it changed.

**Reader 2:** It should say, “He claimed to be the King of the Jews.”

**Reader 3:** Pilate replied emphatically, “I have written what I have written.”

**Reader 2:** One of the thieves asked what it said.

**Reader 3:** It says you are dying alongside royalty.

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| **SB#178/SOS#95 – Jesus, keep me near the cross** | TB-238 – Near the cross  TB-237 – Healing Stream  SOS-95 | HTD2-T5 (3 vs.)  HTD5-T8 (3 vs.) |
| **SB#208/SOS#63 – When I survey the wondrous cross** | TB-875 – The wonderful cross (first 16 bars, Boston)  HC-94 (use vs. 2 as chorus)  SOS-63 | No HT CD  HCD8-T14 |

***Scene 4***

**Reader 1:** The pain coursed through every part of my body. Yet I could still hear the voices of the people in the crowd echoing that of the thief:

**Reader 2:** “You saved others – now save yourself!”

**Reader 3:** “If you are the Son of God, come down from that cross!”

**Reader 2:** “Some Messiah you are!”

**Reader 3:** “So much for the King of the Jews!”

**Reader 1:** But then a voice came from beside me:

**Reader 2:** “Lord, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.”

**Reader 1:** It was the barely audible wish of a dying man. But one that I could grant. [*to the thief*] “I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

**Reader 2:** How could that be?

**Reader 3:** There was nothing this man could do to earn Jesus’ forgiveness.

**Reader 2:** Nothing he could offer as a sacrifice for his sins.

**Reader 3:** No way of making atonement for all the wrong he had done.

**Reader 1:** I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.

**Reader 2:** It wasn’t his deeds that saved him.

**Reader 3:** It was the act of the one dying next to him.

**Reader 2:** The one that he called Lord.

**Reader 3:** The one true sacrifice for all mankind.

**Reader 2:** This thief, this sinner, had now become the first of the redeemed.

**Reader 3:** Salvation had come.

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| **SB#160/HC#184 – Behold! behold the Lamb of God** | TB-290 – Behold the Lamb  HC-184 | No HT CD  HCD17-T14 |
| **Additional Optional Songs** | | |
| **SB#182/HC#12/SOS#121 – Lord, make Calvary real to me** | TB-741 – same  HC-12  SOS-121 | No HT CD  HCD1B-T12 |
| **HC#94/SOS#97 – Lamb of God** | HC-94  SOS-97 | HCD8-T14 |
| **HC#98/SOS#104 – Nothing but Thy Blood** | HC-98  SOS-104 | HCD8-T18 |
| **SB#736/HC#102/SOS#115 – Tell me what to do to be pure** | TB-932 – Whiter than the snow  HC-102  SOS-115 | No HT CD  HCD9-T12 |
| **SB#741/HC#108/SOS#177 – When peace like a river attendeth my way** | TB-704 – It is well with my soul  HC-108  SOS-177 | HTD5-T10 (3 vs.)  HCD9-T18 |
| **SB#243/HC#164 – Before the throne of God above** | TB-52 – same  HC-164 | No HT CD  HCD15-T14 |
| **HC#253 – Jesus Paid it All** | HC-253 | HCD24-T13 |
| **SB#178/SOS#95 – Jesus, keep me near the cross** | TB-238 – Near the cross  TB-237 – Healing Stream  SOS-95 | HTD2-T5 (3 vs.)  HTD5-T8 (3 vs.) |
| **SB#183 – Man of sorrows!** | TB-754 – same | No HT CD |
| **SB#190 – O sacred head** | TB-226 – Passion Chorale | No HT CD |
| **SB#208/SOS#63 – When I survey the wondrous cross** | TB-875 – The wonderful cross (first 16 bars, Boston)  HC-94 (use vs. 2 as chorus)  SOS-63 | No HT CD  HCD8-T14 |

***Scene 5***

**Reader 2:** At noon, darkness fell across the land until three o’clock.

**Reader 3:** At that time, Jesus cried out:

**Reader 1:** “My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?”

**Reader 2:** Death creeped closer, waiting to claim its prize.

**Reader 3:** The people gathered around the cross waited to see what would happen next.

**Reader 1:** “Father, I entrust my spirit into your hands.”

**Reader 2:** Could this really be the end?

**Reader 3:** Was this how it would all end?

**Reader 1:** “It is finished.”

**Reader 2:** At that moment, the curtain in the Temple was torn in half, from top to bottom.

**Reader 3:** The earth shook, rocks split apart, and tombs were opened.

**Reader 2:** The Roman Officer overseeing the crucifixion exclaimed:

**Reader 3:** “This man truly was the Son of God!”

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| **SB#183 – Man of sorrows!** | TB-754 – same | No HT CD |
| **Additional Optional Songs** | | |
| **HC#98/SOS#104 – Nothing but Thy Blood** | HC-98  SOS-104 | HCD8-T18 |
| **HC#253 – Jesus Paid it All** | HC-253 | HCD24-T13 |
| **SB#178/SOS#95 – Jesus, keep me near the cross** | TB-238 – Near the cross  TB-237 – Healing Stream  SOS-95 | HTD2-T5 (3 vs.)  HTD5-T8 (3 vs.) |
| **SB#190 – O sacred head** | TB-226 – Passion Chorale | No HT CD |
| **SB#208/SOS#63 – When I survey the wondrous cross** | TB-875 – The wonderful cross (first 16 bars, Boston)  HC-94 (use vs. 2 as chorus)  SOS-63 | No HT CD  HCD8-T14 |

***Scene 6***

**Reader 1:** I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.

**Reader 2:** The former thief awoke.

**Reader 3:** He was surrounded by light.

**Reader 2:** He was surrounded by strange beings.

**Reader 3:** His pain was gone.

**Reader 2:** Everything was new.

**Reader 3:** He didn’t know what he expected Death to feel like, but this wasn’t it.

**Reader 2:** He remembered the words that Jesus spoke to him on the cross:

**Reader 1:** I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.

**Reader 3:** Was this today? Was this paradise?

**Reader 2:** The beings around him brought him a book.

**Reader 3:** They opened it to show him a name written there.

**Reader 2:** He read slowly, not quite understanding.

**Reader 3:** It was his name.

**Reader 2:** He read it again and asked what book this was.

**Reader 3:** It is the Book of Life.

**Reader 2:** And his name was written there.

**Reader 3:** He was one of the Redeemed.

**Reader 2:** Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone.

**Reader 3:** And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

**Reader 2:** I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying,

**Reader 1:** “Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.”

**Reader 3:** And the one sitting on the throne said,

**Reader 1:** “Look, I am making everything new!”

**Reader 2:** And then he said to me,

**Reader 1:** “Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true.”

**Reader 2:** And he also said,

**Reader 1:** “It is finished! I am the Alpha and the Omega—the Beginning and the End. To all who are thirsty I will give freely from the springs of the water of life. All who are victorious will inherit all these blessings, and I will be their God, and they will be my children.”

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| **SB#201/HC#137/SOS#66 – Thank you for the cross, Lord** | TB-947 – Worthy is the Lamb  HC-137  SOS-66 | No HT CD  HCD12-T17 |
| **Additional Optional Songs** | | |
| **SB#49/HC#274 – How great Thou art!** | TB-488 – same  HC-274 | HTD1-T12 (4 vs.)  HCD26-T14 |
| **SB#178/SOS#95 – Jesus, keep me near the cross** | TB-238 – Near the cross  TB-237 – Healing Stream  SOS-95 | HTD2-T5 (3 vs.)  HTD5-T8 (3 vs.) |
| **SB#208/SOS#63 – When I survey the wondrous cross** | TB-875 – The wonderful cross (first 16 bars, Boston)  HC-94 (use vs. 2 as chorus)  SOS-63 | No HT CD  HCD8-T14 |

**Invitation**

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| **HC#98/SOS#104 – Nothing but Thy Blood** | HC-98  SOS-104 | HCD8-T18 |
| **Additional Optional Songs** | | |
| **SB#439/HC#139 – There is a message** | TB-879 – same  HC-139 | No HT CD  HCD12-T19 |

**[Picture of Jesus on the cross on screen** *(see Graphics: Good Friday - Crucifixion)***] Benediction:**

Lord, how they have marred and disfigured you. How they have despised and rejected you. How you have suffered.

As I see you there on that cross, I fall to my knees knowing that where I stand is sacred ground. Thank you, O Lamb of God, who, being led to the slaughter, takes away the sin of the world. Thank you for being pierced for our transgressions and crushed for our iniquities. Thank you that in your blood there is cleansing and, in your wounds, there is healing for me.

For me.

I can hardly comprehend such a love. Love that came so costly to you and yet so freely to me.

Help me to look at you through the eyes of that thief on the cross. And grant me the grace, I pray, to see in your eyes the forgiveness that he saw.

Remember me, O King, a common thief.

Grant me the grace to live such a life that when you do remember me in your kingdom, that you may remember me with a smile, and look forward to the day when I, too, will be with you in paradise…Amen.

(Moments with the Savior, pp. 368-377)

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| **Lent 2022 Good Friday** | |
| **DRAMA**  **Encounters with the Cross**  **By Martyn Scott Thomas**  © Copyright 2021 by Martyn Scott Thomas. All rights reserved. Used by permission. | |
| **Topic:** | The Crucifixion |
| **Scripture:** | Matthew 27:27-56; Mark 15:16-41; Luke 23:26-49; John 19:16b-37; Revelation 21:1-7. |
| **Synopsis:** | Events leading to the crucifixion of Jesus are recounted. |
| **Characters:** | Reader 1 (Jesus)  Reader 2  Reader 3 |
| **Props/Costumes:** | None. |
| **Setting:** | Bare stage. Reader 1 can be on one side and Readers 2 and 3 on the opposite side. Readers can be seated or standing. |
| **Running time:** | 5 minutes |

***Scene 1***

**Reader 1:** I was whipped.

**Reader 2:** Mocked.

**Reader 3:** Beaten.

**Reader 1:** I was given a crown of thorns.

**Reader 2:** A scepter made of reeds.

**Reader 3:** A purple robe.

**Reader 1:** The soldiers showed me no mercy.

**Reader 2:** They called out the entire regiment.

**Reader 3:** They continued their ‘game’ until they tired of it.

**Reader 1:** Then they led me away to be crucified.

**Reader 2:** Jesus was in no shape to carry his cross through the streets.

**Reader 3:** He struggled under its weight; his body already broken.

**Reader 1:** I would not make it to Golgotha on my own.

**Reader 2:** The soldiers surveyed the crowd.

**Reader 3:** One man stood out.

**Reader 1:** [*‘looking at him’*] Simon of Cyrene.

**Reader 2:** The soldiers seized him.

**Reader 3:** Christ’s cross was forced upon him.

**Reader 2:** Simon hesitated, surprised that he had gone from spectator to participant.

**Reader 3:** He took a step [*slight pause*] and then another.

**Reader 1:** He knew who I was.

**Reader 2:** Simon knew of his teachings.

**Reader 3:** He knew of his miracles.

**Reader 2:** Some said he was the Son of God.

**Reader 3:** Some called him the Messiah.

**Reader 1:** Simon looked into my eyes. He *knew* who I was.

**Reader 2:** Simon adjusted the beam on his back and started moving with purpose.

**Reader 3:** They soon came to Golgotha, the Place of the Skull.

**Reader 2:** The cross was removed from Simon’s back. His task was done.

**Reader 3:** But he was not finished with this Jesus.

***Scene 2***

**Reader 1:** As I lay on the ground on the cross that Simon had carried, I could hear the commotion around me, two thieves receiving the same penalty.

**Reader 2:** The thieves struggled, pushed to the ground with their arms forced down onto the beams of wood.

**Reader 3:** They cried out as nails were hammered through their hands into the wood.

**Reader 1:** I could hear their screams as they were pulled up on their crosses. I knew the same would be happening to me. “Oh my Father, is this truly what you want me to do?”

**Reader 2:** As the thieves called out curses in their misery, the soldiers drove a single nail into the feet of each man.

**Reader 3:** They were now completely suspended on their crosses, left alone to die a slow agonizing death.

**Reader 1:** I felt the soldier steady the nail against my wrist then felt the dull thud of the hammer. Blood spurted upon the soldiers and across my arms and face.

**Reader 2:** The wails of the two thieves filled the air as they continued to curse God and man.

**Reader 3:** “If you’re the Messiah, save yourself and us, too!”

**Reader 2:** “Don’t you fear God? We deserve to die. This man is innocent.”

**Reader 3:** “And yet, he’s hanging here with us. He’s getting what he deserves.”

**Reader 1:** Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they are doing.”

***Scene 3***

**Reader 1:** The pain was unbearable. I could only moan quietly.

**Reader 2:** The soldiers brought a sign and fastened it above Jesus on the cross.

**Reader 3:** It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.”

**Reader 2:** The Jewish leaders protested.

**Reader 3:** They wanted it changed.

**Reader 2:** It should say, “He claimed to be the King of the Jews.”

**Reader 3:** Pilate replied emphatically, “I have written what I have written.”

**Reader 2:** One of the thieves asked what it said.

**Reader 3:** It says you are dying alongside royalty.

***Scene 4***

**Reader 1:** The pain coursed through every part of my body. Yet I could still hear the voices of the people in the crowd echoing that of the thief:

**Reader 2:** “You saved others – now save yourself!”

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**Reader 1:** But then a voice came from beside me:

**Reader 2:** “Lord, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.”

**Reader 1:** It was the barely audible wish of a dying man. But one that I could grant. [*to the thief*] “I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

**Reader 2:** How could that be?

**Reader 3:** There was nothing this man could do to earn Jesus’ forgiveness.

**Reader 2:** Nothing he could offer as a sacrifice for his sins.

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**Reader 1:** I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.

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**Reader 3:** The one true sacrifice for all mankind.

**Reader 2:** This thief, this sinner, had now become the first of the redeemed.

**Reader 3:** Salvation had come.

***Scene 5***

**Reader 2:** At noon, darkness fell across the land until three o’clock.

**Reader 3:** At that time, Jesus cried out:

**Reader 1:** “My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?”

**Reader 2:** Death creeped closer, waiting to claim its prize.

**Reader 3:** The people gathered around the cross waited to see what would happen next.

**Reader 1:** “Father, I entrust my spirit into your hands.”

**Reader 2:** Could this really be the end?

**Reader 3:** Was this how it would all end?

**Reader 1:** “It is finished.”

**Reader 2:** At that moment, the curtain in the Temple was torn in half, from top to bottom.

**Reader 3:** The earth shook, rocks split apart, and tombs were opened.

**Reader 2:** The Roman Officer overseeing the crucifixion exclaimed:

**Reader 3:** “This man truly was the Son of God!”

***Scene 6***

**Reader 1:** I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.

**Reader 2:** The former thief awoke.

**Reader 3:** He was surrounded by light.

**Reader 2:** He was surrounded by strange beings.

**Reader 3:** His pain was gone.

**Reader 2:** Everything was new.

**Reader 3:** He didn’t know what he expected Death to feel like, but this wasn’t it.

**Reader 2:** He remembered the words that Jesus spoke to him on the cross:

**Reader 1:** I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.

**Reader 3:** Was this today? Was this paradise?

**Reader 2:** The beings around him brought him a book.

**Reader 3:** They opened it to show him a name written there.

**Reader 2:** He read slowly, not quite understanding.

**Reader 3:** It was his name.

**Reader 2:** He read it again and asked what book this was.

**Reader 3:** It is the Book of Life.

**Reader 2:** And his name was written there.

**Reader 3:** He was one of the Redeemed.

**Reader 2:** Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone.

**Reader 3:** And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

**Reader 2:** I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying,

**Reader 1:** “Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.”

**Reader 3:** And the one sitting on the throne said,

**Reader 1:** “Look, I am making everything new!”

**Reader 2:** And then he said to me,

**Reader 1:** “Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true.”

**Reader 2:** And he also said,

**Reader 1:** “It is finished! I am the Alpha and the Omega—the Beginning and the End. To all who are thirsty I will give freely from the springs of the water of life. All who are victorious will inherit all these blessings, and I will be their God, and they will be my children.”