By Robert M. Mondoy for presider, deacon, choir, soloists, assembly, and various instrumentalists.

# The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew. Music by Robert M. Mondoy <br> Dedicated to Fr. Matthew Lochs, ss.cc., with gratitude and aloha. for Presider, deacon, choir, assembly, and various instrumentalists. 

Singer(s) name:
D =Deacon, spoken parts only
$\mathrm{T}^{1} \quad=$ tenor 1, Judas, sung/spoken parts
CH =Choir, sung/spoken parts, some SATB
J =Jesus, [presider], sung/spoken parts
$\mathrm{T}^{2} \quad=$ tenor 2, a Narrator, sung parts
$\mathrm{T}^{3} \quad=$ tenor 3, Peter, sung parts
$\mathrm{Br}^{1} \quad=$ baritone 1, the High priest et al., sung/spoken parts
$\mathrm{Sp}^{1}$ =soprano 1, spoken part
$\mathrm{Sp}^{2} \quad=$ soprano 2, spoken part
$\mathrm{Bs}^{2} \quad=$ bass 2, the procurator Pilate, sung/spoken parts
$\mathrm{Sp}^{3} \quad=$ soprano 3, Pilate's wife, sung part
Bs $^{1} \quad=$ bass 1, the Centurion, sung part.
the bottom of each page has a list of participants for that page.

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There are several dimensions and themes in the writings of St. Matthew. Among them was that he wrote for a community of believers, the Jewish Christians, who saw themselves being edged out of their own Jewish traditions, as well as witnessing an uncomfortable burgeoning number of gentiles coming to the faith.

One of Matthew's great themes is that Jesus, truly the Son of Man, fulfilled in his person and in his mission everything that the Scriptures foretold. Jesus was without doubt the fulfillment of the Messianic promise. The Jewish Christian community's belief in Jesus was warranted by their own Sacred Scriptures.

Moreover, Matthew writes (in identification with the persecuted state of the Jewish Christian community), of a Jesus who knew that he had to suffer to bring fulfillment to God's covenant and salvation. If he had to knowingly suffer and willingly embrace pain and death to bring about true life, so, too, his followers needed to knowingly and willingly accept the cross.

Thirdly, Jesus' response to his mission was radical and completely different from the expected. Jesus' manner of response to his call and his faith in the Father was heretofore unprecedented. So too, the Christian's response to the Father's call. The high price to pay to be Christ's follower may have been radical, but the ensuant power and peace and joy of discipleship surpassed all imagining.

This liturgical drama, meant for active use in the cycle A Passion (Palm) Sunday celebration, uses a contemporary musical language that attempts to capture the evangelical spirit of St. Matthew. From the very beginning, you'll hear the "fulfillment of the Old Testament" theme, used again in places that refer to Jesus' being the culmination of God's covenant. Also, familiar hymn tunes weave an emotional fabric in and about many passages, permitting the assembly to identify immediately with Christ, and with the varied responses of all the characters of the Passion narrative.

It is my hope that this musical setting of the St. Matthew Passion help transform the People of God during their Holy Week journey, so they may see more readily their call to identify with the person of Jesus suffering, crucified, and resurrected; and, embracing the full meaning of discipleship, come to see the salvation of a radicallyloving God lived within and moved outward in fearless, love-filled witness.
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the Passover supper. (pause) When it grew dark he reclined at table with the Twelve. In the course

cress.

$\boldsymbol{f}$ of the meal he said, J : "I give you my word, one of you is about to betray me."


J : "The man who has dipped his hand into the dish with me is the one who will hand me over.


The Son of Man is departing, as Scripture says of him, but woe to that man

by whom the Son of Man is betrayed. Better for him if he had never been born."


D: Jesus answered, J: "It is you who have said it."
(pause)



## Free chant



J: "All of you must drink from it for this is my blood, the blood of the covenant,


II. March


D: Then, after singing songs of praise, they walked out to the Mount of Olives. Jesus then said to

them, J: "Tonight your faith in me will be shaken, for Scripture has it: 'I will strike the shepherd

and the sheep of the flock will be dispersed.' ${ }^{(p a u s e)}$ But after I am raised up, I will go to Galilee



## Andante, warmly






T2: Re- turn- ing, he found them fast a- sleep. J: "Sleep on now. Enjoy your rest!


Suddenly (March) Choir: go QUICKLY to the next page for your cue!



CH: While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived accompanied by a great crowd with swords and clubs. They had been sent by the chief priest and elders of the people.
(pause)
(on cue)
CH: His betrayer had arranged to give them a signal, saying,



CH: At that moment they stepped forward to lay hands on Jesus, and arrested him. Suddenly one of those who accompanied Jesus put his hand to his sword, drew it, and slashed at the high priest's servant, cutting off his ear.



J: "Am I a brigand, that you have come armed with swords and clubs to arrest me? From day


D: Then all the disciples deserted him and fled. Those who had apprehended Jesus led him off to
$8^{9}$


Tambourines, S. Drum

the outcome. The chief priest, with the whole Sanhedrin, were busy trying to obtain false

the many false witnesses who took the stand. Finally two came forward who stated:



Br1: "He has blas-phemed! What further need have we of witnesses? Re- mem- ber, you


III.

know what you are talking about!" D: When he went out to the gate another girl saw him and 2: 荡

T3: "I don't know the man!"
D: A little while later some bystanders came over to Peter

9:

and said, SOPRANOS: "You are certainly one of them! Even your accent gives you away!"
${ }^{2} \mathrm{H}_{4}$


back to the chief priests and elders and said, $\quad \mathrm{T} 1$ : "I did wrong to deliver up an innocent man!"



D: The chief priests picked up the silver, observing, MEN: "It is not right to deposit this money in the temple treasury since it is blood money." D: After consultation, they used it to buy

V. March


D: Jesus was arraigned before the procurator, who questioned him:

## Deliberately



D: Yet when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he had made no reply.
(pause)


Bs2: "Sure-ly you hear how ma- ny char- gas they bring a-gainst you?"



Now on the occasion of a festival the procurator was accustomed to release one prisoner,
2: 8 $\mathbf{8}_{-}^{-}$
$\stackrel{-}{-}$ -





blood of this just man. The responsibility is yours." D: The whole people said in reply,

VI.
on cue
Tam-tam
$\square \boldsymbol{f}_{\varnothing}^{\diamond}$
B. Drum

2" $f^{2}$
Simp.

${ }^{\text {(pause) }} \mathrm{D}$ : The procurator's soldiers took Jesus inside the praetorium and collected the
9:

whole cohort around him. They stripped off his clothes and wrapped him in a scarlet military cloak.


8


Afterward they took hold of the reed and kept striking him on the head. Finally, when they had 9:
finished making a fool of him, they stripped him of the cloak, dressed him in his own clothes,
2):
and led him off to crucifixion. On their way out they met a Cyrenean named Simon. This man they



Skull Place), they gave him a drink of wine flavored with gall, which he tasted but refused to drink.


When they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among them by casting lots; then they sat

$\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { Choir: "This is Ie- sos, King of the } \\ \text { SATB }\end{array}\right.$


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$$


their heads and saying: WOMEN: "So you are the one who was going to destroy the temple 2
and rebuild it in three days! MEN: Save yourself, why don't you? ALL: Come down off
2):

that cross if you are God's Son!" D: The chief priest, the scribes and the elders also joined in
(2:

et God rescue him now if he wants to. ALL: After all, he claimed, 'I am God's Son.' " 48

D: The insurgents who had been crucified with him kept taunting him in the same way.
2):8


From noon onward, there was darkness over the whole land until mid-afternoon.


Choir:


D: This made some of the bystanders who Men: "He is in- vo- king E- li- jab!" heard it remark, $\boldsymbol{f}$

on a reed, tried to make him drink. Meanwhile the rest said,
Brr: "Leave him alone. Let's see whether Elijah comes to his rescue."

2: $\stackrel{\circ}{\mathbf{O}}$


D: Once again Jesus cried out in a loud voicte, and then gave up his spirit.

here kneel \& Pause momentarily until some time after the music stops.



D: The centurion and his men who were keeping watch over Jesus were terror-stricken at seeing the earthquake and all that was happening, and said,




[^0]D, Sopranos



[^0]:    St. Matthew Passion 37

