

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

1 HYMN

Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle,
Sing the last, the dread affray;
O'er the Cross, the victor's trophy,
Sound the high triumphal lay,
How, a victim's death enduring,
Earth's Redeemer won the day.

God, man's Maker, sorely grieving
That the first man, Adam, fell,
When he ate the fruit of sorrow,
Whose reward was death and hell;
Mark'd e'en then this Wood, the ruin
Of the ancient wood to quell.

Thus the scheme of our salvation
Was of old in order laid,
That the manifold deceiver's
Art by art might be outweighed,
And the lure the foe put forward
Into means of healing made.

To the Trinity be glory
Everlasting, as is meet;
Equal to the Father, equal
To the Son, and Paraclete:
Trinal Unity, whose praises
All created things repeat.
Amen.

2 FIRST GOSPEL

Evangelist. And the first day of unleavened bread His disciples went forth, and came into the city, and they made ready the Passover. And in the evening He cometh with the twelve. And as they sat and did eat, Jesus said:

Jesus. Verily I say unto you, one of you which eateth with Me shall betray Me.

Evangelist. And they began to be sorrowful, and to say unto Him one by one:

Chorus. Is it I?

Evangelist. And He answered and said unto them:

Jesus. It is one of the twelve that dippeth with Me in the dish.

Chorus. And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said:

Jesus. Take, eat; this is My Body.

Chorus. And He took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it unto them; and they all drank of it.

Evangelist. And He said unto them:

Jesus. This is My Blood of the new testament, which is shed for many. Verily I say unto you, I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine until that day that I drink it new in the Kingdom of God.

Chorus. And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the Mount of Olives.

③ HYMN

The Heavenly Word proceeding forth,
Yet leaving not the Father's side,
Accomplishing His work on earth,
Had reached at length life's eventide.

By false disciple to be given
To foemen for His life athirst,
Himself, the very Bread of heaven,
He gave to His disciples first.

He gave himself in either kind,
His precious Flesh, His precious Blood;
In Love's own fullness thus designed
Of the whole man to be the Food.

O Saving Victim, opening wide
The gate of heaven for men below,
Our foes press on from every side;
Thine aid supply, Thy strength bestow.
Amen.

④ SECOND GOSPEL

Evangelist. And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane, and He saith to His disciples:

Jesus. Sit ye here, while I shall pray.

Evangelist. And He taketh with Him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy, and saith unto them:

Jesus. My soul is exceeding sorrowful, unto death; tarry ye here and watch.

Chorus. And He went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed, that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him.

Evangelist. And He said:

Jesus. Abba, Father, all things are possible unto Thee; take away this cup from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what Thou wilt.

Evangelist. And He cometh, and findeth them sleeping, and saith unto Peter:

Jesus. Simon, sleepest thou? Couldst not thou watch one hour? Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation; the spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak.

Chorus. And again He went away, and prayed, and spake the same words.

Evangelist. And when He returned, He found them asleep again (for their eyes were heavy), neither wist they want to answer Him. And He cometh the third time, and saith unto them:

Jesus. Sleep on now, and take your rest; it is enough, the hour is come; behold, the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise up, let us go; lo, he that betrayeth Me is at hand.

Evangelist. And immediately, while He yet spake, cometh Judas, one of the twelve,

Chorus. And with him a great multitude with swords and staves from the chief priests and the elders. And he that betrayed Him had given them a token, saying:

Judas. Whomsoever I shall kiss that same is He: take Him and lead Him away safely.

Chorus. And as soon as he was come he goeth straightway to Him, and saith:

Judas. Master, Master,

Chorus. And kissed Him.

And they laid their hands on Him, and took Him. And they all forsook Him, and fled.

5 HYMN

Lord, when we bow before Thy Throne,
And our confessions pour,
Teach us to feel the sins we own,
And hate what we deplore.

May faith each weak petition fill,
And waft it to the skies,
And teach our hearts 'tis goodness still
That grants it or denies.

When we disclose our wants in prayer,
May we our wills resign,
And not a thought our bosoms share,
Which is not wholly Thine.

6 THIRD GOSPEL

Evangelist. And they led Jesus away to the high priests; and with him were assembled all the chief priests, and the elders, and the scribes. And Peter followed Him afar off, even into the palace of the high priest; and he sat with the servants, and warmed himself at the fire. And the chief priests and all the council sought for witness against

Jesus to put Him to death; and found none. And the high priest stood up in the midst, and asked Jesus, saying:

High Priest. Answerest Thou nothing? What is it which these witness against Thee?

Evangelist. But He held His peace and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked Him, and said unto Him:

High Priest. Art Thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?

Evangelist. And Jesus said:

Jesus. I am; and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.

Evangelist. Then the high priest rent his clothes, and said:

High Priest. What need we any further witnesses? Ye have heard the blasphemy; what think ye?

Chorus. And they all condemned Him to be guilty of death. And some began to spit on Him, and to cover his face, and to buffet it, and to say unto Him, Prophecy; and the servants did strike Him with the palms of their hands.

Evangelist. And as Peter was beneath in the palace there cometh one of the maids of the high priest; and when she saw Peter warming himself, she looked upon him and said:

First maid. And thou also wast with Jesus of Nazareth.

Evangelist. But he denied, saying:

Peter. I know not, neither understand I what thou sayest.

Evangelist. And he went out into the porch; and the cock crew. And a maid saw him again, and began to say to them that stood by:

Second maid. This is one of them.

Evangelist. And he denied it again. And a little after they that stood by said again to Peter:

Servants. Surely thou art one of them; for thou art a Galilæan; and thy speech agreeth thereto.

Evangelist. But he began to curse and to swear, saying:

Peter. I know not the man of whom ye speak.

Evangelist. And the second time the cock crew. And Peter called to mind the word that Jesus said unto him. Before the cock crew twice thou shalt deny me thrice.

Chorus. And when he thought thereon he wept.

7 HYMN

My God, I love Thee: not because
I hope for heaven thereby,
Nor yet because who love Thee not
Are lost eternally.
Thou, O my Jesus, Thou didst me
Upon the Cross embrace;
For me didst bear the nails, and spear,
And manifold disgrace,

And griefs and torments numberless,
And sweat of agony;
Yea, death itself; and all for me
Who wast Thine enemy.
Then why, most loving Jesus Christ,
Should I not love Thee well?
Not for the sake of winning heaven,
Or of escaping hell;

Not from the hope of gaining aught,
Not seeking a reward;
But as Thyself has lovèd me,
O ever-loving Lord?
So do I love Thee, and will love,
Who such a love hast showed
Only because Thou art my King,
Because Thou art my God.

8 FOURTH GOSPEL

Evangelist. And straightway in the morning the chief priests held a consultation with the elders, and scribes, and the whole council, and bound Jesus, and carried Him away, and delivered Him to Pilate. And Pilate asked Him:

Pilate. Art Thou the King of the Jews?

Evangelist. And He answering said unto Him:

Jesus. Thou sayest it.

Evangelist. And the chief priests accused Him of many things; But He answered nothing. And Pilate asked Him again, saying:

Pilate. Answerest thou nothing? Behold how many things they witness against thee.

Evangelist. But Jesus yet answered nothing: so that Pilate marvelled. Now at that feast he released unto them one prisoner, whomsoever they desired. And there was one named Barabbas, which lay bound with them that had made insurrection with him, who had committed murder in the insurrection.

Chorus. And the multitude, crying aloud, began to desire him to do as he had ever done unto them.

Evangelist. But Pilate answered them, saying:

Pilate. Will ye that I release unto you the King of the Jews?

Evangelist. But the chief priests moved the people that he should rather release Barabbas unto them. And Pilate answered, and said unto them:

Pilate. What will ye then that I should do unto Him whom ye call the King of the Jews?

Chorus. Crucify Him. Crucify Him.

Evangelist. Then Pilate said unto them.

Pilate. Why, what evil hath he done?

Evangelist. And they cried out the more exceedingly:

Chorus. Crucify Him. Crucify Him.

Evangelist. And so Pilate, willing to content the people, released Barabbas unto them, and delivered Jesus when he had scourged Him, to be crucified.

Chorus. And the soldiers led Him away into the hall, called Prætorium; and they call together the whole band. And they clothed Him with purple, and platted a crown of thorns, and put it about His head; and began to salute Him, Hail, King of the Jews. And they smote Him on the head with a reed, and did spit upon Him, and, bowing their knees, worshipped Him. And when they had mocked Him, they took off the purple from Him, and put His own clothes on Him, and led Him out to crucify Him.

9 HYMN

Faithful Cross! above all other,
One and only noble tree!
None in foliage, none in blossom,
None in fruit thy peer may be;
Sweetest Wood and sweetest Iron!
Sweetest Weight is hung on thee.

10 FIFTH GOSPEL

Evangelist. And they bring Him into the place Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, the place of a skull. And they gave Him to drink wine mingled with myrrh; but He received it not.

Chorus. And when they had crucified Him they parted His garments, casting lots upon them, what every man should take. And it was the third hour, and they crucified Him.

Evangelist. And the superscription of His accusation was written over, THE KING OF THE JEWS.

Chorus. And with Him they crucify two thieves, the one on His right hand, and the other on His left.

Evangelist. And they that passed by railed on Him, wagging their heads and saying:

Chorus. Ah, Thou that destroyest the temple and buildest it in three days, save Thyself, and come down from the cross.

Evangelist. Likewise, also the chief priests, mocking, said among themselves with the scribes:

Chorus. He saved others; Himself He cannot save. Let Christ, the King of Israel, descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe.

Evangelist. And they that were crucified with Him reviled Him.

Chorus. And when the sixth hour was come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour.

Evangelist. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying:

Jesus. Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?

Evangelist. Which is, being interpreted, My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me? And some of them that stood by, when they heard it, said:

Chorus. Behold, He calleth Elias.

Evangelist. And one ran and filled a sponge full of vinegar, and put it on a reed and gave Him to drink, saying:

Bystander. Let alone; let us see whether Elias will come to take Him down.

Chorus. And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost.

ff HYMN

Bend thy boughs, O Tree of Glory!
Thy relaxing sinews bend;
For awhile the ancient rigour
That thy birth bestow'd suspend;
And the King of heav'nly beauty
On thy bosom gently tend.

Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle,
Sing the last, the dread affray;
O'er the Cross, the victor's trophy,
Sound the high triumphal lay,
How a victim's death enduring,
Earth's Redeemer won the day.
Amen.

