

ENGLISH

Historical Reenactment of the Passion of Christ

Good Friday 2026

Grassina

01 PROLOGUE (Disciples of Emmaus)

Voice of two men: Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, he is risen! Remember how he spoke to you while he was still in Galilee, saying, "The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again."

Cleopas: Stay with us, Lord!

Jesus: All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go! And make disciples of all nations. Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

02 ANNUNCIATION

Evangelist: On that day the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel came to her and said,

Angel: Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.

Evangelist: She was troubled by these words and wondered what this greeting could mean.

Angel: Do not be afraid, Mary! For you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.

Mary: How can all this be, since I am a virgin?

Angel: The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore, the child to be born will be called the Son of God. Your relative Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age, and she who was called barren is in her sixth month; for nothing is impossible with God.

Mary: Behold! I am the servant of my Lord! May it be done to me according to your word!

03 NATIVITY

Evangelist: At that time a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be registered. And all went to register, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee to Judea, to the town called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to register with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

While they were there, the days came for her to give birth, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because they had no other room in the room.

Now in that region there were shepherds staying in the fields, keeping watch over their flock for the night, and behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and they were filled with fear. But the angel...

Angel: Do not be afraid! I bring you good news that will bring joy to all people: today in the city of David, the Savior, who is Christ the Lord, is born.

This will be a sign for you! You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

Evangelist: When the angel left them, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."

They went away and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they had seen it, they made known to them what had been told them about this child.

Evangelist: When eight days had passed, after which the child was to be circumcised, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived in the womb. When Mary and Joseph had fulfilled all that was required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile, the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom.

04 BAPTISM OF JESUS

Evangelist: In those days, John the Baptist, son of Zechariah, appeared preaching in the wilderness. He came to all the regions around the Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. He dressed in camel skins and ate locusts and wild honey. The people of Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the villages around the Jordan went out to him, confessed their sins, and were baptized.

John: The voice of one crying in the wilderness. Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight, every valley will be filled, every mountain and hill will be made low, the crooked ways will be made plain, and everyone will see the salvation of God. He who has two tunics, let him share one with him who has none, and he who has food, let him give food to him

who has none. And you, tax collectors, do not exact more than your salary, and do not abuse anyone or slander anyone, and be content with your wages.

1st Tax Collector: And who are you if you are not the Christ?

2nd Tax Collector: Are you Elijah?

3rd Tax Collector: Are you a prophet?

4th Tax Collector: Tell us who you are, so that we can give an answer to the one who sent us.

5th Tax Collector: Why do you baptize if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor a prophet?

John: You brood of vipers! Who will save you from the wrath that is to come? Repent and do not say, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you that God is able to raise up children for Abraham from these stones. The ax is already laid, and every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

I baptize you with water, but among you stands one you do not know, more powerful than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptize you with water. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. He will thoroughly clear his threshing floor and gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn the chaff with unquenchable fire.

Behold, the Lamb of God! Behold, he who takes upon himself the sins of the world. I am the one to be baptized by you, and you come to me?

Jesus: It is right that what is written be fulfilled.

God (voiceover): This is my beloved Son; in him I am well pleased.

John: This is the one I said, 'After me comes one who is preferred to me because he was before me.' You must follow him now, not me!

05 HEROD AND SALOME – MARTYRDOM OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

John: Herod! You are not permitted to have your brother's wife as your wife!

Herod: Dance for me, please! Dance for me! And I will give you whatever you ask of me! I swear to you that whatever you ask of me, I will give you! Even if it were half my kingdom!

Salomè: Mother, what should I ask for?

Herodias: The head of John the Baptist!

Salomè: I want you to give me the head of John the Baptist immediately on a silver platter. Remember that you swore: 'Whatever you ask of me, I will give you.'

Herod: Do as she asks!

o6 SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Evangelist: Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in the synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness among the people. His fame spread throughout the entire region. His disciples followed him, and from among them he chose twelve, whom he named apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, his brother Andrew, James, John, Judas the brother of James, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Simon called the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

And a great crowd followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

One day, seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the mountain and sat down:

Jesus: Blessed are the poor in spirit, theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they revile you and persecute you and falsely say all sorts of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven. When you pray, do not use empty phrases like the pagans, who think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Therefore pray like this:

"Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

08 ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

Evangelist: As he approached Jerusalem, he came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives. He called two of his disciples and said to them:

Jesus: Go into the village opposite you. As soon as you enter it, you will find a colt tied that no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here to me. If anyone asks you why you are untying it, say, 'The Lord needs it,' and he will send it back here immediately.'

Priestess: Rejoice, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King comes to you! He is just and victorious, humble, riding on a donkey, and on a colt he will drive away the chariots of Ephraim and the horses from Jerusalem. The war bow will be broken, he will proclaim peace to the nations, and his dominion will be from sea to sea and from the rivers to the ends of the earth!

People: Hosanna to the Son of David! Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna!

Priestess: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

09 SERVANT CENTURION

Centurion: Lord! Lord, one of my servants is lying paralyzed at home, suffering terribly!

Jesus: I will come and heal him!

Centurion: Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but just say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I too am a servant, with soldiers under me. If I say to one of them, 'Go,' he goes; and if I say, 'Come,' he comes. And if I say to a servant, 'Do,' he does it.

Jesus: Truly I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. Go! And as you have believed, let it be done for you!

A Servant: Your servant! He is healed!

10 BETRAYAL OF JUDAS

Music only

11 AND 12 BEGINNING OF THE PASSION AND LAST SUPPER

Evangelist: On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, the disciples approached Jesus and asked, "Where do you want us to prepare for you to eat the Passover?" "Go into the city; there you will find a man carrying a jar of water. Follow him. And where he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher asks, "Where is my

guest room where I am to eat the Passover with my disciples?” He will show you a large upper room, furnished with carpets and cushions, all ready. Make the table there for us.”

They did as Jesus had ordered and prepared the Passover! In the evening, Jesus came with the Twelve and sat down to eat.

Peter: Lord! You wash my feet!

Jesus: What I am doing, you do not understand now, but you will understand in the future.

Peter: You will never wash my feet!

Jesus: If I do not wash your feet, you have no part with me.

Peter: Then, Lord, not only my feet but also my hands and my head.

Jesus: He who has bathed needs only to wash his feet.

Jesus: Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me the Teacher, the Lord. And you are right, for so I am. If then I, the Lord, the Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.

I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.

An apostle: What do you mean, Master?

Jesus: You are pure, but not all... Not all of you are pure. Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me!

Peter: Is it I, Lord?

An apostle: Or I?

Another apostle: Me, perhaps?

Jesus: He who dipped his hand in the bowl with me, he is the one who will betray me! The Son of Man goes as it is written. But woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for him never to have been born.

Judas: Is it I, Master?

Jesus: You have said it! What you have to do, do quickly!

Jesus: You will all fall away because of me this night, for it is written: 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I am resurrected, I will go before you to Galilee.

Peter: Even if everyone falls away because of you, I will never deny you!

Jesus: Truly, I say to you, 'This very night, before the rooster crows, you will have denied me three times!'

Peter: Even if I have to die for you, I will never deny you!

Jesus: Take and eat! This is my body!

Jesus: Drink from it, all of you! This is my blood! Which will be shed for many for the forgiveness of sins!

I tell you, I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink the new fruit with you in my Father's kingdom.

13 GETHSEMANE (Garden of Olives and the Arrest of Jesus)

Evangelist: Then Jesus, with all his disciples, crossed the Kidron Valley and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives. Then he took with him Peter and John and James, the sons of Zebedee, and went with them to a place called Gethsemane.

Jesus: My soul is sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch with me.

My Father! If it is possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done. You could not watch with me even one hour. Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to pass away unless I drink it, your will be done.

Evangelist: When he returned again, he found them sleeping, for their eyes were tired. He returned to pray a third time, and being in agony, he prayed more fervently, so that his sweat became like drops of blood falling to the ground.

Jesus: Rise! Behold, my betrayer is at hand!

Judas: Hail, Master!

Jesus: Friend, why are you here?

Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?

Whom are you seeking?

Misander: Jesus of Nazareth!

Jesus: It is I! Whom are you seeking?

Misander: Jesus of Nazareth!

Jesus: I told you that I am he! If then you are looking for me, let these others go. Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me, as against a criminal?

Day after day I sat in the midst of the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me; but all this has happened so that the Scriptures may be fulfilled.

14 SANHEDRIN

Evangelist: Those who had arrested Jesus led him first to Hannas, who was Caiaphas' father-in-law, and then to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders had gathered. Peter had followed him at a distance, to the side of the high priest's palace.

The chief priests and the entire Sanhedrin sought testimony against Jesus to condemn him to death, but they found none, although many false witnesses came forward. Finally, two came forward and testified,

Witness: This man said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.'

Caiaphas: Do you have no answer to what they testify against you?

Jesus: I have spoken publicly, to the world. I have always taught in the synagogue and in the temple, where all the Jews gather, and I have said nothing in secret. Why do you question me? Ask those who heard me what I said to them; they know what I said.

Misander: Is that how you answer the high priest?

Jesus: If I spoke badly, prove the wrong I said. But if I spoke well, why do you strike me?

Caiaphas: I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God!

Jesus: You have said it. I am! Indeed, I tell you, you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Almighty, coming on the clouds of heaven.

Caiaphas: He has blasphemed, he has blasphemed! What further need do we have of witnesses? Have you now heard his blasphemy? What do you think...?

A priest: He is guilty of death!

Another priest: He is guilty of death!

15 PETER'S DENIAL

Woman: You too were with Jesus the Galilean.

Peter: I don't know what you're talking about!

Woman: Yet this man was with Jesus of Nazareth!

Peter: I swear to you, I don't know the man!

Henchman: Surely you too must be one of them; your speech reveals it.

Peter: I tell you, I don't know the man!!

Jesus' Voice: ...Truly, I say to you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will have denied me three times...

Peter: Lord! Lord! Forgive me...

16 PILATE'S TRIAL

Longinus: Greetings, Pontius Pilate!

Pilate: Greetings, Longinus! I think I've noticed a different kind of excitement among the people in the city today. Can you tell me what's happening?

Longinus: They've arrested a certain Jesus. A certain Jesus, the son of a carpenter from Nazareth, who calls himself the Messiah. The Chief Priests have condemned him to death. They'll bring him here so you can condemn him too.

Pilate: What do you want with the Governor of Rome?

Caiaphas: We found this man inciting our people to revolt. He was urging us not to pay taxes to Caesar, claiming that he is Christ the King.

Pilate: Is everything they say true? Are you the King of the Jews?

Jesus: You say so.

Caiaphas: If he were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.

Pilate: Don't you hear how many things they accuse you of? Are you a king?

Jesus: Do you say this yourself, or did others tell you this about me?

Pilate: Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?

Jesus: My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my guards would certainly fight to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from here.

Pilate: So, you are a king!

Jesus: You said it: I am a king! For this I was born, and for this I came into the world: to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.

Pilate: What is... the truth?

Pilate: I find no guilt in him, so take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.

Caiaphas: We are not permitted to put anyone to death, and he must die.

People: Yes: to death, to death, to death!

Caiaphas: He stirs up the people by teaching throughout Judea, from Galilee, where he began, all the way to here.

Pilate: Ah, he is a Galilean.

Caiaphas: Yes: he is from Galilee.

Pilate: But then the judgment belongs to the Governor of Galilee. Herod is here in Jerusalem for the Passover celebrations: bring him to him.

Caiaphas: All right: we will go to Herod.

Procula: Greetings, Pontius Pilate! I heard the crowd tumult. I heard shouts of "Death to him!" What is happening?

Pilate: Nothing that concerns us. Nothing that concerns Rome. Rome has nothing to fear from these fanatics, from this King covered in rags.

Procula: A King, you say? Speak!

Pilate: They have arrested a certain Galilean who calls himself a King. The Chief Priests want his death. He is a Galilean, so I sent him to Herod to be the one to judge him.

Procula: Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for today I suffered greatly because of him in a dream.

Pilate: I told you, he is a Galilean. This concerns Herod, not me.

Caiaphas: Pontius Pilate! Herod refused to pass judgment, so we are bringing him back to you, the Governor of Rome, the Governor of this people.

Pilate: You brought this man to me as if he were inciting the people to revolt, but I examined him in your presence and found no fault in him with the charges you accuse him of. Indeed, not even Herod, for he sent him back to us. Therefore he has done nothing deserving of death. I will have him flogged and send him back.

Caiaphas: If you release him, you are not Caesar's friend; for whoever makes himself king goes against Caesar!

People: Death! Death! Death! Death! Death! Death!

Pilate: Isn't it enough that He be scourged and mocked? Listen: you know that it is your custom to release a man at Passover. Barabbas is in prison. Whom do you want me to release for you: Jesus who is called Christ, or Barabbas?

People: Barabbas. Release Barabbas. Barabbas. Release Barabbas. Release Barabbas.

Pilate: So be it! Bring him back!

Pilate: Look! Behold the Man!

People: Let him be crucified! Let him be crucified! Let him be crucified!

Pilate: Who are you? Where are you from? Do you not speak? Do you not know that I have authority to release you or to crucify you?

Jesus: You would have no authority over me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who handed me over to you is more guilty than you.

People: Enough! Crucify him!

Pilate: Must I then crucify your King?

Caiaphas: We have no king but Caesar!

People: Let him be crucified! Let him be crucified!

Pilate: So be it! I wash my hands of it. I am innocent of the blood of this just man. See to it yourselves!

People: His blood be upon us and upon our children!

Pilate: Away! Away! Take him away!

17 DAMNATION OF JUDAS

Judas: I have sinned! Because I betrayed innocent blood!

Caiaphas: What does that matter to us? You take care of it! (Judas returns the money)

It is not lawful to put them in the sacred treasury because they are the price of blood.

18 WAY OF THE CROSS

Procession towards the crosses

19 RAISING OF CROSSES

Music only.

20 CRUCIFIXION AND DEPOSITION

Caiaphas: You! You who destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross!

Jesus: Father! Forgive them, for they know not what they do!

Caiaphas: He saved others, but he does not want to save himself. If he is the King of Israel, let him come down from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusted in God. Let him free him now if he loves him, for he said, "I am the Son of God."

Jesus: Eli! Eli!

Caiaphas: Behold, he is calling Elijah! Let us see if Elijah comes to free him.

Jesus: My God! My God! Why have you forsaken me?

First Thief: Jesus, are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!

2nd Thief: Do you not fear God? You who suffer the same condemnation? We receive a fitting punishment for our crimes. But He has done nothing wrong. Jesus, remember me when you return to your Kingdom.

Jesus: Today, you will be with me in Paradise!

Jesus: Woman, behold, your Son! John, behold, your mother! I thirst...

It is finished! Father, into your hands I commend my spirit!

21 PITY

Music only