# See What a Morning (Resurrection Hymn) Opener

Words and Music by STUART TOWNEND and KEITH GETTY



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(ms. 29) We come today to rejoice, and to reflect. We come to celebrate the glorious dawn of Easter morning, yet also to remember the long night of suffering that came before. We come to worship our risen Savior, for in Christ alone is our light, our strength, and our hope of life everlasting!

NARRATOR:





(Children, waving palm branches, may begin to process as narrator begins)

The story of Easter unfolds when Jesus enters Jerusalem rid

NARRATOR:

ing on a donkey, as prophesied in Zechariah. Throngs of people there for the Passover Festival met Jesus at the gate, waving palm fronds and singing, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" They had all heard stories of the miracle worker who had raised Lazarus from the dead, (music begins to "Jesus Messiah") and I imagine religious leaders, like the priest of this poem, were especially eager to catch a glimpse of Him. (Readers recite "A

"At Jerusalem's Gate"

Jerusalem's Gate")

Shor S

### READER 1:

It's him! shout bands of rich and poor who block my view. I angle for a glimpse of Him whose touch unlocks a blind man's sight, a deaf man's hearing.

READER 3: There He is! There!

But what is this? No light shoots from His fingertips. His voice calls down

no fire.

### **READER 2:**

And yet, they say
a fig tree withered
at His word.
That He shattered
death's door
not once, but thrice,
calling someone's
loved ones
back to life.
That He speaks
and demons cower.

JWP power Per Licom

#### **READER 4:**

He is, by all accounts, extraordinary, yet I find Him quite the ordinary. Until He turns and drinks me in. I gasp, a-tremble, grasp a palm frond and wave in a frenzy of praise and adoration, singing:

### ALL READERS:

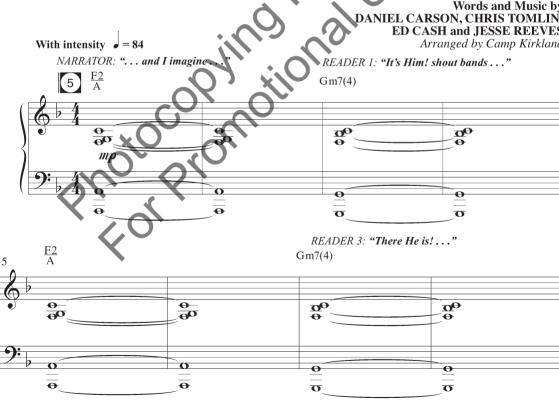
Hosanna!

Hosanna! Hosanna!

READER 4:

as if my very life depends upon it.

Jesus Messiah



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\*Children's Choir is not present on the Split Transaccompaniment CDELCOM



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NARRATOR: Passover is a special holy day. It commemorates the night the angel of death stole all the firstborn sons of Egypt but "passed over" every Jewish house marked with the blood of a lamb. And it was during such a meal in Jerusalem, called the Seder and referred to by Christians as the Last Supper, that Jesus officially assumed the role of sacrificial Lamb for all who believed Him to

be the promised Messiah, the Lamb of God.

(music begins to "Underscore 1 [The Passover]" as Readers recite "The Passover")

"The Passover"

### READER 3:

It was a borrowed room in which the thirteen dined. The fare was bitter herbs, unleavened bread, red wine, and lamb to mark the night Jehovah spared His own while raining plagues on him who sat on Egypt's throne.

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### READER 4:

The holy feast began accordingly, with prayer, but then the Lamb of God poisoned the mood, the air, with words of blasphemy, or so they must have seemed:

### READER 2:

"I soon will be betrayed by one of you,"

**READER 4:** 

said He.

READER 1:

Shaken, eleven men burst out,

READERS 1 & 2

"Lord, is it me?"

READER 1

Meanwhile the traitor crept unnoticed from the room, His secret briefly kept.

The question, "Who, Lord, who?" eclipsed before meal's end.

READER 2:

**Y**must leave you," said Christ.

"My hour is at hand."

His words made each man choke for who could swallow then?

("Underscore 1 [The Passover]" ends)

NARRATOR:

Jesus used His final Passover meal with His disciples to illustrate the unimaginable physical and spiritual sacrifice He would soon make for them and all who would believe upon His name. Using bread, made from kernels of grain pulverized beneath a heavy millstone; and wine, created by the vigorous trampling and pressing of grapes, Jesus poignantly demonstrated how His body would be brutally crushed and His blood poured out as a living

Listen to Duke's account of that first communion service around the table in the Upper Room:

sacrifice—for the healing and redemption of the human race.

READER 4: And He said to them,

(music begins to "Underscore 2 [The Last Supper]")

READER 2: "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillmen

in the kingdom of God."

READER 4: After taking the cup, He gave thanks and said,

EADED 2: "Take this divide it among you. For I tall you

READER 2: "Take this, divide it among you. For I tell you I will not drinl

again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

READER 4: And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to

them, saying,

READER 2: "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

READER 4: In the same way, after the supper He took the cup, saying ("Underscore 2 [The Last Supper]" ends)

READER 2: "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is poured ou for you." (Luke 22:15-20)

(The congregation may celebrate communion if desired. The Paston or Worship Leader may read the following passage, read additional scriptures or liturgy, and/or otherwise prepare the hearts and mind.

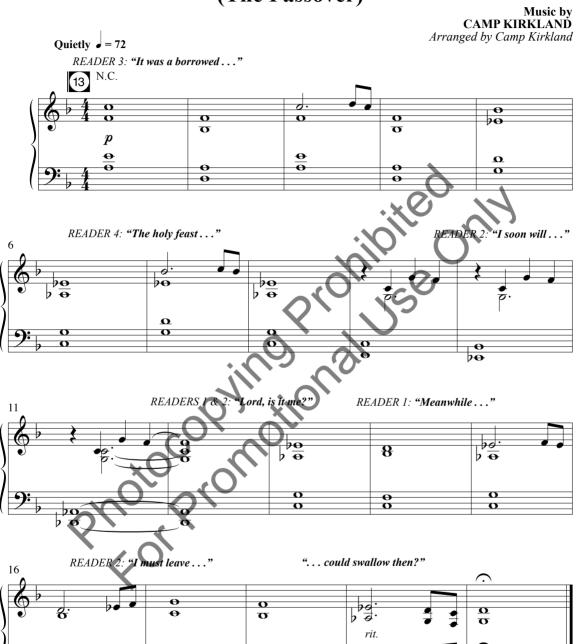
scriptures or liturgy, and/or otherwise prepare the hearts and min of the congregation to receive the elements.)

(music begins to "Behold the Lamb [Communion Hymn]"

PASTOR of WORSHIP
LEADER: (ms. 2) Let us now share in this Bread of Life and drink of His sacrifice, as a sign of our bonds of peace, love and grace, joining in the feast of Heaven, around the table of the King.

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# **Underscore 1** (The Passover)



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# **Underscore 2** (The Last Supper)



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## **Behold the Lamb** (The Communion Hymn)

Words and Music by KEITH GETTY, KRISTYN GETTY and STUART TOWNEND Arranged by Camp Kirkland



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NARRATOR: Jesus was never more human than when He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, wrestling with His own will and God's. It was a familiar spot, one that would be easy for Judas to find, for Jesus and His followers prayed there often. But never had He prayed so intensely, weighing the cost of obeying God and preparing Himself for the suffering that lay ahead. He was mindful of the prophet Isaiah's words, written centuries before this night of anguish:

"He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him and by His wounds we are healed." Is aid 53:5

READER 1: "After the suffering of His soul, He will see the light of life and be satisfied; by His knowledge My righteous servant will justify many, and He will bear their iniquities." Isaiah 53:11

NARRATOR: He knew the road to Calvary—first, public humiliation; then violent, bloody torture; and, finally, a slow, agonizing death by crucifixion—loomed in but a few short hours.

> After a long and harrowing night of being paraded before King Herod, the pro-Roman ruler of Israel, and Pontius Pilate, the governor of Roman-controlled Judea, Jesus was sentenced to death before an unruly mob of religious leaders and local citizens of Jerusalem.

> You Will]" as Reader. (music begins to "Underscore 3 [Call It What recite the poem "Call It What You Will"

> > "Call It What You

Call it what you will lash, scourge, whip. Tipped with its sharp bundle of spikes and rocks, it gouged out bits of flesh until His blood ran fresh as a river coursing the length of His limbs.

and then some.

Thirty-nine strokes

Shorn S.

(No one cared to count.)

### READER 4:

From the palace of Caiaphas to the quarters of Pilate, beating Jesus became the pastime of the Passion. **Guards and soldiers** eagerly took turns leaving handprints on His cheek,

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### **READER 1:**

pounding Him with rods while He grew weak, and, for good measure, spitting in His face.
Yet, none could erase that look of pity or shout down the sound of His persistent prayer—

### **READER 2:**

"Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."

(music begins to "The Cross of Christ")





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## **The Cross of Christ**

Words and Music by TODD WRIGHT

Arranged by Camp Kirkland



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(music begins to "Underscore 4 [The Last Goodbye]" as Reader recites the poem "The Last Goodbye")

#### "The Last Goodbye"

READER 4:

So, this is how vou have Him wrenched from me permitting lying lips, leather lash, holy men flinging fistfuls of anger sharp as the spikes that split His sweet muscle spoiled His smooth skin. I'd have gladly laid Him unblemished, unbroken on the altar, had You asked. You gave me some sway in His beginning. Why not His end? Look at Him. I could never kiss away half those bruises. His countless wounds would dye all my cloth crimson. Besides, these human hands hold no healing. Maybe it's best if I go with John now, if I say goodbye and let my Son fly

to Your arms.

NARRATOR:

Shorn's

of Jesus' followers went to the tomb to finish preparing His body for burial. Mary Magdalene was among them. When she found His body missing, she was distraught, for while Jesus had spoker of His death and resurrection, who could honestly conceive o it? Certainly not Mary, who met the risen Christ that day and mistook Him for the gardener.

At dawn on Sunday, with the Sabbath well behind them, severa

(music begins to "Underscore 5 [Morning Mystery]" as Reader, recite the poem, "Morning Mystery")

### "Morning Mystery"

#### READER 1:

Dawn alone stood witness when the weighty stone was heaved aside. Then came Mary Magdalene crept in, stumbled out again,

#### READER 4:

Her stare vacant as the grave, Her loved one missing.

READER 2:
"Why do you weep, child?"

READER 1:
A stranger whispered
the gardener She struggled for air, wove her worr

### DER 3:

Shoron Sty know where they have laid Him."

#### READER 1:

He wrinkled His thorn-pierced brow and sighed,

READER 2:

"Dearest Mary."

#### **READER 4:**

She knew that voice, those eyes.

#### READER 3:

"Master? is it You?"

# **Underscore 4** (The Last Goodbye)



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# **Underscore 5** (Morning Mystery)

Music by CAMP KIRKLAND



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## See What a Morning (Resurrection Hymn)

Words and Music by STUART TOWNEND and KEITH GETTY

Arranged by Camp Kirkland



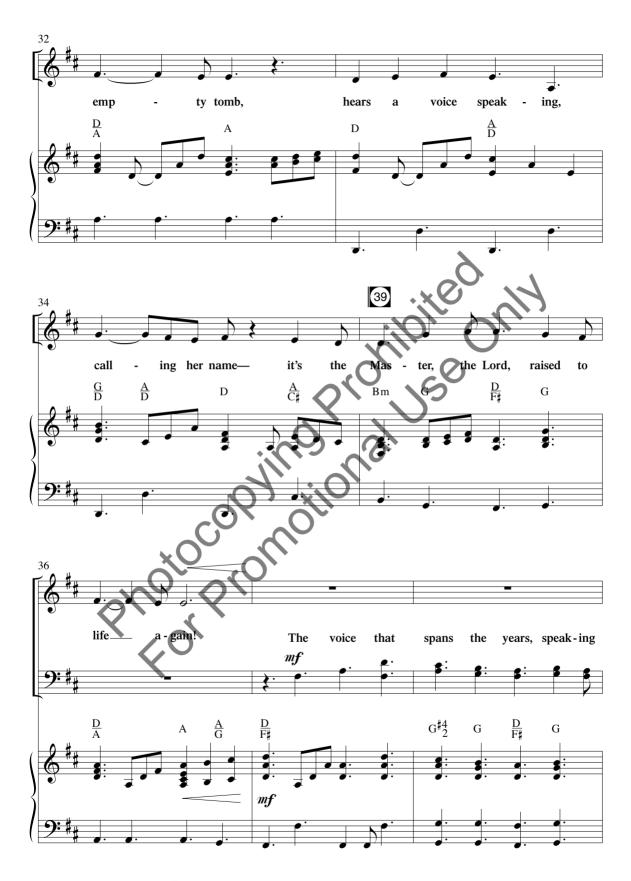
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**WORSHIP LEADER:** (invite people to stand) Thank you, Father, for this glorious Easter morning!

CHOIR and

CHOIR and

**WORSHIP LEADER:** 

Joyfully

. = 92

He Lives! Christ is risen from the dead!

**CONGREGATION: WORSHIP LEADER:** 

Where, O Death, is your sting? Where, O Grave, is your victory?

Morning")

(music begins to "Alleluia! Alleluia! with See What a

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ

In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the

> LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVE Arranged by Camp Kirklan

CONGREGATION: He Lives! Christ is risen from the dead!

dead! WORSHIP LEADER

and CONGREGATION: He Lives! Christ is risen from the dead!

Alleluia! Alleluia! What a Morning

CHRISTOPHER WORDSWORTH, alt

e Lives! Christ . .

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