

The Rhodes  
**Mastersingers Chorale**

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Tony Lee Garner, Conductor

presents

**St. John Passion**

Johann Sebastian Bach

with the Memphis Symphony Chamber Orchestra

**Soloists**

David Stevens — Evangelist

James Morrow — Jesus

Carole Choate Blankenship — Soprano

Ginger Hopkins — Alto

Ron Burrichter — Tenor

Robert Harris — Bass

James Williamson — Bass

Sunday, September 15, 1996 at 2:30 p.m.

Evergreen Presbyterian Church  
613 University Avenue

The greatest gift we have is song. The greatest responsibility we have is to one another. When people come together to share this gift and this responsibility, the result is a miracle. The benefits gained by people making music together are extraordinary.

Choral music has the power to bring people together to work toward common goals that challenge us to be better people, goals that cannot be achieved except in community with others. It is a powerful means of achieving understanding, cooperation and for being a positive influence in the lives of people of all ages.

Those arts which might be classified as "non-commercial" are, interestingly enough, those arts which enable and enrich our collective lives. It is a sad truth that these non-commercial arts do not get very much coverage in the media and consequently their importance is marginalized in the minds of many. These non-commercial arts could not exist if it were not for friends who are generous in their gifts of money and time and talents. We are all grateful.

The Rhodes Choral Music Series is made possible in part by the following friends:

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Mr. Garner's edition of the performance scores were paid for by a Faculty Development Grant from Rhodes.

There will be a 15-minute intermission during the performance.

**St. John Passion Text:**

**No. 1. Chorus.** Lord, our Redeemer, Thou whose Name in all the world is glorious, show us in this Thy Passion, that Thou, the true and only Son forevermore, e'en from humiliation sore, dost rise victorious.

**No. 2.** Jesus went with His disciples over the brook Kedron, where there was a garden, into which He entered and His disciples. Judas Iscariot which betrayed Him, also knew the place: for Jesus resorted thither oft, together with His disciples. Therefore, Judas, having received a band of men and officers from the chief priests and pharisees, cometh thither with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all things that were coming upon Him, went forth and said unto them: "Whom seek ye?" And they answered:

**No. 3. Chorus.** Jesus of Nazareth!

**No. 4.** Jesus said to them: "I am He." Judas also, which betrayed Him, was standing with them. As soon then as he had said, "I am He!" they went backward, and fell to the ground. Again then He asked them: "Whom seek ye?" Again they said:

**No. 5. Chorus.** Jesus of Nazareth!

**No. 6.** Jesus answered them: "I have told you that I am He, if ye are seeking Me, let these then go their way."

**No. 7. Chorale.** O wondrous love, whose depths, no heart has sounded, that brought Thee here by sin and grief surrounded, we live, the pleasures of this world enjoying, and Thou art dying.

**No. 8.** So that the word might be fulfilled, which He spake: Of them which Thou gavest me, have I lost none. Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it out, and smote the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. Then said Jesus to Peter: "Put up thy sword into the sheath, shall I not drink the cup my Father hath given Me?"

**No. 9. Chorale.** Thy will, O Lord, our God, be done, on earth, as round Thy heavenly throne; in time of sorrow patience give, obedient ever make us live. With Thy restraining spirit fill each heart that strives against Thy will.

**No. 10.** The band then together, with the captain and the officers of the Jews, took hold on Jesus, and bound Him, and led Him away to Annas first; the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was that same year high priest. Now it was Caiaphas who counselled the Jews, that it was expedient that one man should die for the people.

**No. 11.** From the bondage of transgression, to give me freedom, is my holy Savior bound. From all taint of deadly sickness fully to heal me, doth He bear this grievous wound.

**No. 12.** Simon Peter also followed Jesus, and so did another disciple.

**No. 13.** I follow Thee also, my Savior, with gladness, and will not forsake Thee, my Life and my Light. O let me not stray, my God, from Thy way, should ever my life be encompassed with sadness.

**No. 14.** Now that disciple was known unto the high priest, and went in with Jesus into the high priest's palace. But Peter stood at the door without. Then went out that other disciple, who was known unto the high priest, and spake unto her that kept the door, and brought Peter within. Then saith the damsel that kept the door to Peter: "Art not thou one of this Man's disciples?" He saith: "I am not!" And the servants and officers stood there having made a fire of coals (for it was cold), and they warmed themselves. Peter also stood by them, and warmed himself. Then the high priest asked Jesus of His disciples, and of His doctrine. Jesus answered him: "I have spoken openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the Temple, whither the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing. Why askest thou me? Ask them who heard me, what I have said unto them: behold, they themselves know what I have said!" And when He had thus spoken, an officer who was standing by, struck Jesus with the palm of his hand and said: "Dost thou answer the high priest so?" Jesus answered him: "If I have spoken evil, then bear witness of the evil, but if I have spoken well, why smitest thou me?"

**No. 15. Chorale.** O Lord, who dares to smite Thee, and falsely to indict Thee? Deride and mock Thee so? Thou needest not confession, who knowest not transgression as we and all our children know. Why doth the Savior languish beneath His load of anguish? Whence comes this mortal woe? The wrath that sinners merit, the sinless doth inherit, And pays the debt His debtors owe.

**No. 16.** Now Annas sent Him bound to the high priest Caiaphas. Simon Peter stood and warmed himself; then they said to him:

**No. 17. Chorus.** "Art thou not one of His disciples?"

**No. 18.** But he denied and said: "I am not!" One of the servants of the high priest being his kins-man whose ear Peter had cut off, saith: "Did I not see thee in the garden with Him?" Peter then denied again, and while he spake immediately the cock crew. And Peter thought upon the word of Jesus, and he went forth and wept bitterly.

**No. 19.** Ah, my soul, whither wilt thou fly? Where shall I seek for comfort? Shall I stay? Or depart and leave the hills and mountains far behind me? In the world is no relief, on my heart remains the burden of my evil deed, since the servant hath denied his Lord.

**No. 20. Chorale.** Peter, faithless, thrice denies that his Lord he knoweth, when he meets those earnest eyes, weeping, forth he goeth. Jesu, when we will not turn, look on us in kindness; make our hearts within us burn, rouse us from our blindness.

**No. 21. Chorale.** See the Lord of Life and Light, Savior meek and lowly, taken like a thief at night, bound by hands unholy. See the sinless Son of God shameful mockings bearing, bitter taunts, a cruel rod, doom of sinners sharing.

**No. 22.** Then led they Jesus from Caiaphas into the judgment hall, and it was early. And they themselves went not into the judgment hall, lest they should be defiled, but that they might eat the Passover. Then Pilate went out unto them, and said: "What accusation bring ye against this man?" They answered and said unto him:

**No. 23. Chorus.** "If this Man were not an evil-doer, to thee we would not have delivered Him."

**No. 24.** Then Pilate said unto them: "Take ye Him, and judge Him according to your law." The Jews therefore said unto him:

**No. 25. Chorus.** "It is not lawful, it is not lawful for us."

**No. 26.** That the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled, which He spake, signifying what death He should die. Then Pilate entered into the judgment hall again and called Jesus, and said to Him: "Art thou the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered Him: "Sayest thou this thing of thyself, or did others tell it thee of Me?" Pilate answered: "Am I a Jew? The chief priests and Thine own nation have delivered Thee unto me; what hast thou done?" Jesus answered: "My kingdom is not of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now is my kingdom not from hence."

**No. 27. Chorale.** O mighty King, eternal is Thy glory! What tongue can fitly tell Thy wondrous story? What heart can find a worthy gift to proffer? Nought dare we offer. With my senses I cannot ensure the equal of your good mercies pure. How can I then your kindly deeds return or by my labour earn?

**No. 28.** Pilate therefore said unto Him: "Art thou then a king?" Jesus answered: "Thou sayest that I am a King. To this end I was born, and came into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth My voice." Pilate saith unto Him: "What is truth?" And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them: "I find in Him no fault at all. But ye have a custom, that I should release unto you one at the Passover; will ye that I release the King of the Jews?" Then cried they all again, saying:

**No. 29. Chorus.** "Not this man."

**No. 30.** Now Barabbas was a robber. Then Pilate therefore took Jesus and scourged him.

**No. 31.** Consider, O my soul, with fearful joy consider, with bitter anguish in thy heart afflicted, thy highest good is Jesus's sorrow. For thee, from the thorns that pierce Him, what heav'nly flowers spring, thou canst the sweetest fruit from His wormwood gather, then look forevermore to Him.

**No. 32.** Lord Jesus, ah! Thy bitter pain and sorrow to joy restores us, and sets the sinner free. With fear and trembling it afflicts me to see His holy Body wounded, and yet with gratitude it fills me, for I am saved from hell and death.

**No. 33.** And the soldiers plaited a crown of thorns, and put it on His head, and they put on Him a purple robe, and said:

**No. 34. Chorus.** "We salute Thee, King of the Jews."

**No. 35.** And they smote him with their hand. Then Pilate therefore went forth again, and saith unto them: "Behold, I bring Him forth to you, that ye may know that I find no fault in Him." And Jesus then came forth wearing the crown of thorns, and the purple robe, and Pilate saith unto them:

"Behold, the Man!" And when the chief priests therefore and officers saw Him, they cried and said:

**No. 36. Chorus.** "Crucify!"

**No. 37.** But Pilate saith unto them: "Take ye Him, and crucify Him; for I find no fault in Him." The Jews therefore answered him:

**No. 38. Chorus.** "We have a Law, and by our law He ought to die, because he made Himself the Son of God."

**No. 39.** When Pilate heard that saying, he was the more afraid, and went again into the judgment hall, and saith to Jesus: "From whence art thou?" But Jesus gave him no answer. Then saith Pilate unto Him: "Speakest Thou not unto me? Knowest Thou not that I have power to crucify Thee, and also power to release Thee?" Jesus answered: "Thou couldest have no power at all against Me, had it not been given thee from above; therefore he that delivered Me unto thee hath the greater sin." From thence forth Pilate therefore sought to release Him.

**No. 40. Chorale.** Thy bonds, O Son of God, most High, have perfect freedom brought us; and free we to Thy throne come nigh as Thou by grace hast taught us, hadst Thou disdained this bondage, we had been bound forevermore.

**No. 41.** But the Jews cried out, and said:

**No. 42. Chorus.** "If thou let this Man go, thou art not a friend of Caesar."

**No. 43.** When Pilate heard that saying, he brought Jesus forth, and sat down in the judgment seat, in a place that is called the pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha. And it was the preparation of the Passover, and about the sixth hour, and he saith unto the Jews: "Behold your King." But they cried out:

**No. 44. Chorus.** "Away with Him, crucify Him."

**No. 45.** Pilate saith unto them: "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief Priests answered and said:

**No. 46.** "We have no King but Caesar."

**No. 47.** Then delivered he Him unto them to be crucified, and they took Jesus and led Him away. And He, bearing his cross, went forth unto a place called the place of skull, which is called in the Hebrew, Golgatha.

**No. 48.** Haste, ye deeply wounded spirits, come and bring your heavy burdens. Haste — come where? to Golgatha! Take, O take the wings of faith and fly. Fly — fly where? To the Cross of Jesus find relief and healing there. Haste.

**No. 49.** And there they crucified Him, and two others with Him, on either side one, and Jesus in the midst. And Pilate wrote a title, and put it on the cross. And the writing was — Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. This title then read many of the Jews, for the place was nigh to the city where Jesus was crucified, and it was written in Hebrew, and Greek, and in Latin. Then said the chief priests of the Jews to Pilate:

**No. 50. Chorus.** "Write thou not the King of the Jews, but rather write thou, that He said: 'I am the King of the Jews.'"

**No. 51.** But Pilate answered: "What I have written, I have written."

**No. 52. Chorale.** Within our inmost being Thy name and cross alone, the light of all our seeing, prevailing influence own. O breathe this comfort o'er us when low in grief we lie, that Thou, Lord Jesus, for us hast given Thyself to die.

**No. 53.** Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments, and made four parts, to every soldier a part, and also His coat. Now the coat was without seam, woven from the top throughout. They said therefore among themselves:

**No. 54. Chorus.** "Let us divide it, but cast lots for it, who shall have it."

**No. 55.** That the Scripture might be fulfilled, which saith: "They parted My raiment among them, and for My vesture they did cast lots." These things therefore the soldiers did. Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple standing by, whom He loved, He saith unto His mother: "Woman, behold thy son." Then saith He to the disciple: "Behold thy mother."

**No. 56. Chorale.** While His parting spirit sinks, ere its flight be taken, Jesus on His mother thinks, lest she be forsaken. Hearts that emulate His love nought from Him can sever. They shall rise to realms above, where He liveth ever.

**No. 57.** And from that time that disciple took her unto his own home. After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, saith: "I thirst!" Now there was set a vessel, full of vinegar. And they filled a sponge with vinegar, and put it upon hyssop, and put it there upon to His mouth. When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said: "It is finished."

**No. 58.** It is finished. O rest for all afflicted spirits. This night of woe makes me upon my last hour ponder. See, Judah's hero triumphs now, and ends the fight. It is finished.

**No. 59.** And He bowed His head, and gave up His ghost.

**No. 60. Chorale.** Beloved Savior, wilt Thou answer, as Thou hast now the cross endured, and Thyself hast said: "It is finished!" Am I from death delivered? Can I, through Thy eternal merit, the heavenly realm inherit? Shall all the world redemption see? Thou canst for anguish now say nothing, yet Thou dost bow Thy head and say, in silence: "yea!" Jesus, Thou, who knowest death art alive forever, when I yield my dying breath, Lord, forsake me never. Other Savior need I none, since Thou dost receive me. Lord, to share what Thou hast won, of thy mercy give me.

**No. 61.** And behold, the veil of the Temple was rent in twain, from the top to the bottom. And the earth did quake; and the rocks were rent. And the graves were opened, and many bodies of saints which slept arose.

**No. 62.** My heart, behold how all the world at Jesus's sufferings likewise suffers; the sun his beams in sorrow shrouds, the veil divides, the rocks are rent, the earth doth quake, the graves are opened, while they the Creator die; and as for thee, what wilt thou do?

**No. 63.** Dissolve, O my heart, into torrents of weeping, the Highest to honour. Proclaim to the world and to Heaven thy affliction, thy Jesus is dead.

**No. 64.** The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the Cross upon the Sabbath day (for that Sabbath day was a high day), besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. Then came the soldiers, and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who was crucified with him. And when they came to Jesus, and saw that He was dead already, they brake not His legs. But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced His side and forthwith came there out blood and water. And he that saw it, bare record, and his record is true and he knoweth that which he saith is true, that ye might believe. For these things were done, that the Scripture should be fulfilled: "A bone of Him shall not be broken." And again another Scripture saith: "They shall look on Him whom they pierced."

**No. 65. Chorale.** Help us, Christ, Almighty Son of God, by Thy bitter anguish faithfully our course to run, every sin to vanquish. Teach us, Lord, Thy grace to know, guide our weak endeavor, our Redeemer's praise to show thankfully forever.

**No. 66.** And after this, Joseph of Arimathaea (being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews), besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him leave. He therefore came, and took away the body of Jesus. And there came also Nicodemus, who came at first by night; he also came and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pound weight. Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes, with the spices, as is the manner of the Jews to bury. Now there was in the place where He was crucified a garden, and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never a man yet laid. There therefore laid they Jesus, because of the Jews' preparation, for the sepulchre was nigh at hand.

**No. 67. Chorus.** Rest here in peace, Redeemer blest and holy, henceforth no more will I bewail Thee; rest here in peace, and lead Thou me to peace. The grave will not forever close me in, but when God my Redeemer calls, then haste I forth, then haste I the God of Heaven to meet.

**No. 68. Chorale.** Lord Jesus, Thy dear angel send, when'er my mortal life shall end, and bear my soul to heaven. Within its narrow chamber keep my body safe in painless sleep, till Thy last call be given. And when from death Thou wakest me, in bliss untold my eyes shall see, O Son of God, Thy glorious face, my Savior and my Fount of grace. Lord Jesus Christ, O hear Thou me; Thee will I praise eternally.

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## Members of the Memphis Symphony Chamber Orchestra

<b>Violin I</b>	<b>Viola</b>	<b>Bass</b>
Kevin Case, Concertmaster	Michael Molnau, Principal	Scott Best, Principal
Paul Turnbow, Asst. Concertmaster	Michele Walker Fine, Asst. Principal	<b>Flute</b>
John Wehlan, Asst. Principal	<b>Cello</b>	Karen Busler, Principal
<b>Violin II</b>	Karen Hall, Asst. Principal	Robin Carlson
Christine Palmer, Principal	David Cho, Asst. Principal	<b>Oboe/English Horn</b>
Gaylon Patterson, Asst. Principal	<b>Viol da Gamba</b>	Ellen Sherman, Principal
Donna Poole, Asst. Principal	Karen Hall	Sandra D'Amato
		<b>Bassoon</b>
		Leyla Zamora, Principal

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## Members of the Rhodes Mastersingers Chorale

<b>Sopranos</b>	<b>Altos</b>	<b>Tenors</b>	<b>Basses</b>
Christine Bertz	Susan Edmonds	Keith Arnold	Bill Flores
Carole Blankenship	Lane Gotten	Ron Burcher	Robert Harris
Gina Capizzani	Ellen Koziel	Briggs Cormier	Sam Jordan
Anne Daniel	Susan Mallory	Tim Johnson	Harry Keuper
Macon Davis	Julie Meiman	Greg Koziel	Kevin Olsen
Pam Dotson	Holly Hall Price	Kelly Kramer	Robert Patterson
Bette Garner	Jean Schmidt	Scott Miller	Ed Pichon
Marci Hendrix	Terron Shoemaker	Joe Patterson	Michael Posner
Nell Miller	Oma Strickland	Ed Sharp	Jim Williamson
Anita Pilcher	Sondra Tucker	Roger Tucker	Dan Witherspoon
Shelley Reel	Harriet Turnbull		Robert Wright
Ali Robbins			
Audrey Stansell			
Anne Zittlow			

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The Mastersingers Chorale and the Memphis Symphony Chamber Orchestra will bring you two more of the "trinity" of religious works by J.S. Bach during this current season. On Sunday, February 23, 1997, you can hear the dramatic and ethereal "St. Matthew Passion." David Stevens will return as the Evangelist and James Morrow will return for the role of Jesus. The Rhodes Music Academy Children's Chorus will join the Mastersingers for this performance. Then on Sunday, April 27, 1997, you can hear what many consider to be the greatest piece of choral music ever written, the "Mass in b minor." Both performances will be in Evergreen Presbyterian Church. Please call 726-3839 for further information or to be placed on our mailing list.

The Mastersingers Chorale is a community chorus made up, primarily of professional musicians and experienced choral musicians. Spaces are reserved each year for outstanding college and high school singers.

The Mastersingers Chorale is indebted to the following people for the leadership they provide as members of the Advisory Board:

Susan Edmonds	Ben Legett	Ann Sharp
Bill Flores	Joy Lingerfeldt	Roger Tucker
Marci Hendrix	Shelley Reel	James Williamson
Tim Johnson	Jean Schmidt	Dan Witherspoon
Ellen Koziel		

The members of the Chorale are always appreciative of those who contribute behind-the-scene: Margo Raiford, McCoy Theatre Program Director; Barbara Maxey, Rhodes Music Department; and Richard Baldwin and the gracious staff at Evergreen Presbyterian Church. We are also grateful for and indebted to David Ramsey our gifted rehearsal accompanist and organist. Thank you, Tony Lee Garner, for your artistry, the challenge you present to us, and for your continuing pursuit of musical integrity.

Just take my Bible to church / we'll be there eventually

Umbrella

I'm going to stay