

St Matthew's Passion

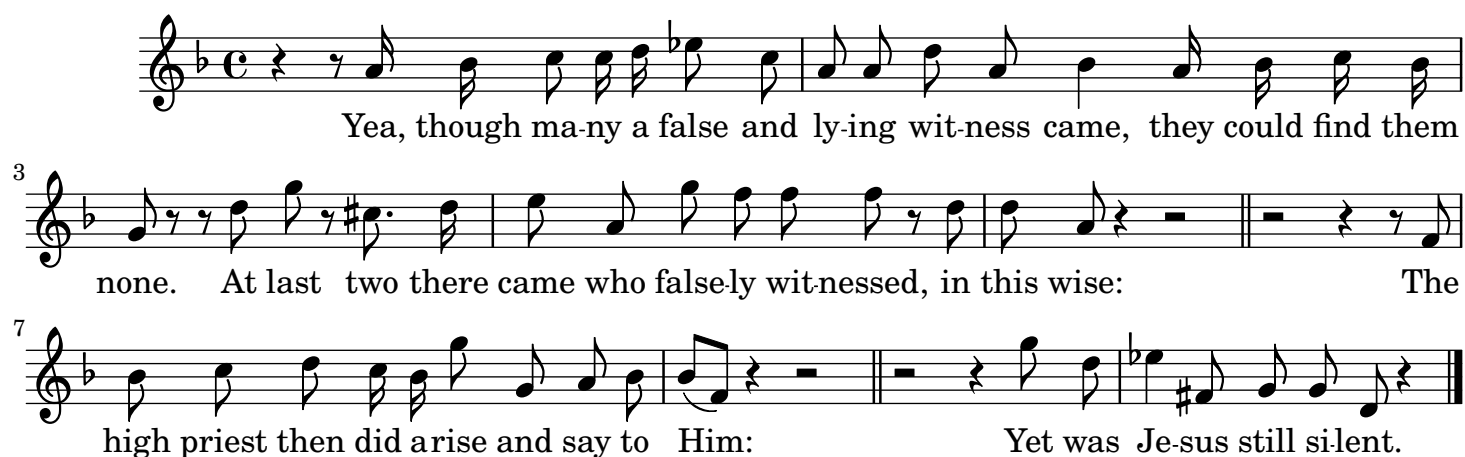
J.S. Bach

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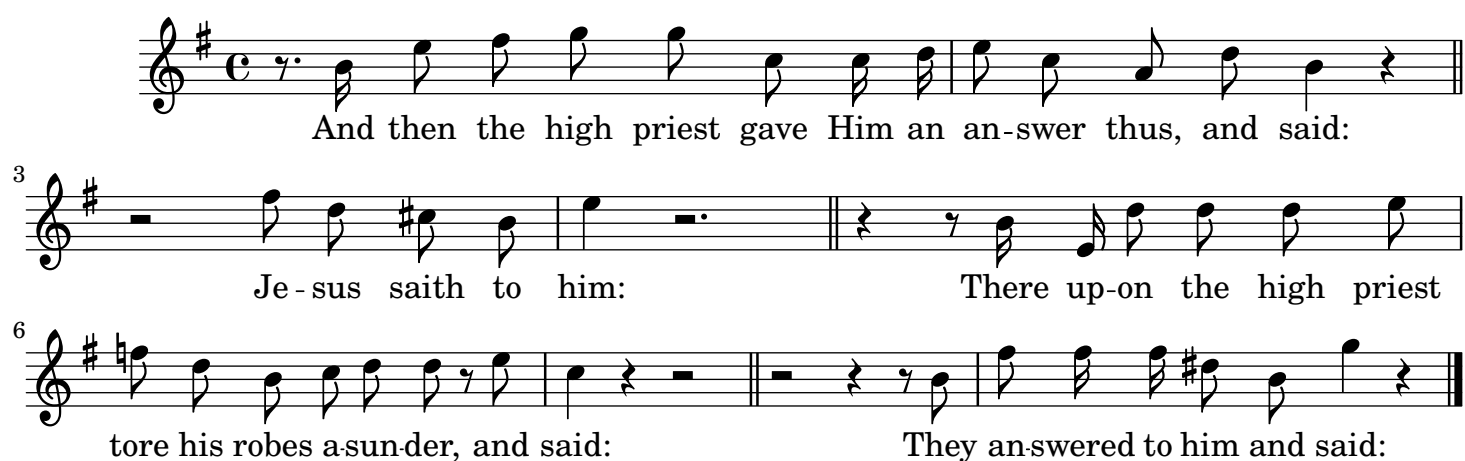
Be-hold then! One of His dis-ci-ples which were there with
 Je-sus, drawing his sword forth, he struck the high priest's servent, and smote off his
 ear. Then said Je - sus to him: In that same hour Je-sus said to the
 peo-ple: And then all the di - ci-ples for-sook Him, and fled.

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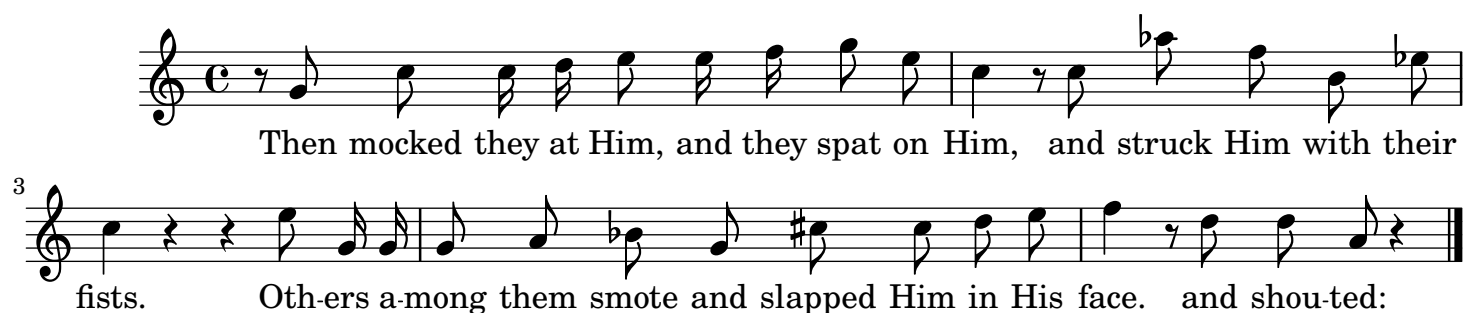
And they that had so laid hold on Je-sus led Him a-way un-to the
 high priest, Ca - i - phas; and with him were the scribes and the el-ders as-
 sem-bled all to - ge - ther. Pe - ter al - so fol-lowed af-ter Him a -
 far off, un-to the court of the high priest's pa-lace; and went there-in, and
 sat with 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.



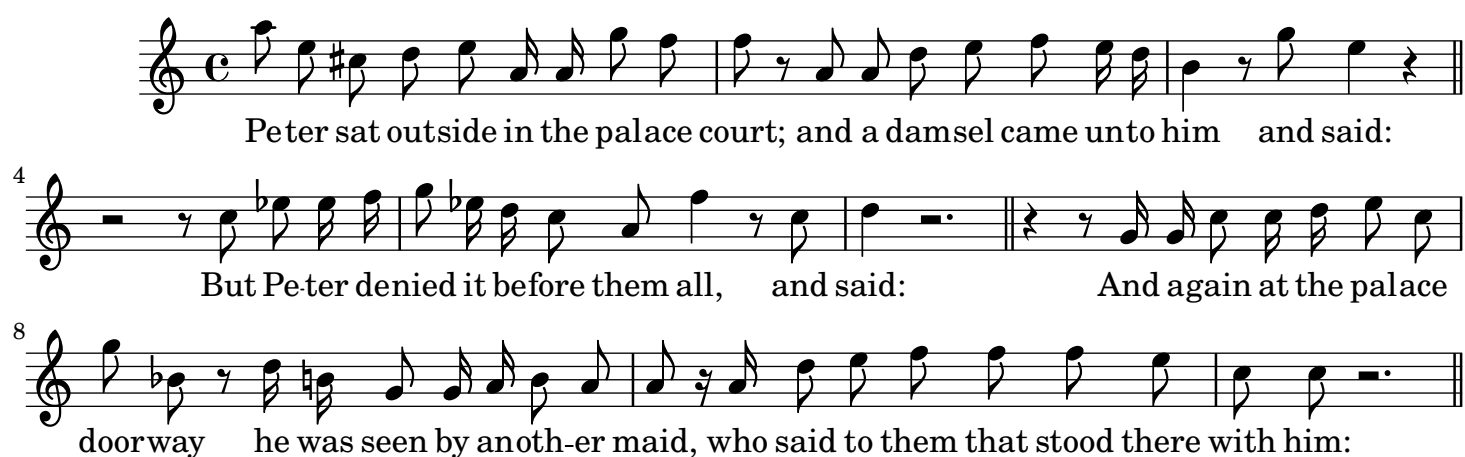
Yea, though many a false and lying witness came, they could find them none. At last two there came who falsely witnessed, in this wise: The high priest then did arise and say to Him: Yet was Jesus still silent.



And then the high priest gave Him an answer thus, and said: Jesus saith to him: There upon the high priest tore his robes asunder, 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:



Peter sat outside in the palace court; and a damsel came unto him and said: But Peter denied it before them all, and said: And again at the palace doorway he was seen by another maid, who said to them that stood there with him:

11 He denied it a second time; and store an oath: And in a little while came
 15 oth-ers who has been stand-ing be-side him, and said to Pe-ter:

46

But still did he de-ny with cursing and with swearing: Im-
 4 mediate crew the cock. Then Pe-ter brought to mind the words of Jesus, which
 7 said unto him: Ere yet the cock crow-eth, wilt thou have thrice denied Me. And
 10 he went out, and we - - - pt bit-ter-ly.

49

Now when the morn-ing came, all the chief priests gathered with the
 3 el-ders of the peop-ple to plot ag-ainst Je-sus, that they might kill Him.
 5 And when they had bound Him, they led Him a -
 6 way, and de-liv-ered Him to the court of the gov-er-nor, Pon-tious Pi-late. When,
 8 there-fore, Ju-das the same who had be-trayed Him saw Je-sus con-demned to
 10 death he re-pen-ted of him-self, and brought once a-gain the thir-ty

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12

sil - ver pie - ces to the high priests and the elders, and said: They said:

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

52

Je - sus there - fore stood be - fore the gov - er - nor; and the
gov - er - nor asked Him, and said: Je - sus an - swered un - to him:
But when He was accused when the priests and elders accused Him He answered
noth - ing. Then Pi - late said un - to Him: And He
answered him to never a word, not one in somuch that the gover nor marvelled greatly.

54

Now up - on that feast the gov - er - nor was ac - cus - tomed to re -
lease there - on one pri - son - er un - to them, whom - ev - er they want - ed.
Now at that time, and a - mong the oth - er pri - son - ers, was a

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

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

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

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

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

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

19 And the governor again re-turned to the people, and asked them: They

22 shouted: Then Pilate said unto them: Again they shouted:

56

The gov-ernor anaswered: