

***Passio et mors domini nostri Jesu Christi
secundum Lucam (“St. Luke Passion”) (1965-66)***

by Krzysztof Penderecki

Part I

1. **Hymn: Vexilla Regis prodeunt** (lns. 21-26)

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| O Crux, ave, spes unica, | O Cross, Hail, our only hope |
| Hoc Passionis tempore | In this time of suffering, |
| Piis adauge gratiam, | Your grace increases |
| Reisque dele crimina. | And erases the charges. |
| Te, fons salutis, Trinitas, | You, fount of salvation, |
| Collaudet omnis spiritus. | Let all souls praise you. |

2. **Jesus on the Mount of Olives** (Luke 22:39-44)

Et egressus ibat secundum consuetudinem in montem Olivarum. Secuti sunt autem illum et discipuli . . . positus genibus orabat dicens: Pater, si vis, transfer calicem istum a me: verumtamen non mea voluntas, sed Tua fiat. Apparuit autem illi angelus de caelo, confortans eum. Et factus in agonia prolixius orabat. Et factus est sudor eius sicut guttae sanguinis decurrentis in terram.

He came out and went to the Mount of Olives and his disciples also followed him. He kneeled down and prayed, saying: “Father, if you can, take this cup from me. Father, not thy will, but yours, be done.” And there appeared to him an angel of Heaven, strengthening him. And being in agony, he prayed more fervently, and his sweat was as blood, falling to the ground.

3. **Aria** (*Baritone*) (Psalm 21:2-3, 5)

Deus, Deus meus, respice in me, quare me dereliquisti
Deus meus, clamabo per diem, et non exaudies.
Verba mea auribus percipe, Domine;
intellige clamorem meum.

My God, look upon me, why have you forsaken me?
My God, I cry in the daytime, but you hear me not.
Give ear to my words, Lord;
Consider my cry.

4. **Aria** (*Soprano*) (Psalm 14:1,4,9; 15:9)

Domine, quis habitabit in tabernaculo tuo, aut
quis requiescet in monte sancto tuo
In pace . . . dormiam . . .
. . . et caro mea requiescet in spe.

Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle,
And who shall rest on thy holy hill?
In peace, I sleep . . .
. . . and my flesh shall rest in hope.

5. **Turba: The Taking Of Jesus** (Luke 22:47-53)

Adhuc eo loquente ecce turba, et qui vocabatur Judas, unus de duodecim, antecedebat eos et appropinquavit Iesu ut oscularetur eum . . . “Juda, osculo Filium hominis tradis . . . Quasi ad latronem existis cum gladiis et fustibus . . . sed haec est hora vestra et potestas tenebrarum.”

And while he spoke, behold a crowd, and he that was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them, and drew near to Jesus to kiss him . . . “Judas, betray you the son of man with a kiss? You come out as against a thief with swords and staves? Yet this is your hour, and the power of darkness.”

6. **Lamento** (from *Lamentations of Jeremiah*)

Ierusalem, convertere ad Dominum, Deum Tuum.

Jerusalem, turn towards the Lord, your God.

7. **Coro** (*A cappella*) (Psalm 9:1)

Ut quid, Domine, recessisti longe.

And why, Lord, stay you far away?

8. **Turba: Peter's Denial** (Luke 22:54-62)

Comprehendentes autem eum duxerunt ad domum principis sacerdotum. Petrus vero sequebatur a longe . . . Quem cum vidisset ancilla quedam sedentem ad lumen et eum fuisset intuita, dixit: Et hic cum illo erat . . . Mulier, non novi illum. Et post pusillum alius videns eum dixit: Et tu de illis es . . . O homo, non sum. Et intervallo facto quasi horae unius, alius quidam affirmabat dicens; Vere et hic cum illo erat; nam et Galilaeus est . . . Homo, nescio, quid dicis. Et continuo adhuc illo loquente cantavit gallus. Et conversus Dominus respexit Petrum. Et recordatus est Petrus verbi Domini . . . Et egressus foras . . . flevit amare.

Then they took him to the high priests, and Peter followed. A maid saw him and recognized him, saying: “This man was also with him.” And Peter said: “Woman, I know him not.” And after a while, another saw him and said: “And you are also of them.” And Peter said again: “Man, I am not.” And after an hour, another affirmed saying: “Truly, he was with him, for he is a Galilean.” And Peter said a third time: “I know not what you say.” And the cock crew, and Jesus turned and looked on Peter. Peter remembered the words of Jesus, went away, and wept bitterly.

9. **Aria** (*Bass*) (Psalm 42:1)

Iudica me, Deus, et discerne causam meam.

Judge me, O God, and plead my cause.

10. Turba: Jesus' Mocking Before the High Priest (Luke 22:63-70)

Et viri, qui tenebant illum, illudebant ei caedentes. Et velaverunt eum et percutiebant faciem eius et interrogabant eum dicentes: Prophetiza, quis est qui te percussit? . . . Tu ergo es Filius Dei? . . . Vos dicitis, quia ego sum.

And the men who held him mocked him and struck him. And when they had done so, they asked him: "Prophet, who is it that struck thee? Are you the Son of God?" And Jesus said: "You say that I am."

11. Lamento (*Soprano*) (from *Lamentations of Jeremiah*)

Ierusalem, convertere ad Dominum, Deum Tuum.

Jerusalem, turn towards the Lord, your God.

12. Coro (*A cappella*) (Psalm 55:2)

Miserere mei, Deus, quoniam conculcavit me homo,
tota die impugnans tribulavit me.

Have mercy on me, God, for man would swallow me up,
all day fighting against me.

13. Turba: Jesus before Pilate (Luke 23:1-22)

Et surgens omnis multitudo eorum duxerunt illum ad Pilatum. Coeperunt autem illum accusare dicentes: Hunc invenimus subvertentem gentem nostram et prohibentem tributa dare Caesari et dicentem se Christum regem esse . . . Tu es rex Iudaeorum? . . . Tu dicis . . . Nihil invenio causae in hoc homine. Et . . . remisit eum ad Herodem . . . Herodes autem . . . interrogabat, eum multis sermonibus. At ipse nihil illi respondebat . . . Sprevit autem illum Herodes . . . et . . . indutum veste alba . . . remisit ad Pilatum . . . Pilatus autem convocatis principibus sacerdotum . . . dixit ad illos: . . . ecce nihil dignum morte actum est ei. Emendatum ergo illum dimittam . . . Tolle hunc et dimitte nobis Barabbam . . . Iterum autem Pilatus locutus est ad eos volens dimittere Iesum. At illi succlamabant dicentes: Crucifige, crucifige illum . . . Quid enim mali fecit iste? nullam causam mortis invenio in eo.

And the whole multitude arose and led him to Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying: "We found him perverting the nation, and denying Caesar, saying that he is Christ the King." And Pilate asked him: "Are you the King of the Jews?" And Jesus answered "You say it." Pilate responded: "I find no fault with this man." And he sent him to Herod, and Herod questioned him but Jesus did not answer him. And Herod mocked him and dressed him in a robe, and sent him back to Pilate. Pilate called the high priests together and said to them: "Behold, he has done nothing worthy of death. I will chastise him and then release him." But the crowd responded: "Away with him, and give us Barabbas!" Pilate spoke again to them, willing to release Jesus, but they only shouted louder saying: "Crucify him!" Pilate pleaded: "Why? What evil has he done? I find no cause for his death."

Brief Pause

Part II

14. The Way of the Cross (Psalm 21:16)

. . . et in pulverem mortis deduxisti me.

. . . you have brought me into the dust of death.

15. Jesus Carries the Cross (John: 19:17)

Et baiulans sibi crucem exivit in eum, qui dicitur
Calvariae, locum, Hebraice autem Golgotha.

And bearing his cross, he went forth into the
place of the skull, or in Hebrew, Golgotha.

16. Coro: Passacaglia on Bach (from *The Improperia*)

Popule meus, quid feci tibi?

Aut in quo contristavi te?

Responde mihi.

Quia eduxi te de terra Aegypti:

parasti Crucem Salvatori tuo.

Hagios o Theos.

Sanctus Deus.

Hagios ischyros.

Sanctus fortis.

Hagios athanatos, eleison himas.

Sanctus immortalis, miserere nobis.

My people, what have I done to thee?

Or in what have I grieved thee?

Answer me.

Because I brought thee out of Egypt,

you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

O Holy God.

Holy and strong.

Holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

17. The Crucifixion (Luke 23:33)

Ibi crucifixerunt eum et latrones unum a dextris et alterum a sinistris.

There they crucified him, with one criminal on his left and another on his right.

18. Aria (*Soprano*) (from “Pange lingua” and the Antiphon for Good Friday)

Crux fidelis, inter omnes
arbor una nobilis:
nulla silva talem profert,
fronde, flore, germine.
Dulce lignum, dulces clavos,
dulce pondus sustinet.

Ant.: Ecce lignum Crucis,
in quo salus mundi pependit.

Faithful cross, above all others
one and only noble tree:
Without foliage, leaf,
flower, or seed.
Sweet wood, upon which sweetest weight is hung.

Ant.: Behold the wood of the cross,
on which the savior of the world was hanged.

19. Dividing of the Garments (Luke 23:34)

Jesus autem dicebat: Pater, dimitte illis; non enim sciunt, quid faciunt:
Dividentes vero vestimenta eius miserunt sortes.

Jesus said: “Father forgive them; they know not what they do.”
They divided his clothes and cast dice for them.

20. Coro (*A cappella*) (Psalm 21:16-20)

. . . in pulverem mortis deduxisti me
foderunt manus meas et pedes meos.
Dinameraverunt omnia ossa mea,
ipsi vero consideraverunt et inspexerunt me.
Diviserunt sibi vestimenta mea
et super vestem meam miserunt sortem.
Tu autem, Domine, ne elongaveris auxilium Tuum a me;
ad defensionem meam conspice.

You have brought me into the dust of death.
They pierced my hands and my feet.
I may tell all of my bones,
They look and stare at me.
They part my garments among them,
And cast lots.
You, however, Lord, be not far from me.
My strength, make haste to help me.

21. Turba: Mocking of Christ on the Cross (Luke 23:35-37)

Et stabat populus spectans, et deridebant eum principes cum eis dicentes: Alios salvos fecit, se salvum faciat, si hic est Christus Dei electus. Illudebant autem ei et milites accedentes et acetum offerentes ei et dicentes: Si tu es rex Iudaeorum, salvum te fac.

And the people stood beholding, deriding him: "He saved others, let him save himself, if he be Christ, chosen of God!" And the soldiers also mocked him, offering him vinegar, saying: "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"

22. Turba: Jesus between the Thieves (Luke 23:39-43)

Unus autem de his qui pendebant latronibus, blasphemabat eum dicens: Si tu es Christus, salvum fac temetipsum et nos. Respondens autem alter increpabat eum dicens: Neque tu times Deum, quod in eadem damnatione es. Et nos quidem iuste, nam digna factis recipimus; hic vero nihil mali gessit . . . Domine, memento mei, cum veneris in regnum Tuum . . . Amen dico tibi: Hodie mecum eris in Paradiso.

And one of the thieves who was hanged, mocked him saying: "If you are Christ, save yourself and us!" The other thief rebuked him, however, saying: "Do you not fear God, as you have the same sentence? And us justly, for this is the reward of our deeds. But this man has done nothing wrong, Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus responded: "Amen, I say to you. Today, you shall be with me in paradise."

23. By the Cross (John 19:25-27)

Stabant autem iuxta crucem Iesu mater eius et soror matris eius Maria Cleophae et Maria Magdalene. Cum vidisset ergo Iesus matrem et discipulum stantem, quem diligebat, dicit matri suae: Mulier, ecce filius tuus. Deinde dicit discipulo: Ecce mater tua.

Standing there before the cross was Jesus' mother and his mother's sister Mary, wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple standing by whom he loved, he said unto his mother: "Woman, behold thy son." And he said to the disciple: "Behold your mother."

24. Coro (A cappella): "Stabat mater" (Sequence, vss. 1, 3, 9-10, 19-20)

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Stabat Mater dolorosa | The grieving mother stood |
| Iuxta Crucem lacrimosa, | Beside the cross weeping |
| Dum pendebat Filius. | Upon which her son was hanged. |
| Quis est homo, qui non fletet, | Who is the man who would not weep |
| Matrem Christi si videret | Seeing the mother of Christ |
| In tanto supplicio? | In such agony? |
| Eia, Mater, fons amoris, | O Mother, fountain of love |
| Me sentire vim doloris | make me feel the power of sorrow, |
| Fac, ut tecum lugeam. | So that I may grieve with you. |
| Fac, ut ardeat cor meum | Make my heart burn |
| In amando Christum Deum, | in the love of Christ, my God, |
| Ut sibi complaceam. | So that I may please him. |

Christe, cum sit hinc exire,
Da per Matrem me venire
Ad palmam victoriae.

Christ, when it is time to pass,
Grant that through your mother,
I come to the palm of victory.

Quando corpus morietur,
Fac, ut animae donetur
Paradisi gloria.

When my body dies,
Grant that to my soul is given
The glory of paradise.

25. The Death of Christ (Luke 23:44-46; John 19:30)

Erat autem fere hora sexta, et tenebrae factae sunt in universam terram usque in horam nonam. Et obscuratus est sol, et velum templi scissum est medium. Et clamans voce magna Iesus ait: Pater, in manus tuas commendo spiritum meum. Et haec dicens expiravit.

Consummatum est.

And it was about the sixth hour, and darkness came over all the earth until about the ninth hour. And the sun was obscured, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst. And Jesus cried out in a loud voice: "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

"It is finished."

26. Orchestra: Funeral Music and Meditation

27. Finale (Psalm 30:2-3, 6)

In te, Domine, speravi, non confundar in aeternum:
in iustitia tua libera me.

Inclina ad me aurem tuam, accelera ut eruas me,
esto mihi in Deum protectorem et in domum
refugii, ut salvum me facias.

In manus tuas commendo spiritum meum:
redemisti me, Domine Deus veritatis.

In you, O Lord, have I trusted. Let me never be confounded:
deliver me in your righteousness.

Incline your ear to me, quickly deliver me,
be for me God, my protector, a house of
defense to save me.

Into your hands, I commend my spirit:
Redeem me, O Lord, God of Truth.

