

The Cape Fear Chorale

presents

The Seven Last Words of Christ

by

F. Joseph Haydn



1732-1809

Soloists

Elisabeth MacKay Field, soprano
Sheila Bron, alto

Benjamin Horrell, tenor
Johannes Bron, baritone

Instrumentalists

Deborah Phillips, flute
Sarah Parker, oboe
Coleman Burgess, clarinet
Valanda Nelson, bassoon
Steve Skillman, horn
Kim Adams, horn

David Tyson, trumpet
Robert Parker, timpani
Joby Brunjes, violin
Rachel Brunjes, violin
Carrie Jackson, viola
David Meyer, cello
Karl Marzolf, bass

Jerry S. Cribbs, director
Judith J. Siebold, organist

Sunday, March 28, 2010, 4 p.m.
Grace United Methodist Church
401 Grace Street, Wilmington, NC

The Seven Last Words of Christ

Part 1, Introduction

Number 1

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

Father in heaven! Oh, see us kneeling. Look down from Your throne. Father, forgive us! Thy Son entreats Thee, Oh, hear Him pleading and interceding, that mercy be shown. Ah, we are grievous sinners, and great is our guilt. Forgiveness and grace to win us, our Savior's blood was spilled. Our Savior's blood asks no revenge, it flows to cleanse us. Father eternal! Let Thy grace attend us. Let mercy be shown.

Number 2

"Verily I say unto thee: This day thou shalt be with Me in Paradise."

Thou art mercy, love and pity, Thou art mercy, our Redeemer, Lamb of God! Yonder thief called for help to Thee: "When You come into Thy kingdom, Master, think of me." And you promised him so mildly, "Thou shalt be today in paradise with Me." By the cross where Thou has suffered see our true repentance offered. Lord, our God, look on us! Let us hear when death shall call us, from Thy lips eternal solace: Thy gentle words restore and comfort us. Let us hear when death shall call us: "Today thou shalt be with Me in paradise."

Number 3

"Woman, behold thy son: son, behold thy mother."

Blessed mother, you stood sadly, crying, sighing by the cross where thy dear Jesus died, and you felt His death wounds smarting in the bitter hour of parting, sorrowfully felt thy loss, thy grief and loss. You stood weeping, sighing there beside the cross. Though by sorrow bent and shaken, thou hast yet serenely taken for thy son beloved John, the true disciple. And we, too, thy children are! Blessed mother! O, thou comfort of the fallen, hear thy children, hear us calling. Mother! Hear thy children, hear us calling. Hear! O, thou comfort of the fallen, save our souls in desperate plight. Mother, lead us towards the light. When in death's embrace we languish and you hear our anxious crying and you see our mortal anguish, let not, Mother, then, the foe defeat us. Send thy loving strength to meet us. Oh, then prove thyself, our mother, and commend us to thy Son, O Mother!

Number 4

"My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken me?"

Why, O Father, did You forsake me? Where is now the hand of God? Where? Who can fathom this deep mystery, O God of power, O God Almighty, God all-seeing! Thou hast called us into being, and by Thy love, O Lord, we have been saved. O Lord we worship Thee. We adore Thee truly. For our sake You suffered cruelly, mockery, loneliness, fear and pain. Where's the man who would desert Thee, by his sins would want to hurt Thee? Thou art gracious, though we grieve Thee! No, we shall not ever leave Thee, in life and all eternity.

Part 2, Introduction

Number 5

Jesus calleth: "I thirst!"

Curb now your fury, stay your revenge. Mankind, now let pity move your spirit. Mercy enter all your hearts! Mercy enter all men's hearts. Jesus calleth: "Oh, I thirst!" Ah, His thirst as He is dying, they offer Him a bitter drink, a bitter drink of vinegar and gall, to quench His thirst. Is there to cruelty no end? Is there no end, O mankind? He can't withstand it. He can withstand no longer the pain and torment, whose life itself was gentleness.

Number 6

"It is finished."

It is finished. Nailed upon the tree of torture, hangs my Jesus in the night; and He calls aloud: "It is finished!" Now the cross has lost its terror, now has evil lost its might. O, you sinners, blindly living, woe betide you who from sin to graver sins are driven. Men consider now! Can you hope to be forgiven, when He comes in all His glory, in all His might? Save us, Jesus, from damnation. Do not let us cry in vain. Let Thy death be our salvation. Spare our souls eternal torment, spare our souls eternal pain. May we rise to live forever in Thy heaven, Thy domain.

Number 7

"Father, into Thy hands, I commend My spirit."

No further can His anguish rise, now He has drained the cup. "O Father take My spirit in Thy hands. I commend it to Thy hands." And then He bows His head and dies. From everlasting torment, His precious blood has saved us. Because my Jesus loved us, He died a sinner's death. You gave us life anew. What can we, O Lord, give you? What can we give? We lie in deep humility, O Jesus, at Thy feet; we offer Thee our grateful hearts. Into Thy hands, O Lord, into Thy hands.

Number 8

The Earthquake

He is no more. The very earth is loudly grieving! Now tremble, Golgotha. Oh, tremble. He died upon thy hill. Sun, hide thy face, and light not this accursed day. Break open, O land, be torn whereon the killers tarry. Ye graves, give up your dead. Arise, ye buried saints. The earth where ye have lain with sacred blood is stained.

Please silence all cell phones and beepers.

Cape Fear Chorale

*Charter member

Soprano

Joan Chason
Mary Cole
Rosemary Cook
Cheryl Cribbs*
Susan Gardner*
Amy George
Lucinda Houck
Jennifer Justus
Barbara Lechleitner
Marion Little*
Anne Matney
Belinda Mayhew
Mary Morgan
Jeanne Owens
Myrtle Sanders*
Nancy Singleton*
Jennings Trawick

Tenor

Michael Daugherty
Gregory Gore
Fred Jackson
Javier Mory
Charles Sanders*
Jim Tyndall
Rob Williams

Alto

Marty Brown
Patty Conner
R'Lou Ellson
Michelle Ginocchio
Doris Graybar
Barbara Guy*
Ann Hogan
Cherry Horn
Margaret Hutchins*
Cheryl Lanouette
Rita Morgan*
Edna Mory
Joanne Purnell
Carolyn Wetherington

Bass

Robby Anderson
Ralph Chason
Dennis Conlon
Les Conner
Brad Cook
Don Ellson
Jim Glasenapp
Brian Little*
Charles Mattes*
Vance Moser

Cape Fear Chorale Board Members

Rob Williams, President
Margaret Hutchins, Executive Vice-President & Concert Manager
R'Lou Ellson, Second Vice-President & Publicity Chair
Lucinda Houck, Secretary
Charles Sanders, Treasurer

Appointed Positions

Myrtle Sanders, Administrative Assistant to the Music Director
Barbara Guy, Historian
Susan Gardner, Social Coordinator

Cape Fear Chorale would like to offer a sincere word of gratitude to Grace United Methodist Church for the use of its facilities for rehearsals and performances, and also, Douglas Leightenheimer and First Presbyterian Church for the use of the timpani.

The concert is being recorded by Cape Fear Studio. To purchase a CD, please complete an order form at the table located in the narthex.

Child care is provided during the concert. Please see an usher for assistance.