

Victoria: St John's Passion

Notes for Betsy

- 1 Yes, it really is 41 pages. Sorry.
- 2 It's a dramatised setting of the passion, i.e. the story of Christ's death. So there are three different named parts:
 - Chronista, the narrator, is by far the biggest part. It should definitely be a group of singers in unison, not a solo. Traditionally it ought to be all the boys, but since most of the solo parts are for boys too, that would get pretty boring for the girls. So maybe it should be all the girls instead. Or it could alternate between the two, or it could be everyone who doesn't have a solo part (I think that will be three people). I don't think it would work to mix octaves.
 - Christus is always a bass - I don't mind who. Not as huge a part as you might imagine, since Christ spends most of the story refusing to answer questions.
 - Turba represents the random crowds, angry mobs and groups of high priests, and it's sung by everyone together. Victoria has written 4-part harmony for all the Turba parts, so we'll definitely use these, not the plainsong alternatives (it would probably be helpful to go through and cross those out).
- 3 Then there's also a fourth part which is always written as 'Synagogus', but actually represents various different people at different times:
 - a guard (female)
 - Simon Peter the disciple (a tenor)
 - a random policeman or woman (gender unspecified)
 - a slave (gender unspecified)
 - Pilate (a tenor, and a big part)

I don't much mind who does which of these parts, as long as it's one singer per part, and ideally a different one for each. I don't mind taking either Simon Peter or Pilate. Total number of solo parts is 6, not including Chronista.

- 4 Apart from the bits of harmony for Turba, most of the music is on plainsong tones.
- 5 The music itself is very easy. The two big challenges are going to be:
 - Keeping it flowing along at a decent rate, in speech rhythm, so it doesn't take forever.
 - Keeping concentration throughout so we don't stumble over words or notes, or make stupid mistakes.

12

came for - ward and asked _____ them, _____

13

+ *Christus*

"Whom are you look - ing _____ for?"

14

Chronista

They _____ an - - swered,

15

Turba

"Je - sus of Na - za - reth."

16

(or this)

VICTORIA

S

Je - sus of Na - - - za - reth.

A

Je - sus of Na - - - za - reth.

T

Je - sus of Na - - - za - reth.

B

Je - sus of Na - - - za - reth.

Organ

21

Chronista

Je - sus _____ re - plied, _____

22

Chronista

"I _____ am _____ he.

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John

(or this)

30

S Je - sus of Na - za - reth.

A Je - sus of Na - za - reth.

T Je - sus of Na - za - reth.

B Je - sus of Na - za - reth.

Organ

35

Chronista Je - - - sus an - swered,

36

+ **Christus** "I told you that I am he.

37

So if you are look - ing for me,

38

let these men go."

39

+ **Christus** This was to ful - fill the word that he had spo - ken,

40



64 *(soprano or treble solo ad lib.)*

Synagogus  "You are not al - so one of this man's dis - ci - ples, are__ you?"

65

Chronista  He _____ said,

66

Synagogus  "I am _____ not."

67

Chronista  Now the slaves and the po - lice had made a

68

 char - coal fire be - cause it was cold,

69

 and they were stand - ing a - round it and warm - ing them - selves.

70

 Pe - ter al - so was stand - ing with them and warm - ing him - self.

71

 Then the high priest ques - tioned Je - sus about his

72

 dis - ci - ples and a - bout his teach - ing.

73

 Je - - sus _____ an - swered,

74

+ Christus  I have spo - ken o - pen - ly to the _____ world;

75



86

+ *Christus*

"If I have spo - ken wrong - ly, tes - ti - fy to the__ wrong.

88

But if I have spo - ken right - ly, why do you strike__ me?"

90

Chronista

Then An - nas sent him bound to Cai - a - phus the high__ priest.

91

Now Si - mon Pe - ter was stand - ing and warm - ing him - self.

92

Chronista

They_____ asked him,

93

Turba

"You are not al - so one of his dis - ci - ples, are__ you?"
(or this)

94

S

You are not al - so one__ of his dis - ci - ples, are you?

A

You are not al - so one__ of his dis - ci - ples, are you?

T

You are not al - so one__ of his dis - ci - ples, are you?

B

You are not al - so one__ of his dis - ci - ples, are you?

Organ

99
Chronista 
 He de - nied it and said,

100
Synagogus 
 "I am _____ not.

101
Chronista 
 One of the slaves of the high _____ priest,

102

 a re - la - tive of the man whose ear Pe - ter had cut off, _____ asked,

103
Synagogus 
 "Did I not see you in the gar - den with _____ him?"

104
Chronista 
 A - gain Pe - ter de - nied it,

105

 And at that mo - ment the cock crowed.

106

 Then they took Je - sus from Cai - a - phas to Pi - late's head - quar - ters.

107

 It was ear - ly in the mor - ning.

108

 They them - selves did not en - ter the head - quar - ters,

109

 so as to a - void rit - u - al de - file - ment and to be a - ble to eat the Pass - o - ver.

111

So Pi - late went out to them and said,

Synagogus

112

"What ac - cu - sa - tion do you bring a - gainst this man?"

Chronista

113

They an - - swered,

Turba

114

If this man were not a cri - mi - nal,

115

we would not have hand - ed him o - ver to you."

(or this)

116

S If he were not a cri - mi - nal we would not have

A If he were not a cri - mi - nal we would not have

T If he were not a cri - mi - nal we would not have hand - ed

B If he were not a cri - mi - nal we would not have

Organ

121

hand - ed him o - - - ver to you.

hand - ed him o - - - ver to you.

him o - - - ver to you.

hand - ed him o - - - ver to you.

125

Chronista

Pi - late said to them,

126

Synagogus

"Take him your - selves and judge him ac - cord - ing to your law."

127

Chronista

The Jews re - plied,

128

Turba

"We are not per - mit - ted to put a - ny - one to death."

129 *(or this)*

S
We are not per - mit - ted to put a - ny - one to death.

A
We are not per - mit - ted to put a - ny - one to death.

T
We are not per - mit - ted to put a - ny - one to death.

B
We are not per - mit - ted to put a - ny - one to death.

Organ

133

Chronista

(This was to ful - fill what Je - sus had said

134

when he in - di - ca - ted the kind of death he was to die.)

135

Then Pi - late en - tered the head - quar - ters a - gain,

136

sum - moned Je - sus, and asked him,

137

Synagogus

"Are you the King of the Jews?"

138

Chronista

Je - sus an - - swered,

139
+ Christus 
 "Did you ask this on your own,

140

 or did o - thers tell you a - bout___ me?"

141
Chronista 
 Pi - late re - plied,

142
Synagogus 
 "I am not a Jew,___ am___ I?"

143

 your own na - tion and the chief priests have hand - ed you o - ver to me.

145

 What have you___ done?"

146
Chronista 
 Je - sus___ an - swered,

147
+ Christus 
 "My king - dom is not from this___ world.

148

 If my king - dom were from this world,

149

 my fol - low - ers would be fight - ing to keep me from

150

 be - ing hand - ed o - ver to the___ Jews.

151

But as it is, my king - dom is not from here."

152

Chronista

Pi - late asked him,

153

Synagogus

"So you are a king?"

154

Chronista

Je - sus an - swered,

155

+ *Christus*

"You say that I am a king.

156

For this was I born, and for this I came

157

in - to the world to tes - ti - fy to the truth.

158

E - v'ry - one who be - longs to the truth lis - tens to my voice."

159

Chronista

Pi - late asked him,

160

Synagogus

What is truth?

161

Chronista

Af - ter he had said this,

162

he went out to the Jews a - gain and told them,

Synagogus 163

"I find no case a - gainst him.

164

But you have a cus - tom that I re - lease

165

some - one for you at the Pass - o - ver.

166

Do you want me to re - lease for you the King— of the Jews?"

Chronista 167

They shout - ed in re - ply,

Turba 168

"Not this man, but Bar - ab - bas!"

(or this)

169

S

Not this man, but Bar - ab - - - bas!

A

Not this man, but Bar - ab - - - bas!

T

Not this man, but Bar - ab - - - bas!

B

Not this man, but Bar - ab - - - bas!

Organ

172

Chronista

Now Bar - ab - bas was a ban - dit.

173

Then Pi - late took Je - sus and had him flogged.

174

And the sol - diers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head,

175

and they dressed him in a pur - ple robe.

176

They kept com - ing up to him, — say - ing,

Turba ¹⁷⁷

"Hail, _____ King of the Jews."

(or this)

S ¹⁷⁸

Hail, King of the Jews, Hail, King of the Jews.

A

Hail, King of the Jews, Hail, _____ King of the Jews.

T

Hail, King of the Jews, _____ Hail, King _____ of the Jews.

B

Hail, King of the Jews, _____ Hail, _____ King of the Jews.

Organ

Chronista ¹⁸⁴

and stri - king him on the face.

¹⁸⁵

PI - late went out a - gain and said _____ to them,

Synagogus ¹⁸⁶

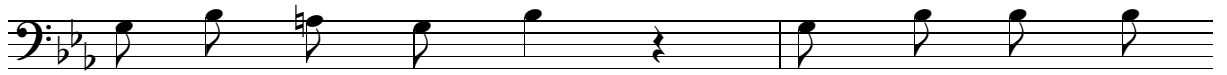
"Look, I am bring - ing him out to you

¹⁸⁷

to let you know that I find no case a - gainst him."

188

Chronista



So Je - sus came out, wear - ing the crown

190



of thorns and the pur - ple robe.

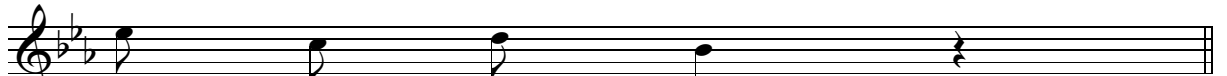
191



Pi - late said to them,

192

Synagogus



"Here is the man!"

193

Chronista



When the chief priests and the po - lice_ saw him, they_ shout - ed,

194

Turba



"Cru - ci - fy him! Cru - ci - fy him!"

(or this)

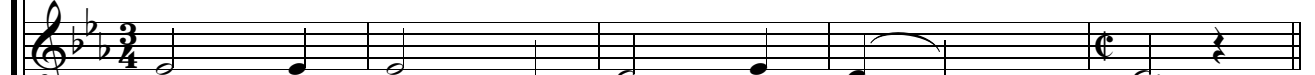
195

S



Cru - ci - fy him! Cru - ci - fy him!

A



Cru - ci - fy him! Cru - ci - fy him!

T



Cru - ci - fy him! Cru - ci - fy him!

B



Cru - ci - fy him! Cru - ci - fy him!

Organ



200

Chronista

Pi - late said to them,

201

Synagogus

"Take him your - selves and cru - ci - fy him;

202

I find no case a - gainst him."

203

Chronista

The Jews _____ an - swered him.

204

Turba

"We have a law, and ac - cord - ing to that law he ought to die

205

be - cause he has claimed to be the Son of God."

(or this)

206

S
We have a law and ac - cord - ing to that law he ought to die be -

A
We have a law and ac - cord - ing to that law he ought to die be -

T
We have a law and ac - cord - ing to that law he ought to die be -

B
We have a law and ac - cord - ing to that law he ought to die be -

Organ

211

cause he has claimed to be the Son of God.

cause he has claimed to be the Son of God.

cause he has claimed to be the Son of God.

cause he has claimed to be the Son of God.

216
Chronista 
 Now when Pi - late heard_____ this,

217

 he was more a - fraid than e - ver.

218

 He en - tered his head - quar - ters a - gain and asked_ Je - sus,

219
Synagogus 
 "Where are_____ you_____ from?"

220
Chronista 
 But Je - sus gave him no an - swer.

221

 Pi - late there - fore said to him,

222
Synagogus 
 "Do you re - fuse to speak_____ to_____ me?"

223

 Do you not know that I have pow - er to re - lease you,

224

 and pow - er to cru - ci - fy_____ you?"

225
Chronista 
 Je - sus_____ an - swered him,

226
+ Christus 
 "You would have no pow - er o - ver me

227

un - less it had been giv - en you from a - bove;

228

there - fore the one who hand - ed me o - ver to you

229

is guil - ty of a great - er sin."

230

Chronista

From then on Pi - late tried to re - lease him,

231

but the Jews _____ cried out,

232

Turba

"If you re - lease this _____ man,

233

you are no friend of the em - per - or.

234

E - v'ry - one who claims to be a king

235

sets him - self a - gainst the em - per - or."

(or this)

236

S If you re - lease this man, you are no friend of the

A If you re - lease this man, you are no friend of the

T If you re - lease this man, you are no friend of the

B If you re - lease this man,

Organ

240

em - per - or. E - v'ry - one who claims to be a king

em - per - or. E - v'ry - one who claims to be a king

em - per - or. E - v'ry - one who claims to be a king

E - v'ry - one who claims to be a king

Organ

244

sets him - self a - gainst the em - per - or.

sets him - self a - gainst the em - per - or.

sets him - self a - gainst the em - per - or.

sets him - self a - gainst the em - per - or.

248

Chronista

When Pi - late heard these words,

249

he brought Je - sus out - side and sat on the jud - ge's bench

250

at a place called The Stone Pave - ment,

251

or in the He - brew Gab - ba - tha.

252

Now it was the day of Pre - pa - ra - tion for the Pass - o - ver;

253

and it was a - bout noon.

254

He said to the Jews,

Synagogus 255

"Here is your King!"

Chronista 256

They cried _____ out,

Turba 257

"A - way with him! A - way with him! Cru - ci - fy him!"

(or this)

258

S A - way with him! A - way with

A A - way with him! A - way with

T A - way with him! A - way with

B A - way with him! A - way with

Organ

262

him! Cru - ci - fy him!

him! Cru - ci - fy him!

8
him! Cru - ci - fy him!

him! Cru - ci - fy him!

The musical score consists of five systems. The first four systems are vocal parts: Soprano (top), Alto, Tenor (marked with an 8), and Bass. Each vocal line has lyrics: "him! Cru - ci - fy him!". The piano accompaniment is in the fifth system, with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The music is in a minor key (three flats) and common time. The vocal parts feature a melodic line with a long note on "fy" and a fermata over the final "him!". The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines in both hands.

266

Chronista

Pi - late asked them,

267

Synagogus

"Shall I cru - ci - fy your King?"

268

Chronista

The chief priests an - swered,

269

Turba

"We have no king but the em - per - or."

270

S

We have no king but the em - per - or; we

A

We have no king but the em - per - or; we

T

We have no king but the em - per - or; we

B

We have no king but the em - per - or; we

Organ

275

(or this)

have no king but the em - per - or.

have no king but the em - per - or.

have no king but the em - per - or.

have no king but the em - per - or.

have no king but the em - per - or.

279

Chronista

Then he hand - ed him o - ver to them to be cru - ci - fied.

280

So they took Je - sus; and car - ry - ing the cross by him - self,

281

he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull,

282

which in He - brew is called Gol - goth - a.

283

There they cru - ci - fied him, and with him two oth - ers,

284

one on eith - er side, with Je - sus be - tween them.

285

Pi - late al - so had an in - scrip - tion writ - ten and put on the cross.

286

It read, "Je - sus of Na - za - reth, the King of the Jews."

287

Ma - ny of the Jews read this in scrip - tion,

288

be - cause the place where Je - sus was cru - ci - fied was near the cit - y;

289

and it was writ - ten in He - brew, in La - tin, and in Greek.

290

Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pi - late,

291

Turba

Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,'

292

but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.' "

(or this)

293

S Do not write 'the King of the Jews',

A Do not write 'the King of the Jews',

T Do not write 'the King of the Jews',

B Do not write 'the King of the Jews',

Organ

297

S Do not write 'the King of the Jews' but 'this man

A Do not write 'the King of the Jews' but 'this man

T Do not write 'the King of the Jews' but 'this man

B Do not write 'the King of the Jews' but 'this man

Organ

301

S said I am the King of the Jews'.

A said I am the King of the Jews'.

T said I am the King of the Jews'.

B said I am the King of the Jews'.

Organ

304

Chronista Pi - late an - swered.

305

Synagogus "What I have writ - ten, I have writ - ten."

306

Chronista When the sol - diers had cru - ci - fied Je - sus,

307

they took his clothes and di - vi - ded them in - to four parts,

308

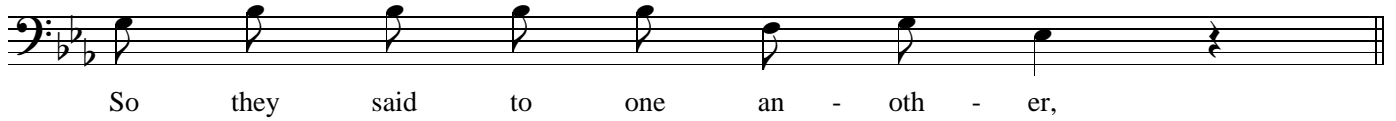
one for each sol - dier. They al - so took his tu - nic;

310



now the tu - nic was seam - less, wo - ven in one piece from the top.

311



So they said to one an - oth - er,

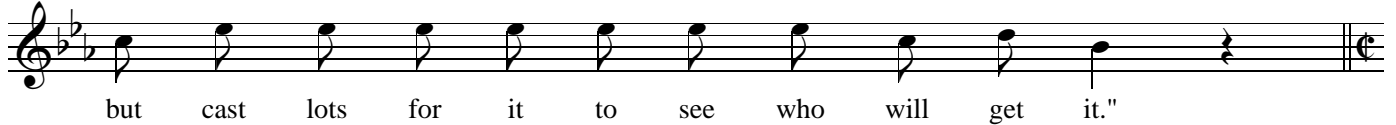
312

Turba



"Let us not tear it,

313



but cast lots for it to see who will get it."

(or this)

314



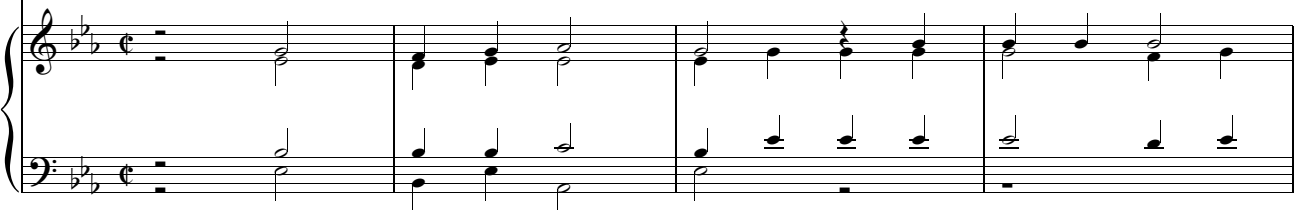
S Let us not tear it, let us not tear

A Let us not tear it, let us not tear it, but

T Let us not tear it, let us not tear it, but

B Let us not tear it,

Organ



318

it but cast lots for it to see who will
 cast _____ lots for it to see who will
 cast _____ lots for it to see _____ who will
 who will

321

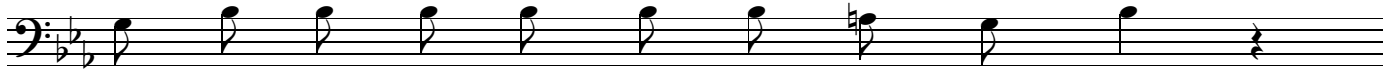
get _____ it, to see who will get it. _____
 get _____ it, to see _____ who will get it. _____
 get it, to see _____ who will get it. _____
 get it, to see who will get it. _____

325

Chronista

This was to ful - fill what the scrip - ture says,

326



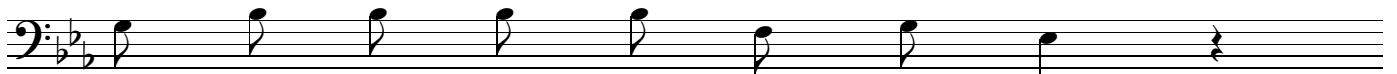
"They di - vi - ded my clothes a - mong them - selves,

327



and for my clo - thing they cast _____ lots."

328



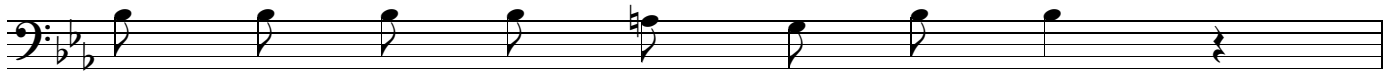
And this is what the sol - diers did.

329



Mean - while stand - ing near the cross of Je - sus were his

330



mo - ther, and his mo - ther's sis - ter,

331



Ma - ry the wife of Clo - pas, and Ma - ry Mag - da - lene.

332



When Je - sus saw his mo - ther and the dis - ci - ple

333



whom he loved stand - ing be - side her,

334



He said to his _____ mo - ther,


335

+ *Christus*

"Wo - man, here is your _____ son."

336


Chronista



Then he said to the _____ dis - ci - ple.

337

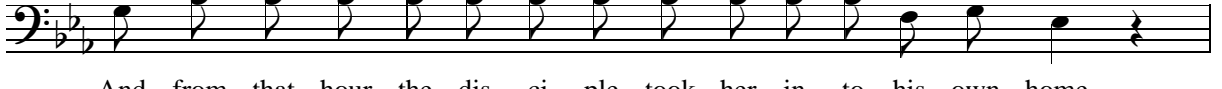
+ *Christus*



"Here _____ is _____ your _____ mo - ther."

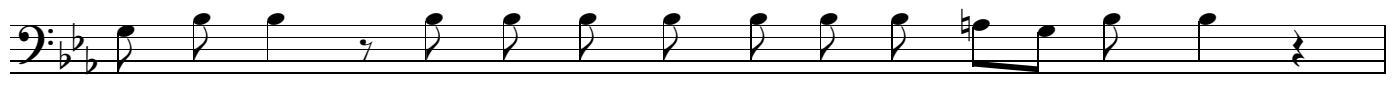
338

Chronista




And from that hour the dis - ci - ple took her in - to his own home.

339



Af - ter this, when Je - sus knew that all was now _____ fin - ished,


340



he said (in or - der to ful - fill _____ the scrip - ture),

341


+ *Christus*



"I am _____ thirs - ty.

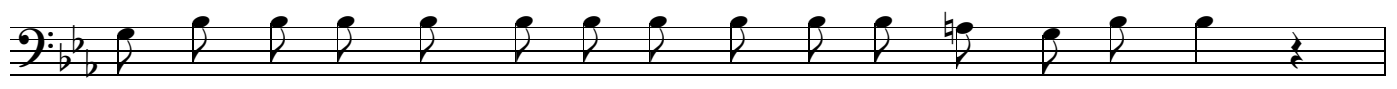
342

Chronista



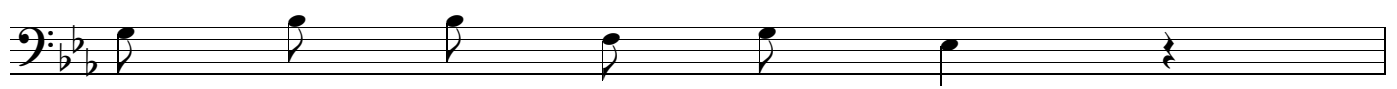
A jar of sour wine was stand - ing there.

343



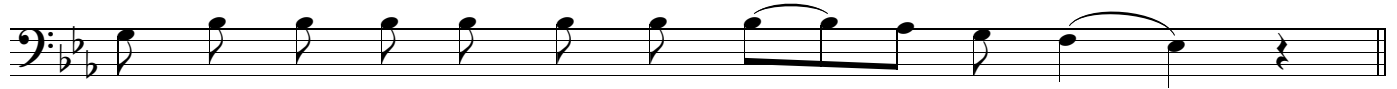
So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hys - sop

344



and held it to his mouth.


345



When Je - sus had re - ceive the wine, _____ he said, _____

346

+ *Christus*



"It is _____ fin - ished.

357

and broke the legs of the _____ first

358

and of the o - ther who had been

359

cru - - - ci - - - fied with _____ him.

360

But _____ when they came to Je - sus

361

and saw that he was al - rea - dy dead,

362

they did not _____ break _____ his _____ legs.

363

In - stead, _____ one of the sol - diers

364

pierced his side with a _____ spear,

365

and at once blood and wa - - ter _____ came _____ out.

366

(He _____ who saw it has tes - ti - fied

367

so that you al - - so _____ may be - lieve.

368

His tes - ti - mo - ny is true,

369

and he knows that he tells the truth.)

370

These things oc - curred so that

371

scrip - ture might be ful - filled,

372

"None of his bones shall be bro - ken.

373

And a - gain

374

an - oth - er pas - sage of scrip - ture says,

375

"They will look on the one whom

376

they have pierced."

377

Af - - - - - ter these things,

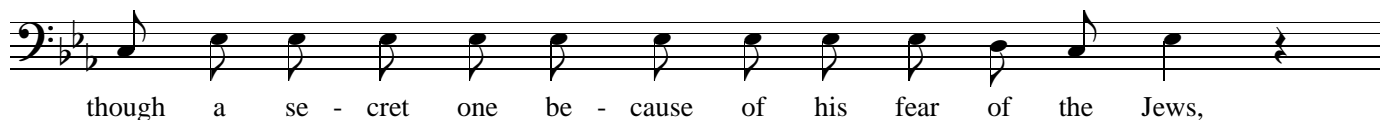
378

Jo - seph of A - ri - ma - the - a,

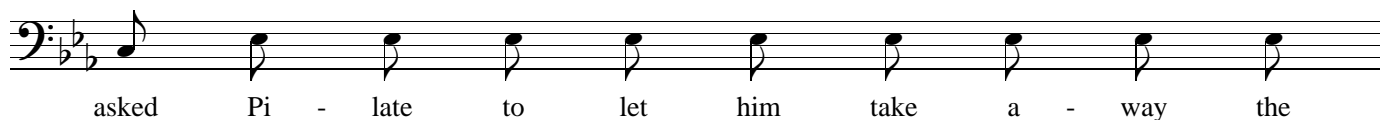
379



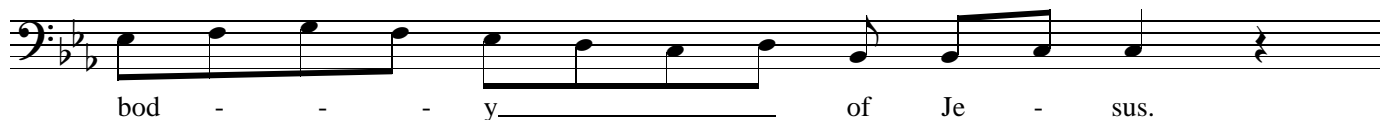
380



381



382



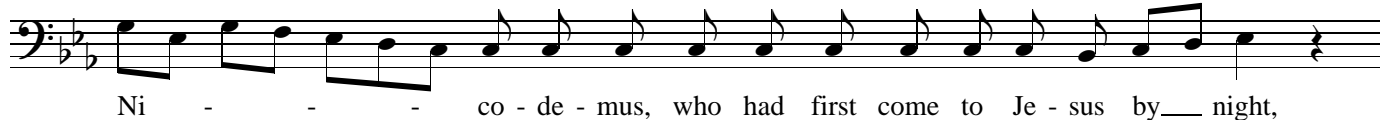
383



384



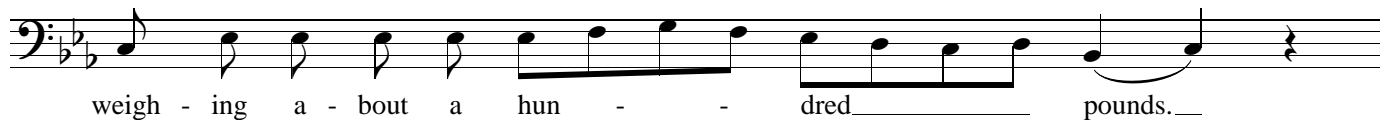
385



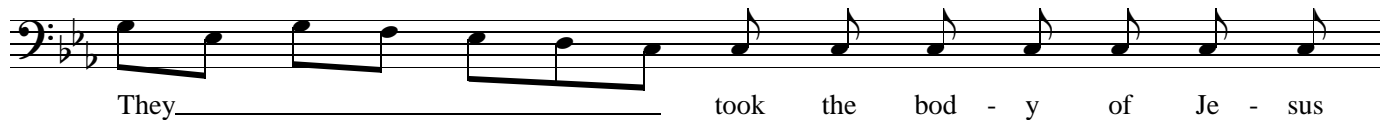
387



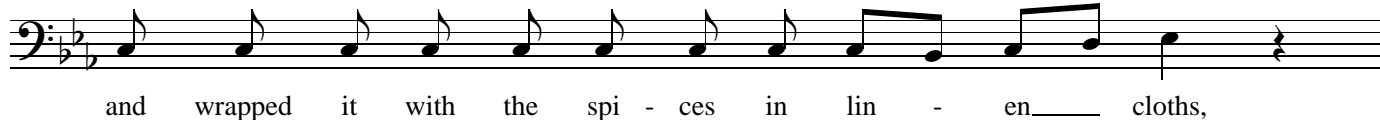
388



389



390



391

ac - cord - ing to the bur - i - al

392

cus - - - tom of the Jews.

393

Now there was a gar - den

394

in the place where he was cru - ci - fied,

395

and in the gar - den there was a new tomb

396

in which no one had e - - - ver been laid.

397

And so, be - cause it was the

398

Jew - ish Day of Pre - pa - ra - tion,

399

and the tomb was near - - by,

400

they laid Je - - sus there.