

The Day He Wore My Crown by Sandi Patty

The city was Jerusalem The time was long ago
The people called him Jesus
The crime was the love He showed
And I'm the one to blame I caused all the pain
He gave Himself, the day He wore my crown

He brought me love that only He could give
I brought Him cause to cry
And though He taught me how to live
I taught Him how to die
And I'm the one to blame I caused all the pain
He gave Himself, the day He wore my crown

He could have called His holy Father, and said,
"Take me away, please, take me away."
He could have said, "I'm not guilty.
And I'm not going to stay
I'm not going to pay."
But He walked right through the gate
And then on up the hill
And as He fell beneath the weight
He cried, "Father, not My will."
And I'm the one to blame I caused all the pain
He gave Himself, the day He wore my crown

And I'm the one to blame
I caused all His pain

Thank You For Joining Us!

Prayer Leader:

Rev. Delmarshae Sledge
4/11/2017

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A Time to Watch and Pray



Our prayer is characterized
by silence ~

Be still and know that I am God!

In that silence we listen for a new word.
God is present in all our lives.
God cares for us, and
our life experiences are a source
of deepening knowledge of God and self.

Inspired by God's Word in the silence
we share from our hearts.

To Ponder

Life is not possible without an opening toward the transcendent; in other words, human beings cannot live in chaos. Once contact with the transcendent is lost, existence in the world ceases to be possible. [Mircea Eliade](#).

"To live meaningfully, we must see light beyond the darkness. As Mircea Eliade put it, "Life is not possible without an opening toward the transcendent." The lynching era was the Heart of Darkness for the African American community. It was a time when fragments of meaning were hard to find. Some found meaning in the blues and others in collective political resistance, but for many people it was religion that helped them to look beyond their tragic situation to a time when they would "cross the river of Jordan," "lay down dat heavy load," and "walk in Jerusalem just like John." The Christian gospel is God's message of liberation in an unredeemed and tortured world. As such, it is a transcendent reality that lifts our spirits to a world far removed from the suffering of this one. It is an eschatological vision, an experience of transfiguration, such as Jesus experienced at his Baptism (Mk 1: 9-11) or on Mt. Tabor (Mk 9: 2-8), just before he set out on the road to Jerusalem, the road that led to Calvary. Paul had such a vision—" a light from heaven" "as he traveled the road to Damascus (Acts 9: 3). Malcolm X, while in prison, had a vision of God, and so too did Martin King hear God speaking to him in his kitchen at a moment of crisis during the Montgomery bus boycott. For all four, the revelatory moment in their lives helped to prepare them to face their deaths, sustained by the conviction that this was not the end but the beginning of a new life of meaning. To paraphrase Eliade, once contact with the transcendent is found, a new existence in the world becomes possible."

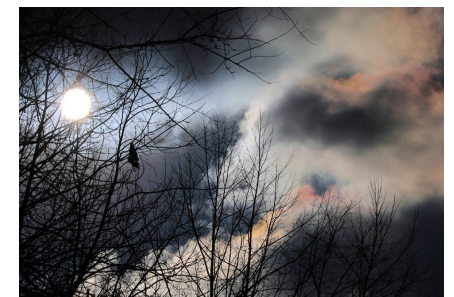
~from "The Cross and the Lynching Tree" by James H. Cone

Reading: [Mark 14:43-52](#) New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus

43 Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. 44 Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." 45 So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. 46 Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. 47 But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. 48 Then Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? 49 Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled." 50 All of them deserted him and fled.

51 A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, 52 but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.



Sharing...

a word...

a phrase...

a reflection...