

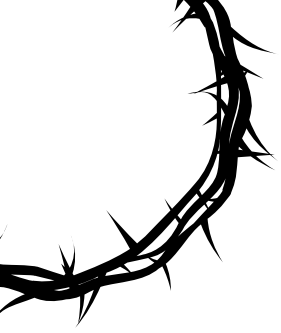


AT THE CROSS
A NIGHT OF WORSHIP

BY THE
COMMUNITY,
FOR THE
COMMUNITY

PRESENTED BY

RELAY
WORSHIP GROUP



Worship Order

Amazing Grace

Rhonda Casteel, Liz Edwards, Marla Estes,
Kathy Ford, Steve Lawyer, Susan Morris, Regina Pedigo

Goodness of God

Emily Ellis, Carrie Gaddis, Nick Speer

King of Kings

Lindsay England, Kathi Norrod, Ben Hayes

Excellent

Victoria Bolen

Thy Will Be Done

Via Dolorosa

Abby Orr

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

Adagio for Strings

Jesus Paid It All

How Deep The Father's Love For Us

Gwendolyn Wheat

At Calvary

Jackson Gray, Nick Speer, Kelley Orr, Scott Hudson

Living Hope

Nick Winquist, Jack Orr, Jeana Withers, Gwendolyn Wheat

Thank You Jesus For The Blood

Sunnie Coleman

Forever

Abby Orr, Lindsey Withers, Melissa Bull,
Nick Winquist, Jack Orr

About the event

In March of 2022, the Relay Worship Group and Relay Worship Community Choir had the tremendous experience of transforming Southern Kentucky Performing Arts Center into a worship center. More than 1,000 people from the greater Bowling Green area gathered for “Worthy: A Night of Worship”. The impact from last year’s event has been far-reaching.

This year, “At the Cross: A Night of Worship” walks you through the last days in the life of Jesus, lingering at the cross, and celebrating the redemptive work that was finished on your behalf.

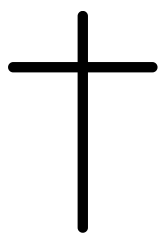
Just as Jesus bore the cross with YOU in mind, this night of worship was designed with you in mind. This Easter celebration event at SKyPAC features a community choir and orchestra along with visual presentations of the gospel, devotionals, scripture readings, a string quartet, choral arrangements, traditional hymns, and contemporary worship songs. Each element of worship was carefully and intentionally included with you in mind!

The Relay Worship Group has had teams of people hard at work ensuring that the community experience is crafted down to the smallest of details. Here in this space, you’ll encounter a community of believers from more than 20 churches in the SOKY region who have prayed that God would move in remarkable ways in Bowling Green, prayed over this event, and even prayed every person who attends. We’ve been praying for you.

When Jesus died on the cross, he did it for everyone. We are preparing to worship Jesus as one body of believers across denominations, backgrounds, ages, economic status, and all other worldly divisions that seek to tear us apart. Our hope is that this night of worship will bring us back to a unifying truth: Jesus paid for our sins on the cross so that we may be forgiven and have a relationship with God. What a glorious truth that is!

No matter where you find yourself in your faith journey, from sceptic to convinced, it is our sincere hope that you experience the fullness of God – from the burden of the cross to the freedom of forgiveness.

We encourage you to experience connection: connection with the story of Jesus and his ultimate sacrifice on the cross, connection with a community of believers across denominations who seek to glorify His name, and connection with the gift of music and arts that compels us to worship. We hope this is an unforgettable worship experience put on for your community, by your community.



Relay is a community of Godly, thoughtful, anointed, and skilled worship leaders that brings renewal to churches, relief to pastors, and releases their congregations to carry out God's mission on earth.

The Relay Worship Group is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Relay Worship Conference



Mark your calendars for the
Relay Worship Conference 2024: EMPOWER.

Relay Worship: Worship leaders empowering worship
leaders.

Visit RelayWorship.com to register now!



Let's connect!



- Learn more about us, like joining the choir, orchestra, or tech team next year!
- Donate to Relay
- Join our mailing list
- Find us on social media



Devotionals

The following pages contain devotionals written by the
choir members singing them.

The songs we sing were prayed over and pored over for
months. We hope that through these writings, you'll get
to know the texts a little better and grow to love the truth
and beauty of each piece as much as your Relay
community choir and orchestra has.

Amazing Grace

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. — Ephesians 2:8-9

Amazing Grace! How sweet the sound!

Amazing is a word that we tend to throw around loosely.

Someone tells me that they just found a watch they had lost a month ago. My reply: "That's amazing!" Someone tells me they just won tickets to a concert. My reply: "That's amazing!"

Webster defines amazing as "causing astonishment, great wonder, or surprise." I can be surprised that someone found a lost object or won concert tickets, but those things really aren't astonishing or a cause for great wonder.

God's Grace - now *that* should cause me to be astonished and to have great wonder.

The fact that God loved me enough to send Jesus to rescue me from sin and hell...

That's amazing!

The fact that Jesus loved me enough to die a cruel death to pay for my sin...

That's amazing!

The fact that the Holy Spirit loved me enough to take up residence in my life...

That's amazing!

I ask God to change my speech. I ask Him to help me not to talk about other things with the same vocabulary I use to describe His grace.

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now I'm found; Was blind, but now I see.

What is it that I see? I see God's grace as truly amazing, astonishing, awesome, wonderful, and far above mere words.

"Father, I'm so thankful that Your grace still amazes me!"

Debbie Reno
Plum Springs Baptist Church, 2023

Amazing Grace

arr. Rob Barrett

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Though many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;

'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

Was blind, but now I see.

Goodness of God

I will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works. Men shall speak of the might of Your awesome acts, and I will declare Your greatness. They shall utter the memory of Your great goodness, and shall sing of Your righteousness. — Psalm 145:5-7

What happens when we sing about the goodness of God? Scripture tells us that God inhabits the praises of His people, so we can trust that God leans in and listens.

As a child of God, we know that He is always with us. But His presence is experienced in a greater way as we sing His praises.

Imagine you are in a conversation with a friend. They are right there with you, but you sense they aren't fully dialed in; they aren't fully engaged in the conversation. But then you say something that captures their attention. Their body language changes as they lean in to hear your next words.

I picture God like that. As I belt out the words of "Goodness of God," I picture Him leaning in, drawing closer. (James 4:8) As He hears me sing about how His mercy never fails, how He holds me in His hands, and how He has been faithful all my life, He blesses me with an overwhelming sense of His presence. How very good of God to use something He has asked us to do for Him to be such a blessing to us!

God did not choose to bless me with a beautiful singing voice (believe me, I did ask), but He did bless me with a song in my heart, and I smile as I think about how beautiful my voice sounds to Him. I'm so very thankful that the goodness of God keeps running after me, so I pray that the closing words of the song will become my life-song:

"With every breath that I am able, I will sing of the goodness of God."

Debbie Reno
Plum Springs Baptist Church, 2023

Goodness of God

by Bethel Music, Jenn Johnson

I love you, Lord.

Oh, Your mercy never fails me.
All my days I've been held in Your hands.

From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

And all my life You have been faithful.
And all my life You have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

I love Your voice.
You have led me through the fire
And in darkest nights
You are close like no other.

I've known You as a father,
I've known You as a friend,
And I have lived in the goodness of God.

And all my life You have been faithful.
And all my life You have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

'Cause Your goodness is runnin' after,
It's running after me.
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now.
I give you everything.

'Cause Your goodness is runnin' after,
It's running after me.
'Cause Your goodness is runnin' after,
It's running after me.

'Cause all my life You have been faithful.
And all my life You have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

King of Kings

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. — 2 Corinthians 13:14

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. — John 14:26

Praise the Father, praise the Son, praise the Spirit, Three in One...

Have you ever really thought about Trinity?

Father - God

Son - Jesus Christ

Spirit - Holy Spirit (comforter).

Simple enough, right? When you think about the Three in One, does it only get more complicated in your mind? For me, the simplest way to think about it is to look at yourself. If you are a male adult, then you are your father's son, your wife's husband, and your child's father. You are one person, but three different roles, or identities.

For those of us that are Christians, the Holy Spirit is the part of the Trinity that dwells (lives) in us, guiding us, and helping us discern right from wrong.

Christ the Son is who talks to God the Father on our behalf when we pray. He turns our inadequate words into what God longs to hear. Christ pleads for us to the Father when we don't have the words to say.

Finally, there is God the Father. He has always been, created everything good, and gives us breath in our lungs. So, we have three levels of love to keep us on track. The Trinity is always worthy of our praise. If you have failed to praise them today, stop and take the time to do so.

God inhabits our praise!

Rhonda Smith
Woodburn Baptist Church, 2023

King of Kings

by Hillsong Worship

In the darkness, we were waiting
without hope, without light.
'Till from heaven you came running,
there was mercy in your eyes.

To fulfill the law and prophets
to a virgin came the Word.
From a throne of endless glory,
to a cradle in the dirt.

Praise the Father, praise the Son,
Praise the Spirit, three in one.
God of glory, Majesty.
Praise forever to the King of Kings.

To reveal the kingdom coming
and to reconcile the lost,
To redeem the whole creation,
you did not despise the cross

For even in your suff'ring,
you saw to the other side.
Knowing this was our salvation,
Jesus for our sake You died.

And the morning that You rose,
all of heaven held its breath
'Till that stone was moved for good,
for the Lamb had conquered death.

And the dead rose from their tombs,
and the angels stood in awe,
For the souls of all who'd come
to the Father are restored.

And the church of Christ was born,
then the Spirit lit the flame.
Now this gospel truth of old
shall not kneel, shall not faint.

By his blood and in His Name
in His freedom I am free,
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me.

Praise forever to the King of Kings.

Excellent

Everything.

What a big word. I don't mean the fact that it's ten letters or three syllables. I mean that it is all encompassing.

If I eat everything on my plate, like my mom told me to do when I was a kid, that means there's not one green bean left, not a single macaroni noodle or scrap of chicken. Everything is gone.

If I leave everything on the court, as an athlete, it means I don't even have the strength to walk to the locker room. I gave everything I had.

The ancient lyricist crafted the culminating phrase of Psalm 150 to declare it: *Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.*

Everything. Bees and birds praise. Dogs and horses praise. Bluegill and blue whales praise. The trees that breathe backwards (from carbon dioxide to oxygen) praise too. God made all of creation to praise.

Everything.

Another old song, Psalm 24, reminds us, *The earth is the Lord's and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to Him.*

There it is again: everything.

This scripture-saturated song uses the word "everything" more than fifteen times, a constant reminder that *all the earth is Yours; everything is Yours.*

Why in the world would the songwriter need to remind us over and over and over again?

Because we are a forgetful people. We walk away from an unforgettable moment with the Creator of the universe and promptly forget what we thought we would always remember. And so God sprinkles His Word with reminders to leave it all on the court.

Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus. — 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Excellent

arr. Cliff Duren

All the nations of the earth now rejoice.
All the nations of the earth now rejoice.
All the people of God, sing His praise.
All the people of God, sing His praise.

Ev'rything that has breath, shout for joy!
Ev'rything that has breath, shout for joy!
'Cause ev'rything that is beautiful belongs to You.

And oh, the earth, it is the Lord's.
Ev'rything is Yours. ev'rything is Yours.
You are excellent.

How excellent is Your name!
How excellent is Your name!
How excellent is Your name!
All of the earth say,

All the earth is Yours! Ev'rything is Yours!
You have created all things and made it good.

Thy Will Be Done

We are either taught, or learn along the way, that “it’s all about me,” that you need to “pick yourself up by the bootstraps,” or according to the poem by Robert Frost, choose “the road less traveled by...” Who has not been to a funeral where the song by Frank Sinatra “I Did it My Way” was played?

All of that thinking boils down to, obviously, I am in control of my life.

But are you sure you are in control? How has that worked out for you?

Jesus, God’s own Son, asked of the Father, “*may this cup pass from me, but if not, may Your will be done.*” Matthew 26:39.

Why? Why would God’s own Son ask this of His Father?

Maybe because God’s ways are not our own. Maybe His ways are even better. If Jesus had walked a different path, would we know grace, mercy, life-altering love, victory over sin and death, or his resurrection power?

By choosing to try and control your life, what have you missed out on? What could your world look like if you let God take the reins?

If your life has not worked out, gone as you thought or imagined it would, maybe it is time for you, this very moment, to let go and pray, “Thy Will be Done” in my life as it is in Heaven.

Personally, I can attest to how grand life can be when you let go and let God direct your path. God’s way for my life was higher, greater, and better than anything I could have ever imagined or planned. (Ephesians 3:20)

The same is waiting for you if only you will accept it.

Joshua Smith
Christ Church, 2023

Thy Will Be Done

by Craig Courtney

Our cup was filled with darkness,
Our cup was filled with death.
Christ took our cup and drank it,
And gave us life, and gave us hope,
Gave us Himself.

My Father, let this cup pass from me.
My Father, let this cup pass from me.
Yet not my will, O Lord, yet not my will, O Lord,
But Thine be done.

In blackest night we hear Him
In dark Gethsemane.
Pleading with the Father
For one more way, for one more hope,
For one more day.

My Father, let this cup pass from me.
My Father, let this cup pass from me,
My Father, let this cup pass from me.
Yet not my will, O Lord, yet not my will, O Lord,
But Thine be done.

Then they took our Savior,
And led Him to a tree;
And there they broke His body,
Poured out His life, put Him to death
To rise again!

My Father, let this cup pass from me.
My Father, let this cup pass from me.
Yet not my will, O Lord, yet not my will, O Lord,
But Thine be done.

Thy will be done;
Thy will be done.

Via Dolorosa

Then a mighty roar rose from the crowd, and with one voice they shouted, "Kill him, and release Barabbas to us!" ...Pilate argued with them, because he wanted to release Jesus. But they kept shouting, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

For the third time he demanded, "Why? What crime has he committed? I have found no reason to sentence him to death. So I will have him flogged, and then I will release him."

*But the mob shouted louder and louder, demanding that Jesus be crucified, and their voices prevailed. So Pilate sentenced Jesus to die as they demanded. As they had requested, he released Barabbas, the man in prison for insurrection and murder. But he turned Jesus over to them to do as they wished.
— Luke 23:15-25*

"And He bore, with every step, the scorn of those who cried out for his death" is the line in this song that tears my heart out.

How can we as a people be all excited about someone, sing their praises, and do whatever they say one minute and then turn our backs on them, call them names, and plot harm to them the next? I guess it happens when our sinful nature collides with our faith.

Faith is knowing God as Savior, as well as believing He can do anything. Unfortunately, many of us Christians don't grow in our faith enough to truly believe God can do ANYTHING. When we struggle in life, our sinful nature tends to take over and we go with the flow of those around us instead of standing up for what we know is true and right according to God's word. We think we need to do something to fix the problems instead of having the faith to know God is in control and can do anything. If His death and resurrection isn't enough to prove God can do anything, what will it take to grow your faith in God?

Do you know of anyone else in the history of the world that has chosen to leave their throne (status) to die an excruciating death so you can live an amazing life forever?

I think not.

So how about giving Christ your all so you can receive His all?

Rhonda Smith
Woodburn Baptist Church, 2023

Via Dolorosa

Niles Borop and Billy Sprague

arr. David T. Clydesdale

Down the Via Dolorosa, in Jerusalem that day,
The soldiers tried to clear that narrow street.

But the crowd pressed in to see
This Man condemned to die on Calvary.

He was bleeding from a beating,
There were stripes up in His back,
And He wore a crown of thorns upon His head.

And He bore, with ev'ry step,
The scorn of those who cried out for His death.

Down the Via Dolorosa, called the "way of suffering,"
Like a lamb came the Messiah, Christ the King.

But He chose to walk that road
Out of His love for you and me.
Down the Via Dolorosa all the way to Calvary.

Por la Vía Dolorosa triste día en Jerusalem.
Los soldados le abrían paso a Jesús.

Más la gente se acercaba
Para ver al que llevaba aquella cruz.
Por la Vía Dolorosa que es la vía del dolor
Como oveja vino Cristo Rey, Señor.

Y fue El quien quiso ir por su amor
Por ti y por mi.
Por la Vía Dolorosa al Calvario y a morir.

The blood that would cleanse the souls of all men
Made its way through the heart of Jerusalem (Jerusalem).

Down the Via Dolorosa, called the "way of suffering,"
Like a lamb came the Messiah, Christ the King.

But he chose to walk that road
Out of His love for you and me.
Down the Via Dolorosa all the way to Calvary.

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

“But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.” — Galatians 6:14 (NKJV)

God forbid.

How many times have you heard that phrase?

How many times have you used that phrase?

The Apostle Paul used it once, writing to a young church he had started in what is modern day Turkey. In his mind, it seems, the only thing God should forbid is arrogance.

Pride.

I can imagine pride was an issue for young Isaac Watts, the author of this old lyric. Even as a very young man, Isaac would challenge the church leaders about their boring music. He wanted to sing something that would connect with peoples' hearts.

“God forbid,” I imagine those older pastors and church musicians responded.

It makes me wonder when I say—or more likely when I think —“God forbid...” is it actually something God would prefer? Do my preferences line up with God's?

And then I remember that the job of every follower of Jesus is to die to ourselves. That's the second half of the Apostle Paul's verse.

The NLT offers this version of the original Greek: “Because of that cross, my interest in this world has been crucified, and the world's interest in me has also died.”

And now my wondering has turned to conviction. Has my interest in this world really been crucified? If so, do I live like it? Or am I clamoring for the world to take interest in me? God forbid.

Perhaps the only helpful response is to sing words like these: “pour contempt on all my pride.” Or these: “Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.”

Rod Ellis
Woodburn Baptist Church, 2023

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

arr. David Hamilton

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did ever such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

Demands my soul, my life, my all!

Jesus Paid it All

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. Romans 5:8-9

Throughout the Bible, we hear so much about the love of God, but we also hear a lot about the wrath of God. So how do we reconcile God's love with His wrath? We go to the cross.

But before we go there, let's talk about God's character. God is love. That is who He is. He doesn't love in response to something good or worthy He sees in any of us. He loves us because that is His nature. God's wrath, however, is not who He is. It is not His nature. His wrath is a just and holy response to the sin and evil in the world, and a resolve that evil will not have the final word.

Now let's go to the cross. It is here we get a true picture of God's love and His wrath: God's perfect love for us as His creation, and God's wrath against His creation for offenses against His holiness. Romans 3:27 says, "He (Jesus) became the propitiation (sacrifice) for our sins." He did for us what we could not do for ourselves and what we did not deserve. It's hard to comprehend a love like that! I think Colin Smith said it best: "Don't ever get the idea that God loves you because Jesus died for you. No, it's the other way around. Jesus died for you because God loves you. He loved you even when you were the object of His wrath! God so loved the object of His wrath that He spent the wrath on Himself at the cross. The outpouring of God's wrath was the greatest act of love this world has ever seen."

Now ponder Jesus' last words on the cross, "It is finished!" He was saying that mankind's debt for sin against a holy and just Creator was paid in full. He made a way for us to be reconciled to the Father by confessing our sins and professing Jesus as Lord and Savior.

What about you? Have you allowed Jesus to wash away all your sins? If not, you still have time. Don't delay until it's too late.

Accept His free gift, and join me in singing the words of an old hymn: "Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe; sin had left a crimson stain. He washed it white as snow." **Praise God, He washed me white as snow!**

Jesus Paid It All

arr. Robert Sterling

I hear the Savior say,
“Thy strength indeed is small!
“Child of weakness, watch and pray,
Find in Me thine all in all.”

Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

For nothing good have I
Whereby Thy grace to claim.
I'll wash my garments white
In the blood of Calv'ry's Lamb.

Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

And when before the throne
I stand in Him complete,
“Jesus died my soul to save,”
My lips shall still repeat.

Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white (white as snow),

He washed it white as snow.

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

As a member of the choir, at our first practice, we were asked, "what words of this song stand out to us?"

On one hand, you might pick out MOCKING, ASHAMED, WRETCH, and SIN. These words speak to who we were or maybe are, what we did or do, and how we feel because of that... all because of our SIN. But that is all before our coming into a relationship with our Heavenly Father. Once we see the error of our ways and choose God, we immediately see that is but a temporary state. A state, fortunately, we do not have to remain in. That is correct, we are given the opportunity, at any moment, to choose HIM.

John 3:16-17 (NIV) tells us, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."

As you take another look at the words of the song, you might see the words DEEP, VAST, PAID, and TREASURE starting to stand out. The things of God cannot be earned they are FREELY GIVEN TO ALL as the scripture tell us! His DEEP and VAST love for us, paid OUR RANSOM because we are His TREASURE!

Did you catch that? Through God, our former state is gone... it is no more. God does that for all and offers that to each of us... even NOW.

He is calling your name... right now... if you do not know that kind of love from our Heavenly Father, then now is your time.

"But this I know with all my heart. His wounds have paid my ransom."

How Deep The Father's Love For Us

by Stuart Townend

How deep the Father's love for us?
How vast beyond all measure?
That He should give His only Son,
To make a wretch His treasure.

How great the pain of searing loss,
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.

It was my sin that held Him there,
Until it was accomplished.
His dying breath has brought me life,
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.

Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer,
But this I know with all my heart,
His wounds have paid my ransom.

His wounds have paid my ransom.

At Calvary

And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. — Luke 23:33

What comes to your mind when you hear someone mention God, or when they speak the name, Jesus? Maybe your mind takes you back to the children's song, *Jesus Loves Me*. Maybe you think about how you've heard that Jesus came and died to pay for our sins. If you are a Christian, your first response may be gratitude for all you have been forgiven. You may even think about a particular sermon preached and how it made you feel.

A.W. Tozer once said, "What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us."

If he is right, then we need to give some serious consideration to his statement. Why would that be of such monumental importance? Because the answer lets us know if we have accepted Jesus as our Savior, and whether or not we have made Him Lord of our life. Our answer is either reassuring, or it brings an uneasy feeling. It may even bring conviction over how we are living and how we have treated the One who gave His very life for us at Calvary (also known as *Golgotha* and *Place of the Skull*).

Ponder the first two stanzas of the song, *At Calvary*.

"Years I spent in vanity and pride,
Caring not my Lord was crucified,
Knowing not it was for me He died
On Calvary."

"Now I've given to Jesus everything,
Now I gladly own Him as my King,
Now my raptured soul can only sing
Of Calvary!"

Whether you believe it or not, Jesus' love and sacrifice was for you as much as it was for anyone else on the planet. If the first stanza sounds like your life-song, it doesn't have to be. You can stop wherever you are right at this moment and talk to God. Tell Him that you are sorry for all the sin in your life. Acknowledge that what Jesus did on the cross of Calvary was for you, and ask Him for forgiveness. He is waiting with open arms to accept you into the family of God. Once you do that, the second stanza can become your life-song as you sing about Him as your Savior and King.

When I leave this world, I imagine it like the lines of a favorite Michael Combs song. Jesus will meet me at Heaven's gate and I will hear Him say,

*"Father, this one's with me.
She's just part of our family.
She's just one of the reasons I died on Calvary.
Father, welcome her in."*

Until that day, another stanza of *At Calvary* will be on my heart: "O the love that drew salvation's plan! O the grace that brought it down to man! O the mighty gulf that God did span At Calvary."

I hope you will give serious consideration to the question, "What comes to your mind when you think about God?"

At Calvary

William R. Newell, Craig Adams, Phillip Keveren
arr. Phillip Keveren

Years I spent in vanity and pride,
Caring not my Lord was crucified,
Knowing not it was for me He died
On Calvary.

By God's word at last my sin I learned;
Then I trembled at the law I'd spurned,
Till my guilty soul imploring turned
To Calvary.

Mercy there was great, and grace was free;
Pardon there was multiplied to me;
There my burdened soul found liberty,
At Calvary.

Oh, the love that drew salvation's plan!
Oh, the grace that brought it down to man!
Oh, the mighty gulf that God did span
At Calvary.

At Calvary.

Now I've given to Jesus everything,
Now I gladly own Him as my King;
Now my raptured soul can only sing
Of Calvary!

Mercy there was great, and grace was free;
Pardon there was multiplied to me;
There my burdened soul found liberty,
At Calvary.

Oh, the love that drew salvation's plan!
Oh, the grace that brought it down to man!
Oh, the mighty gulf that God did span
At Calvary.
At Calvary.

Living Hope

Sealed.

The tomb was sealed. The Pharisees wanted to make sure: no escapes, no excuses, no explanations. No body stealing; no bogus stories.

Once the insurrection was put down and Jesus was put in the ground, the future of the Jews' relationship with Rome would be sealed. The religious leaders made sure of it.

Pilate was all for it; the bargain he'd made with the temple priests was expedient.

Yet his words make us wonder what he suspected, "Take guards and secure it the best you can." (Matthew 27:65)

The best you can.

Sealed.

But, as the song declares, "then came the morning that sealed the promise."

You see, the One who carved out a hillside where Joseph of Arimathea had carved out a tomb "has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

The Father had sealed a promise before the Pharisees sealed the tomb.

And God always wins.

You have a living hope.

Not a dead one. Not wooden one. Or stone or bronze. Our God sealed your future when he broke the seal of the grave!

Jesus Christ, your living hope.

Living. Hope.

Living Hope

by Brian Johnson and Phil Wickham

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ my living hope

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me
Jesus Yours is the victory

Jesus Christ my living hope
Oh God You are my living hope

Thank You Jesus for the Blood

Under the old system, the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer could cleanse people's bodies from ceremonial impurity. Just think how much more the blood of Christ will purify our consciences from sinful deeds so that we can worship the living God. For by the power of the eternal Spirit, Christ offered himself to God as a perfect sacrifice for our sins. That is why he is the one who mediates a new covenant between God and people, so that all who are called can receive the eternal inheritance God has promised them. For Christ died to set them free from the penalty of the sins they had committed under that first covenant. — Hebrews 9:13-15

This song speaks to the depravity of all without Jesus.

It tells how Jesus left His throne next to God in heaven just to come to earth, live a human life without sin, die, be raised to life, and return to heaven so He can come live in each of our hearts.

The chorus says it so well:

"Thank you, Jesus, for the blood applied."

His death on the cross became the sacrifice needed to save us from our sins.

"Thank you, Jesus, it has washed me white."

His sacrifice cleansed the filth of our sins.

"Thank you, Jesus, You have saved my life."

Brought me from the darkness into glorious light.

When I was deep in my sin, I was in complete darkness because God is the light. Light is not present in the darkness of sin until... you ask Jesus to save you. Then His light bursts into the darkness of the darkest sins and washes your sins away.

If you are a Christian, thank God for His glorious light and blood that transformed you from a dying sinner into a clean child of God. If you don't know Jesus as your Savior, you are still in the darkness of sin. All you need to do to let the saving light of Jesus in is ask him. Tell Him that you have sinned and are in need of cleansing. He will joyfully come immediately into your darkness and illuminate your life with forgiveness and love.

Rhonda Smith
Woodburn Baptist Church, 2023

Thank You Jesus For The Blood

by Charity Gayle

I was a wretch, I remember who I was.
I was lost, I was blind, I was running out of time.
Sin separated; the breach was far too wide.
But from the far side of the chasm
You held me in Your sight.

So You made a way across the great divide.
Left behind Heaven's throne to build it here inside.
And there at the cross, You paid the debt I owed.
Broke my chains, freed my soul,
for the first time I had hope.

Thank You, Jesus, for the blood applied.
Thank You, Jesus, it has washed me white.
Thank You, Jesus. You have saved my life,
Brought me from the darkness into glorious light.

You took my place, laid inside my tomb of sin.
You were buried for three days
But then You walked right out again.
And now death has no sting and life has no end,
For I have been transformed by the blood of the Lamb.

Thank You, Jesus, for the blood applied.
Thank You, Jesus, it has washed me white.
Thank You, Jesus. You have saved my life,
Brought me from the darkness into glorious light.

There is nothing stronger
Than the wonder working power of the blood
The blood that calls us sons and daughters.

We are ransomed by our Father
Through the blood, the blood.

Glory to His name.
Glory to His Name.
There to my heart was the blood applied.
Glory to His name.

Forever (We Sing Hallelujah)

“Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying: “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, forever and ever!”

— Revelation 5:13 (NIV)

Have you ever felt like there was too much sickness, too much sin, and too much death? At times, if you are like me, it gets to be too much. Then, when you add the pressures of life (family, home, work, etc.) how easy it is to feel like there is no point... no hope.

An ancient proverb says “it is always darkest before dawn.”
(Thomas Fuller, 1650)

GOOD NEWS! Maybe, just maybe the GREATEST, most AWESOME news of all is that Jesus overcame ALL of that... for YOU and ME!

Through His life, the blood poured out, the cruel cross, His death, and ultimately His resurrection, HE rendered Satan and Hell DEFEATED! Death has no sting because our SAVIOR is ALIVE!

I am here to tell you that whatever you have gone through, no matter how far you have run, whatever you may think of Him, He endured the cross for you. Yes, YOU! And He is calling your name right now to come to Him.

He will never stop.

“Forever, He is glorified.” It is my hope that you do not leave the sacred space at SKyPAC this evening without knowing His saving power for you. As a Christian and one who has called upon the Lord as my Savior... what Christ accomplished “AT THE CROSS” can and will change your life “FOREVER!”

Joshua Smith
Christ Church, 2023

Forever

by Brian Johnson, Christa Black Gifford, Gabriel Wilson,
Jenn Johnson, Joel Taylor, and Kari Jobe

The moon and stars, they wept.
The morning sun was dead.
The Savior of the world was fallen.

His body on the cross,
His blood poured out for us,
The weight of ev'ry curse upon Him.

One final breathe He gave
As heaven looked away
The Son of God was laid in darkness.

A battle in the grave
The war on death was waged,
The power of hell forever broken.

The ground began to shake.
The stone was rolled away.
His perfect love could not be overcome.

Now death where is your sting?
Our resurrected King has rendered you defeated.

Forever He is glorified.
Forever He is lifted high.

Forever He is risen.
He is alive, He is alive.

We sing hallelujah! We sing hallelujah!
We sing hallelujah! The Lamb has overcome.

Forever He is glorified.
Forever He is lifted high.

Forever He is risen.
He is alive, He is alive.

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Big thanks to our technology team, including SKyPAC technical director Alex Poe & his team, as well as volunteers:

Alexander Compton, Román Di Gaetano,
Kevin Gilpin, Brock Hall, Ben Norrod,
Gregg Reynolds, Micah Rowland, Chris Taylor,
Elijah Truelove, Gerod Truelove, Isaak Truelove

In loving memory of David Johnson



Tonight we honor the memory of our friend, David E. Johnson. David was part of the original planning team for this event. He served as Worship Pastor at Campbellsville Baptist Church for more than 20 years and had just begun a new season in ministry at First Baptist Church of Franklin when he was suddenly stricken with an illness that resulted in him leaving us far too soon. David was a man of Godliness, integrity, and humility. He would never want this evening to be about him, but about Jesus. And that is why we honor him. That's the kind of Christ follower we all hope to be.



This event would not be possible without each of these local churches involved in the choir, orchestra, narration team, and technology team, as well as our amazing, dedicated leadership team.



Churches Involved

Bethany Baptist | BG First Church of the Nazarene |
Broadway UMC | Calvary Baptist - Franklin |
Calvary Baptist - Glasgow | CenterPointe Church |
Christ Church | Cornerview Community Church |
Crossland Community Church | FBC BG | FBC Franklin |
First Christian Church | Franklin First UMC |
Glasgow Baptist | Greenwood Baptist |
Greenwood Park Church of Christ | Horse Cave Baptist |
LifePoint Church | Living Hope Baptist | New Friendship
Baptist | Oakland Baptist | State Street UMC | St. James
UMC | The Church at BG | Plum Springs Baptist |
Providence Knob Baptist | Woodburn Baptist Church



Leadership Team

David Bailes, Melissa Brewer, Melissa Bull, Sunnie Coleman,
Román Di Gaetano, Emily Ellis, Rod Ellis, Josh Givens,
Kristen Hicks, Steve Lawyer, Marilynn Love, Todd Love,
Gayle Morris, Sam Norrod, Nick Speer,
Linda Thomas, Alex Watkins, Nick Winquist

All are invited into a loving
relationship with God.

All are invited to experience
life-giving transformation
that comes from following Jesus.

All are invited to the cross.

Only your belief is required to begin.
Nothing else.

It's that simple. You are invited.

All glory to God!

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