

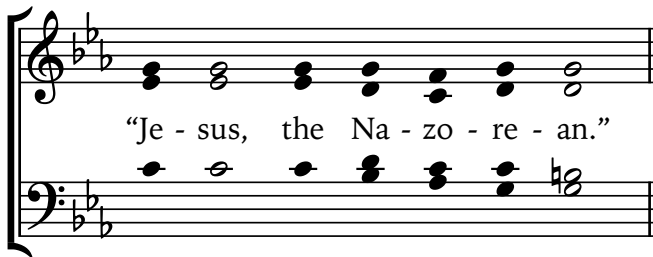
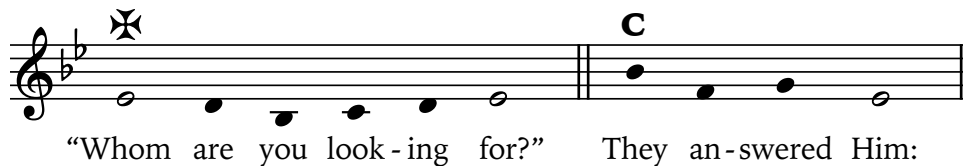
Good Friday

Gospel According to St. John

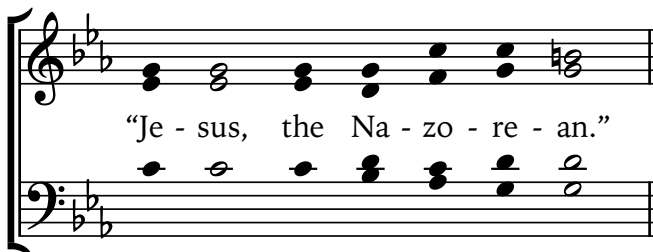
(18–19:42)

This edition is intended to be paired with Dr. Jennifer Donelson's setting of the Gospel of St. John. Turba Choruses written by JJR.

Jesus went out with His disciples across the Kidron valley
to where there was a garden,
into which He and His disciples entered.
Judas, His betrayer, also knew the place,
because Jesus had often met there with His disciples.
So Judas got a band of soldiers and guards
from the chief priests and the Pharisees
and went there with lanterns, torches, and weapons.
Jesus, knowing everything that was going to happen to Him,
went out and said to them,



He said to them, “I AM.”
Judas his betrayer was also with them.
When he said to them, “I AM,”
they turned away and fell to the ground.
So He again asked them,



Jesus answered,
 "I told you that I AM.
 So if you are looking for Me, let these men go."

This was to fulfill what He had said,
 I have not lost any of those You gave Me.

Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it,
struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear.
The slave's name was Malchus.
Jesus said to Peter,
 "Put your sword into its scabbard.
 Shall I not drink the cup that the Father gave me?"

So the band of soldiers, the tribune, and the Jewish guards seized Jesus,
bound Him, and brought Him to Annas first.
He was the father-in-law of Caiaphas,
who was high priest that year.
It was Caiaphas who had counseled the Jews
that it was 'better that one man should die rather than the people'.

Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus.
Now the other disciple was known to the high priest,
and he entered the courtyard of the high priest with Jesus.
But Peter stood at the gate outside.

So the other disciple, the acquaintance of the high priest,
went out and spoke to the gatekeeper and brought Peter in.
Then the maid who was the gatekeeper said to Peter,
 "You are not one of this man's disciples, are you?"
He said, "I am not."

Now the slaves and the guards were standing around a charcoal fire
that they had made, because it was cold,
and were warming themselves.
Peter was also standing there keeping warm.

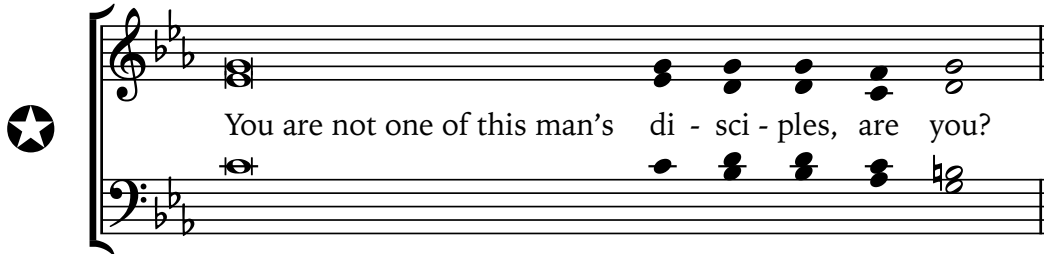
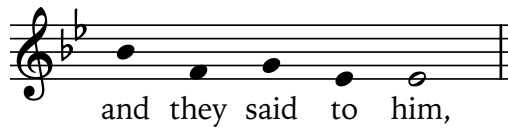
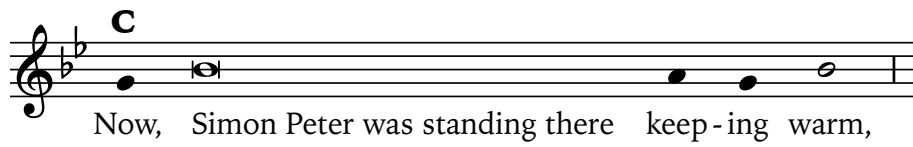
The high priest questioned Jesus about His disciples and about His doctrine

Jesus answered him,
 "I have spoken publicly to the world.
 I have always taught in a synagogue
 or in the temple area where all the Jews gather,
 and in secret I have said nothing. Why ask Me?
 Ask those who heard Me what I said to them.
 They know what I said."

When He had said this,
one of the temple guards standing there struck Jesus and said,
 "Is this the way You answer the high priest?"

Jesus answered him,
 "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong;
 but if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike Me?"

Then Annas sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.



He denied it and said,

"I am not."

One of the slaves of the high priest,

a relative of the one whose ear Peter had cut off, said,

"Didn't I see you in the garden with Him?"

Again Peter denied it.

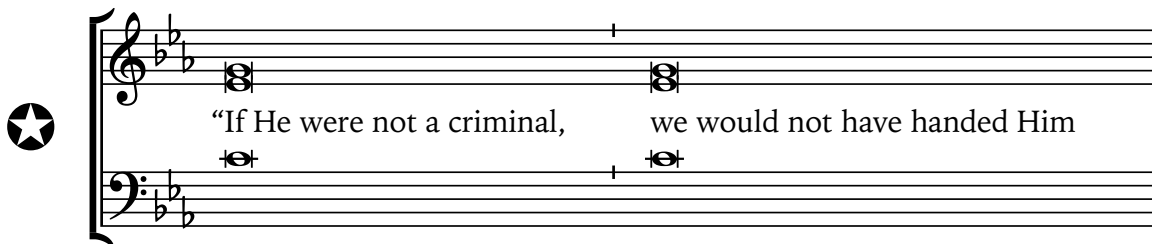
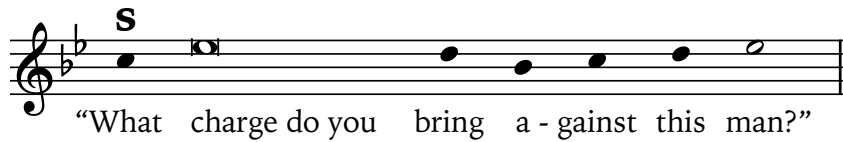
And immediately the cock crowed.

Then they brought Jesus from Caiaphas to the prætorium.

It was morning, and they themselves did not enter the prætorium,

in order not to be defiled so that they could eat the Passover.

So Pilate came out to them and said,



At this, Pi - late said to them, "Take Him your-selves,
and judge Him accord-ing to your laws." The Jews an-swered Him,
"We do not have the right to ex - e - cute anyone."

...in order that the word of Jesus might be fulfilled
that He said indicating the kind of death He would die.

So Pilate went back into the praetorium
and summoned Jesus and said to Him,
"Are You the King of the Jews?"

Jesus answered,
"Do you say this on your own
or have others told you about Me?"

Pilate answered,
"I am not a Jew, am I?
Your own nation and the chief priests handed You over to me.
What have You done?"

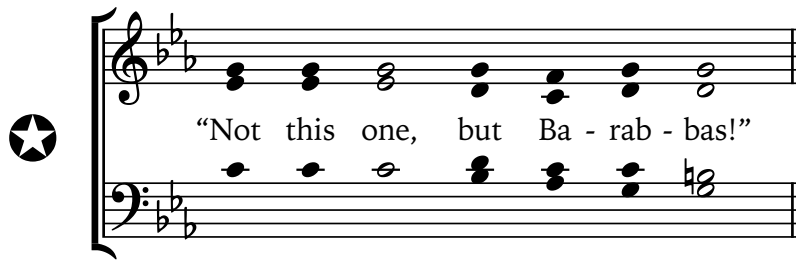
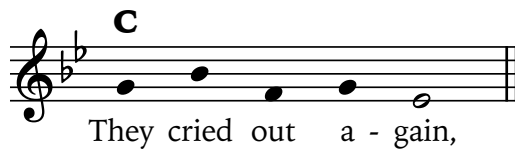
Jesus answered,
"My kingdom does not belong to this world.
If My kingdom did belong to this world,
My attendants would be fighting
to keep Me from being handed over to the Jews.
But as it is, My kingdom is not here."

So Pilate said to him,
"Then you are a king?"

Jesus answered,
"You say I am a king.
For this I was born and for this I came into the world:
to testify to the truth.
Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to My voice."

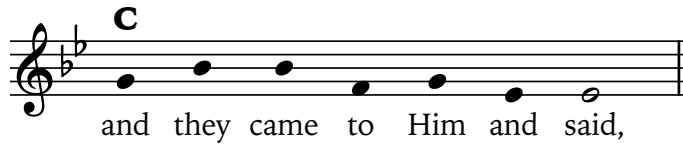
Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?"

When he had said this, he again went out to the Jews and said to them,
"I find no guilt in Him.
But you have a custom that I release one prisoner to you at Passover.
Do you want me to release to you the 'King of the Jews'?"



(Now Barabbas was a revolutionary.)

Then Pilate took Jesus and had Him scourged.
And the soldiers wove a crown out of thorns and placed it on His head,
and clothed Him in a purple cloak,

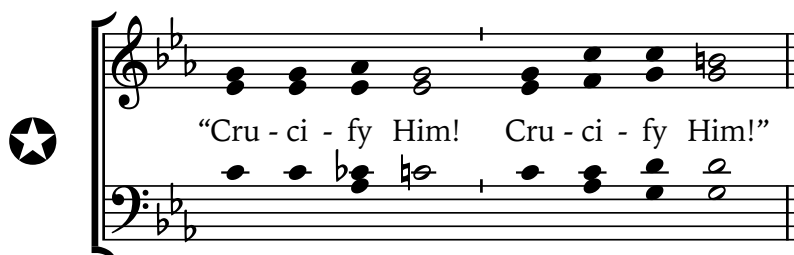
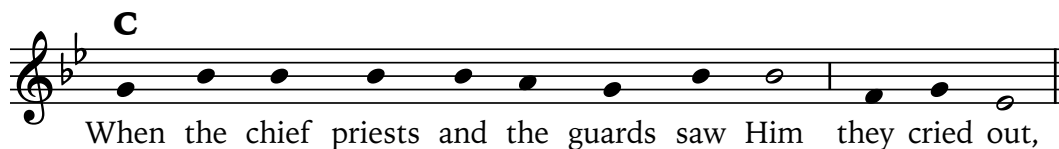


And they struck Him repeatedly.

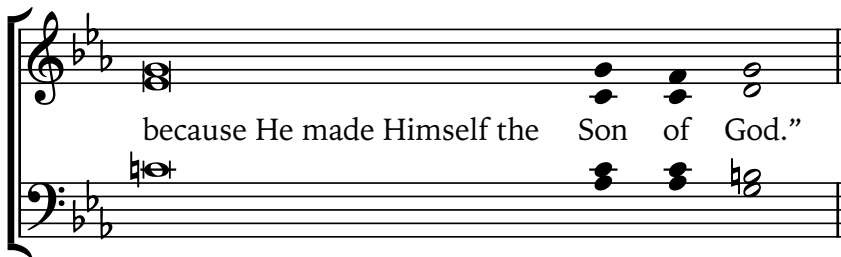
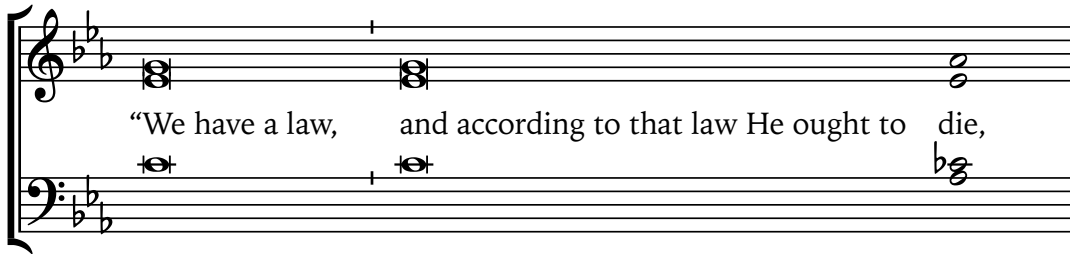
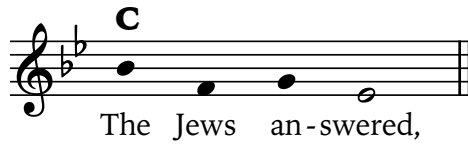
Once more Pilate went out and said to them,
“Look, I am bringing Him out to you,
so that you may know that I find no guilt in Him.”

So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple cloak.

And he said to them,
“Behold, the man!”



Pilate said to them,
 "Take Him yourselves and crucify Him.
 I find no guilt in Him."

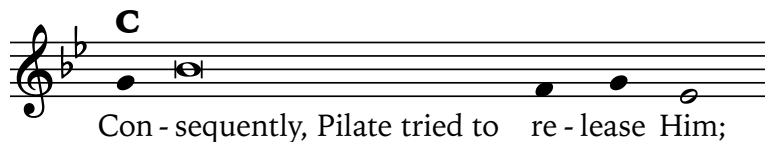


Now when Pilate heard this statement,
 he became even more afraid,
 and went back into the prætorium and said to Jesus,
 "Where are you from?"

Jesus did not answer him.

So Pilate said to Him,
 "Do You not speak to me?
 Do You not know that I have power to release You
 and I have power to crucify You?"

Jesus answered him,
 "You would have no power over Me
 if it had not been given to you from above.
 For this reason the one who handed Me over to you
 has the greater sin."





“If you release Him, you are not a friend of Cæ - sar.

Everyone who makes himself a king op - pos - es Cæ - sar.”

When Pilate heard these words
he brought Jesus out and seated Him on the judge’s bench
in the place called Stone Pavement, (in Hebrew, ‘Gabbatha’).
It was preparation day for Passover, and it was about noon.

And he said to the Jews,
“Behold, your king!”

They cried out,



“Take Him away; take Him a - way! Cru - ci - fy Him!”

Pilate said to them,
“Shall I crucify your king?”

The chief priest an-swered,



“We have no king but Cæ - sar.”

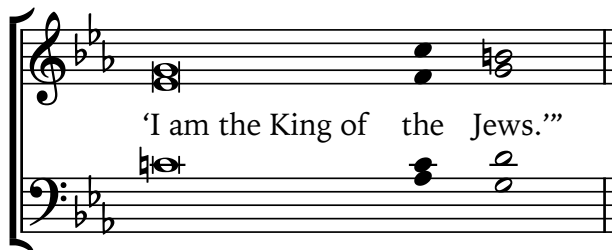
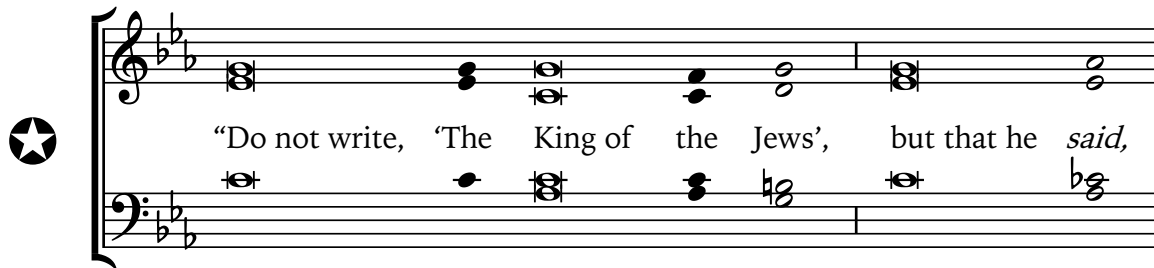
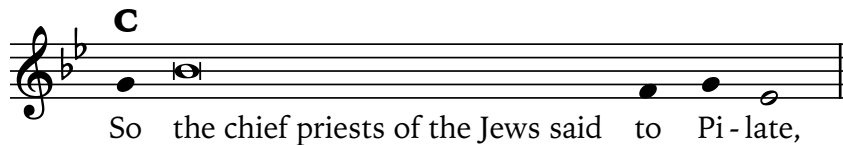
Then he handed Him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus, and, carrying the cross Himself,
He went out to what is called the 'Place of the Skull',
(in Hebrew, 'Golgotha'.)

There they crucified Him, and with Him two others,
one on either side, with Jesus in the middle.

Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross.
It read, "Jesus the Nazorean, the King of the Jews."

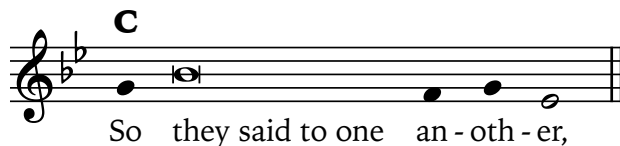
Now many of the Jews read this inscription,
because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city;
and it was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek.

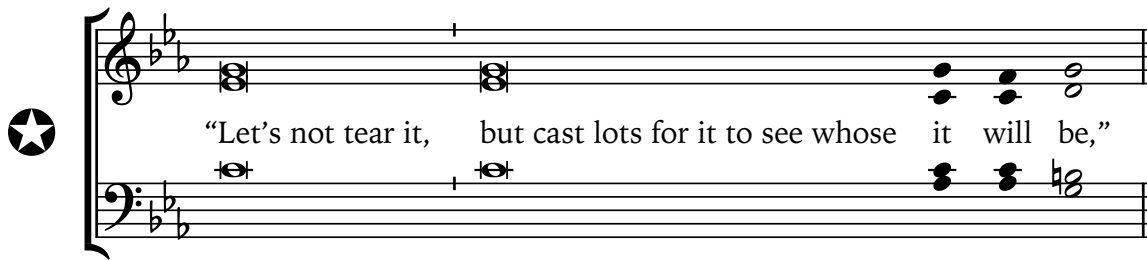


Pilate answered,
"What I have written, I have written."

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus,
they took His clothes and divided them into four shares,
a share for each soldier.

They also took His tunic, but the tunic was seamless,
woven in one piece from the top down.





in order that the passage of Scripture might be fulfilled that says:

*They divided my garments among them,
and for my vesture they cast lots.*

This is what the soldiers did.

Standing by the cross of Jesus were His Mother,
and His Mother's sister, Mary, the wife of Clopas,
and Mary of Magdala.

When Jesus saw His Mother and the disciple there whom He loved,
He said to His Mother,
"Woman, behold, Your son."

Then he said to the disciple,
"Behold, your Mother."

And from that hour the disciple took Her into his home.

After this, aware that everything was now finished,
in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled,
Jesus said,
"I thirst."

There was a vessel filled with common wine.
So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop
and put it up to His mouth.

When Jesus had taken the wine, He said,
"It is finished."
And bowing His head, He handed over the spirit.

Here all kneel and pause for a short time.

Now since it was preparation day,
in order that the bodies might not remain on the cross on the sabbath,
for the sabbath day of that week was a solemn one,
the Jews asked Pilate that their legs be broken
and that they be taken down.

So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first
and then of the other one who was crucified with Jesus.
But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead,
they did not break His legs,
but one soldier thrust his lance into His side,
and immediately blood and water flowed out.

An eyewitness has testified, and his testimony is true;
he knows that he is speaking the truth,
so that you also may come to believe.

For this happened so that the Scripture passage might be fulfilled:
Not a bone of it will be broken.

And again another passage says:
They will look upon him whom they have pierced.

After this, Joseph of Arimathea,
secretly a disciple of Jesus for fear of the Jews,
asked Pilate if he could remove the body of Jesus.
And Pilate permitted it, so he came and took His body.

Nicodemus, the one who had first come to Him at night,
also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes
weighing about one hundred pounds.

They took the body of Jesus
and bound it with burial cloths along with the spices,
according to the Jewish burial custom.

Now in the place where He had been crucified, there was a garden,
and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had yet been buried.
So they laid Jesus there because of the Jewish preparation day;
for the tomb was close by.

C = Chronista (Narrator) **S** = Synagoga (“Vox”) ✠ = Christus
All choral responses (Turba Choruses) are bracketed and begin with a ☼.

To download the Dr. Jennifer Donelson’s version of the St. John Passion, please visit:
<https://jenniferdonelson.com> and click on “Sacred Music Resources”.
“Do” should be sung on Bb.