

St Matthew's Passion

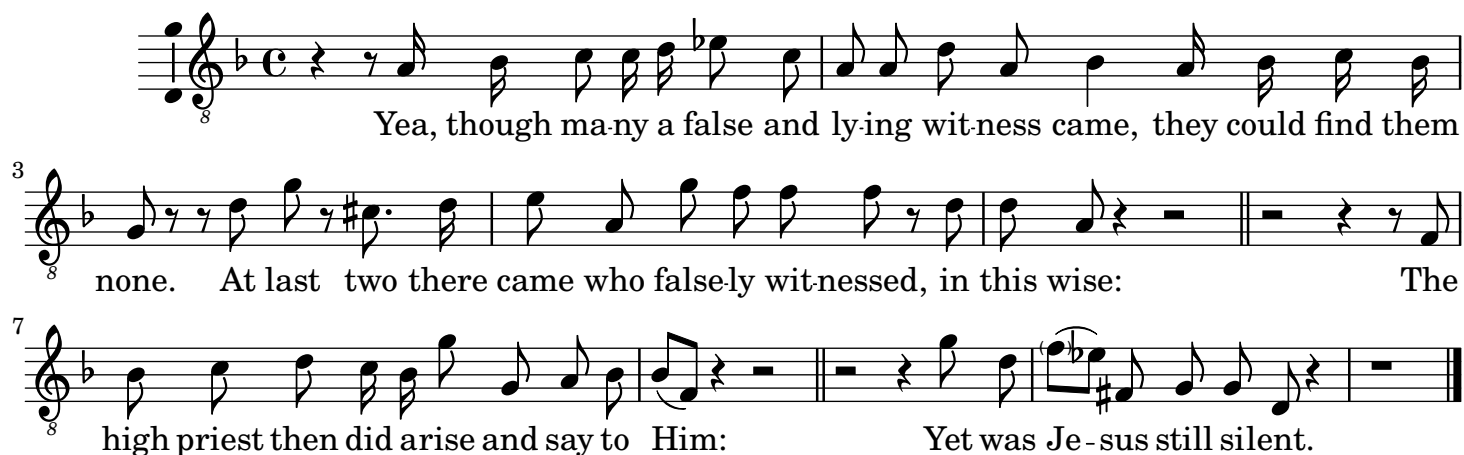
J.S. Bach

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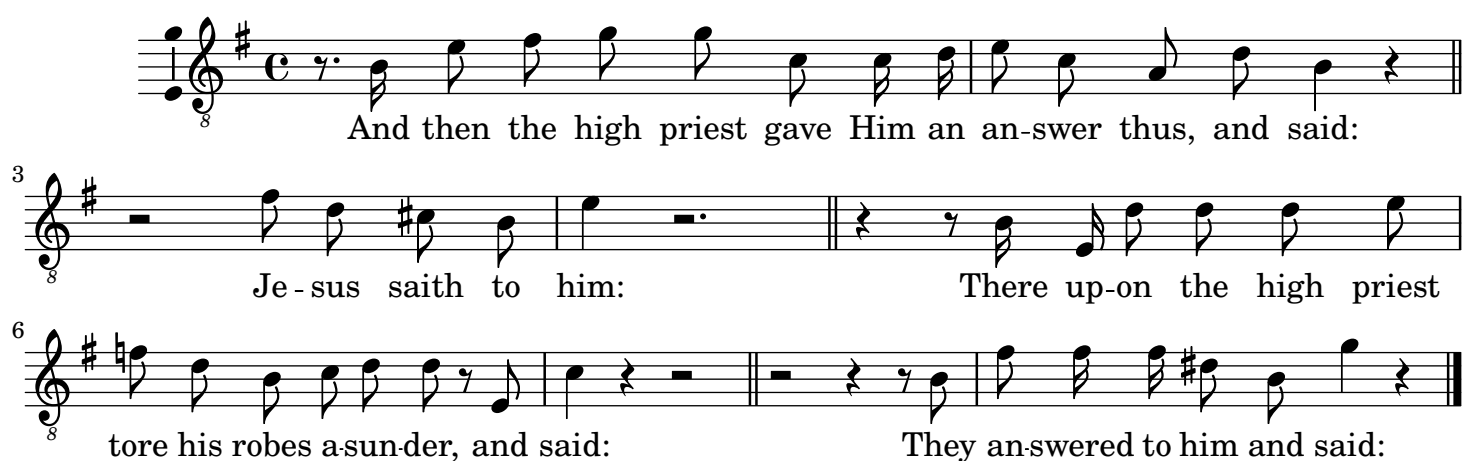
Be-hold then! One of His dis-ci-ples which were there with
 Je-sus, drawing his sword forth, he struck the high priest's servent, and smote off his
 ear. Then said Je-sus to him: In that same hour Je-sus said to the
 people: And then all the di-ci-ples forsook Him, and fled.

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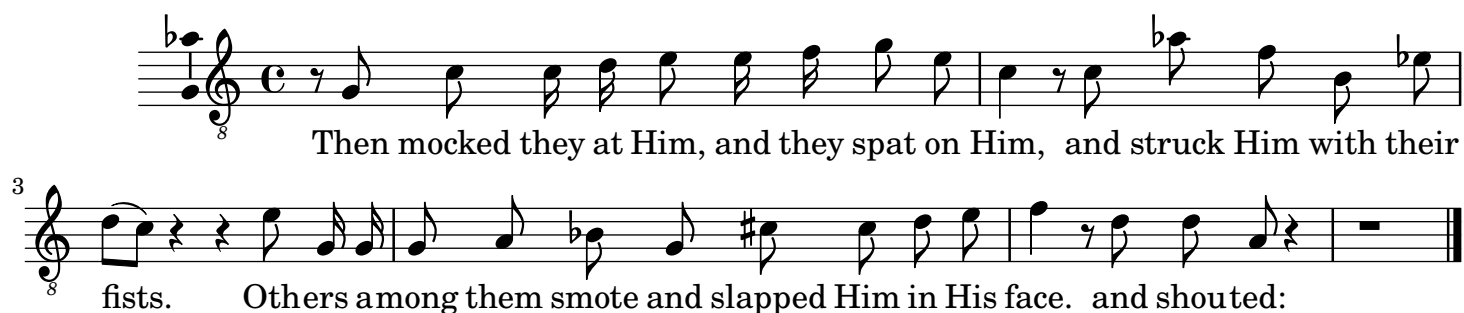
And they that had so laid hold on Je-sus led Him a-way un-to the
 high priest, Ca-i-phas; and with him were the scribes and the el-ders as-
 sem-bled all to-ge-ther. Pe-ter al-so fol-lowed af-ter Him a -
 far off, un-to the court of the high priest's pa-lace; and went there-in, and
 sat with the guards and ser-vents, that he might see how all would be
 end-ed. Then did the priests con-spire with the el-ders, and
 all of the coun-cil how that they might false wit-ness bring on Je-sus, that
 He might be put to death. But found they none.



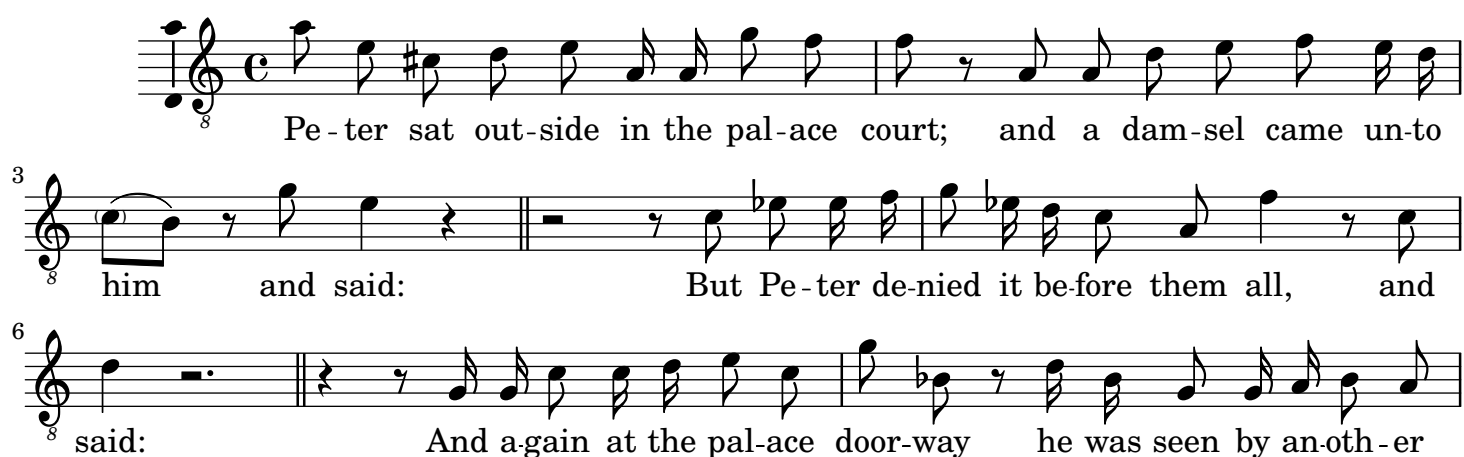
Yea, though many a false and ly-ing wit-ness came, they could find them
 none. At last two there came who falsely witnessed, in this wise: The
 high priest then did arise and say to Him: Yet was Je-sus still silent.



And then the high priest gave Him an an-swer thus, and said:
 Je-sus saith to him: There up-on the high priest
 tore his robes a-sun-der, and said: They answered to him and said:



Then mocked they at Him, and they spat on Him, and struck Him with their
 fists. Others among them smote and slapped Him in His face. and shouted:



Pe-ter sat out-side in the pal-ace court; and a dam-sel came un-to
 him and said: But Pe-ter de-nied it be-fore them all, and
 said: And a-gain at the pal-ace door-way he was seen by an-oth-er

9
8 maid, who said to them that stood there with him: He de-

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8 nied it a second time; and swore an oath: And in a lit-tle while came

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8 oth-ers who had been stand-ing be-side him, and said to Pe-ter:

46

8 But still did he de-ny with cursing and with swearing: Im-

4
8 mediate crew the cock. Then Pe-ter brought to mind the words of Jesus, which

7
8 said unto him: Ere yet the cock crow - eth, wilt thou have thrice denied Me. And

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8 he went out, and we - - - pt bit - ter-ly.

49

8 Now when the morn-ing came, all the chief priests gathered with the

3
8 el-ders of the peop-ple to plot ag-ainst Je-sus, that they might kill Him.

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8 And when they had bound Him, they led Him a -

6
8 way, and de-liv-ered Him to the court of the gov-er-nor, Pon-tious Pi-late. When,

8
8 there-fore, Ju-das the same who had be-trayed Him saw Je-sus con-demned to

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10
8 death he re-pen-ted of him-self, and brought once a-gain the thir-ty
12
8 sil-ver pieces to the high priests and the elders, and said: They said:

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8 Then he cast the sil-ver pie-ces in the tem-ple, and turned a-
3
8 way, and went out; and he hanged him-self.
5
8 And when the priests had ga-thered all of the sil-ver pie-ces, they said

52

8 Je-sus there-fore stood be-fore the gov-er-nor; and the
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8 gov-er-nor asked Him, and said: Je-sus an-swered un-to him:
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8 But when He was ac-cused when the priests and eld-ers ac-
8
8 cused Him He an-swered noth-ing. Then Pi-late said un-to Him:
11
8 And He an-swered him to nev-er a word, not
13
8 one in-so-much that the gov-er nor mar-velled great-ly.

54

8 Now up-on that feast the gov-er-nor was ac-cus-tomed to re-

3
8 lease there-on one pri-son-er un - to them, whom-ev - er they want-ed.

5
8 Now at that time, and a-mong the oth - er pri-son-ers, was a

7
8 most no-tor - ious man, whose name was Barabas. And when they were gathered to-

9
8 ge-ther, Pi-late said un-to them. For he knew full

12
8 well that it was for en - vy that He had been de - li-vered. And while he

14
8 sat on the judge-ment seat, then did his wife send him a mes-sage, say-ing:

16
8 Still did the high priests ar-gue, and the el-ders, false-ly to in-flame the

19
8 peo-ple, that there-by Ba-ra-bas be re-leased, and that Je - sus be cru-ci-fied.

21
8 And the governor again returned to the people, and asked them: They

24
8 shouted: Then Pilate said unto them: Again they shouted:

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8
The gov-ernor answered:

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8
But crying out all the more, they shouted: When

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8 Pi-late, there-fore, had seen he pre-vail-ed noth-ing, but that rath-er a-rose a

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8 to-mult, he took wa-ter, and washed his hands be-fore them all and

8
8 said: Then to - ge-ther all the peo-ple an-swered, and

11
8 said: And Pi-late then set Ba-rab-bas free, but

14
8 Je-sus he had scourged; and then he de-livered Him, that they might cru - ci-fy Him.

62

8
The guards of the gov-ernor came, and they took Je-sus to the com-mon

3
8 hall, and ga-thered a-round him all the sol-dier band And then they did

5
8 strip Him, and brought a scar-let robe and put it on Him; and platted Him a crown of

7
8 thorns, and put it upon His head, and a reed in His right Hand; and bowed the knee be-

10
8 fore Him low, and mocked at him and said: And they spat up-on His

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8 face and took the reed, and smote Him up-on His head.

64

8
And af-ter they had mocked Him thus, they took off from Him the scar-let

3
8 robe, and clothed Him a-gain in His own rai-ment, and led Him a-way that He be



71

8 
Now from the sixth hour there was dark - ness

3 
o - ver all the land, un - til the ninth hour. And about the ninth

6 
hour Je-sus cried a-loud, and said: That is:

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My God, My God, Ah, why why has Thou for-saken Me? Some of


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them who stood and watched Him, when they had heard Him, turned and said:

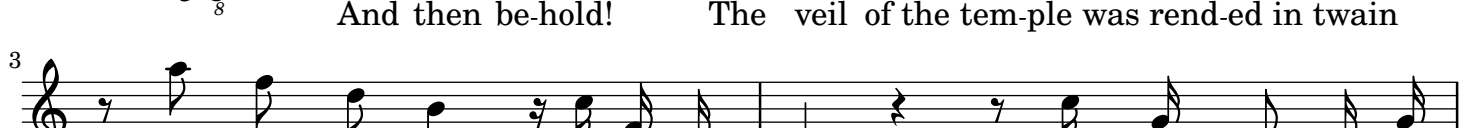
15 
And straight-way one of them did run, and took a sponge; and

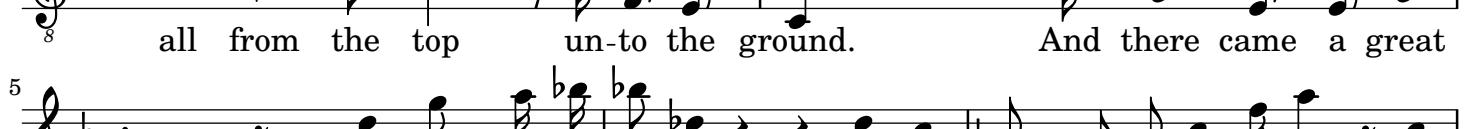
17 
filling the sponge with vinegar, he put it upon a reed, and gave Him to drink. The

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others spoke among them: And a-gain did Jesus cry aloud, and was gone.

73

8 
And then be-hold! The veil of the tem-ple was rend-ed in twain

3 
all from the top un-to the ground. And there came a great

5 
earth-quake, and the rocks burst a - sunder, and the graves were opened again, and

8
8 there rose ma-ny saints and the ho-ly ones that were sleep - ing; and came from
11
8 out the graves af-ter Je-sus' re-sur-rec-tion, and went in-to the Ho-ly
13
8 Ci-ty, and ap-peared to ma-ny. Now, when the cap-tain, and the
15
8 oth-ers with him who were watch-ing Je-sus, when they saw the earth-quake and
17
8 those things that were done, they trembled greatly, and said At ev-entide there
20
8 came a weal-thy man from A-ri ma the-a by name Jos-eph, who was
22
8 al-so one of Je-sus' dis-ci-ples. He went un-to Pi-late, and begged of
24
8 him the bo-dy of Jesus, wherefore Pi-late commanded that it be gi-ven to him.

76

8
8 Then Jo-seph took the Body, and wrapped it in a cloth of pu-rest
3
8 lin-en, and laid It in his own new tomb, which he had hewn from
5
8 out of the so-lid rock. And when he had rolled a mighty stone to the door of the
7
8 tomb, he went a-way. There were al-so in that place Mary Magda-le-na and the
10
8 oth-er Ma-ry, sitting o-ver against Jesus' grave. Now on the morrow, which

13
8
followed the day of preparation, straightway there came the priests and the Pha-ri sees to -

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8
geth-er un - to Pi-late, and said: And Pi-late said to

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8
them: So they went out, and they guard-ed the grave with

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8
watch - men, and they sealed up the stone.