Jesus Christ Superstar Trinity Amateur Operatic Society Audition Pack

- Please read the show/character information carefully.
- If you decide to audition, please fill out the specified page and bring it with you to your audition slot.
- You can audition for multiple characters, but these will be separate audition slots.
- For your character, we ask you to learn separate musical excerpts from the show that we feel show different aspects of your character's personality. These can be found in this booklet. Please prepare interpretations of these to perform at the audition. You can hold the score material to refer to in your audition, if you need to.
- Given that there is no dialogue in this show, it's important that your character's thoughts and feelings direct your singing- showing variation in tone and stresses to certain words (your choice) to really convey understanding of your character's intentions within the song, as well as being considerate of your movement in the space.
- You will audition solo. In the auditions, there will be the production team as well as a couple of committee members.

We look forward to seeing you at auditions and thank you in advance for your time and efforts.

The show:

Jesus Christ Superstar tells the story of Jesus in the final days leading up to his crucifixion. A musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, it has no spoken dialogue and is sometimes considered a modern rock-opera. Loosely based on the Gospels, Superstar focuses on the personal conflicts between Jesus, his disciples, the people of Israel, and the leadership of Rome. Special attention is paid to the relationship between Judas Iscariot and Jesus, as well as Jesus' relationship with Mary Magdalene. The musical is unique among Biblical retellings in that it focuses on both Judas' struggle making the decision to betray Jesus and Jesus' human psychology, fear, and anger in understanding and accepting his role as both leader and martyr. The show is a product of its era, permeated with 1970s rock, gospel, folk and funk themes, modern language and colloquialisms, and high-energy dance numbers.

KING HEROD (Gender neutral) High Baritone (transpose for female range). The King of Galilee; Jesus is brought to them for judgment after first being taken to Pilate. Comedic, egotistical, volatile, childish, demanding. This role requires an actor to show a sneering, arrogant, condescending manner. (We would look to incorporate the actor into other scenes in the show, as a civilian.)

-King Herod's song (Bars 118-165, p.131-2)

CAIAPHAS (Gender neutral) Low Bass (transpose for female range). Another of the main antagonists of the show. High priest who sees Jesus as a threat to the nation. Someone in power who fears losing that power to Jesus. One must be able to show anger, authority and angst.

- -This Jesus Must Die (Interpret/Speak the line 'No wait, we need a more permanent solution to our problem' immediately followed by Bars 52-68, p.78-9;
- Hosanna (Bars 9-17, p.81)

ANNAS (Gender neutral) High Baritone (transpose for female range). Fellow priest at the side of Caiaphas who also sees Jesus as a threat. Annas can seem more conniving than Caiaphas. This role requires an actor that can show disgust, displeasure, and loathing.
-This Jesus Must Die (Bars 1-28, p.76-7- sing Annas PLUS Priest 1, 2, 3 lines as if Annas, as they are all solo lines mixed.)

(We will look to cast two or three other priest figures, in accordance with the music/vision, to act as a council with the above two characters. These again can be gender neutral.)

SIMON ZEALOTES (Gender neutral) High Baritone (transpose for female range) is one of Jesus' twelve Apostles; urges Jesus to lead his followers into battle against the Romans. Simon is under the belief that violence can solve all their problems. This role requires an actor that can show energy, confidence and animosity.

- Simon Zealotes (Bars 53-88, p.86-8)

PETER (Gender neutral) Tenor (transpose for female range). One of Jesus' twelve Apostles; denies Jesus three times upon the night of Jesus' arrest to save themselves. Actor must be able to show inner conflict, anger, frustration, vulnerability, worry and regret.

- Peter's Denial (WHOLE song, p.126-7- with reader in audition as maid/man/Mary);
- Could We Start Again Please? (Bars 35- end, singing boys/girls lines too, p.134-5)

(No audition required) **ENSEMBLE (All vocal types/ranges)** will play such roles as angels, Apostles, priests, soldiers, lepers, merchants, rioters, reporters, etc.

Characters:

[Audition songs are listed in red. Page numbers refer to lib pages, to assist the team for printing, and do not correlate with the booklet pages.]

JESUS (Male) Rock Tenor. Leader of the twelve Apostles, a man, called the 'Son of God' and the 'King of the Jews'. Whilst inspiring and leading others, often with calm authority, he wrestles with inner conflict, anger and frustration at the lack of clarity from God regarding the reason for his death/mission. Actor must be able to show anger, frustration, confusion, vulnerability, compassion, strength, authority and despair.

- Gethsemane (Bars 41-123, p.117-9);
- The Temple (Bars 55-66, followed immediately by your own interpretation of the line: 'Don't crowd me, heal yourselves!', p.94-5)
- If there is deliberation and you are called back for a 2nd audition (chemistry testing with a potential Judas) please then have prepared for the argument from The Last Supper- Bars 81-107, p.111-12).

JUDAS (Male) Rock Tenor. Arguably the antagonist of the show. One of the twelve Apostles of Jesus; concerned for the poor and the consequences of Jesus' fame. Actor must be able to show anger, frustration, disgust, despair, regret and remorse.

- Heaven on their Minds (Bars 61-112, p.61-2);
- Judas' Death (Bars 39-71, p.137-8)
- If there is deliberation and you are called back for a 2nd audition (chemistry testing with a potential Jesus) please then have prepared for the argument from The Last Supper- Bars 81-107, p.111-12)

MARY MAGDALENE (Female) Mezzo-Soprano. A loyal follower of Jesus who finds herself falling in love with him. She is often the calming presence soothing the increasingly vulnerable Jesus. The role requires an actress that can show grace, stability, confusion, weakness and compassion.

- I Don't Know How to Love Him (WHOLE song, p.101-3);
- Everything's Alright (Bars 83-96, p.73-4)

PILATE (Male) Rock Baritone. Governor of Judea who foresees the events of Jesus' crucifixion from beginning to aftermath in a dream and finds himself being presented with that very situation. Actor must be able to show authority, rage, volatility, confusion and fear.

- Pilate's Dream (WHOLE song, p.90-1);
- Trial by Pilate (Bars 200-207, p.149)

Please hand in this page upon arrival at your audition.

-Full name: -Contact number: -Role(s) auditioning for:
-If you weren't successful in obtaining your chosen role, would you be happy to be considered for a different principal role, based on the judgement of the production team? Yes / No (circle)
Feel free to elaborate here, on the above, if you wish:
-Please list any period(s) of unavailability for rehearsals, here:
Please read the below statements and sign after, to show acknowledgment/agreement:
-I understand that I will be required to attend all specified rehearsals on Tuesday and/or Thursday evenings, relevant to my character, between October 2025 and April 2026 (unless it falls either within absence dates that I have provided/due to illness.)
-I will work in positive collaboration with the collective vision of the production team and cast.
-I understand that I will be required to attend tech/ dress rehearsal and band call prior to show week (which could fall outside of normal rehearsal nights and/or on the weekend 18/19 th April 2026).
-I understand that I must be present for every performance of the show inclusive Tuesday 21st April – Saturday 25th April 2026.
Signature:



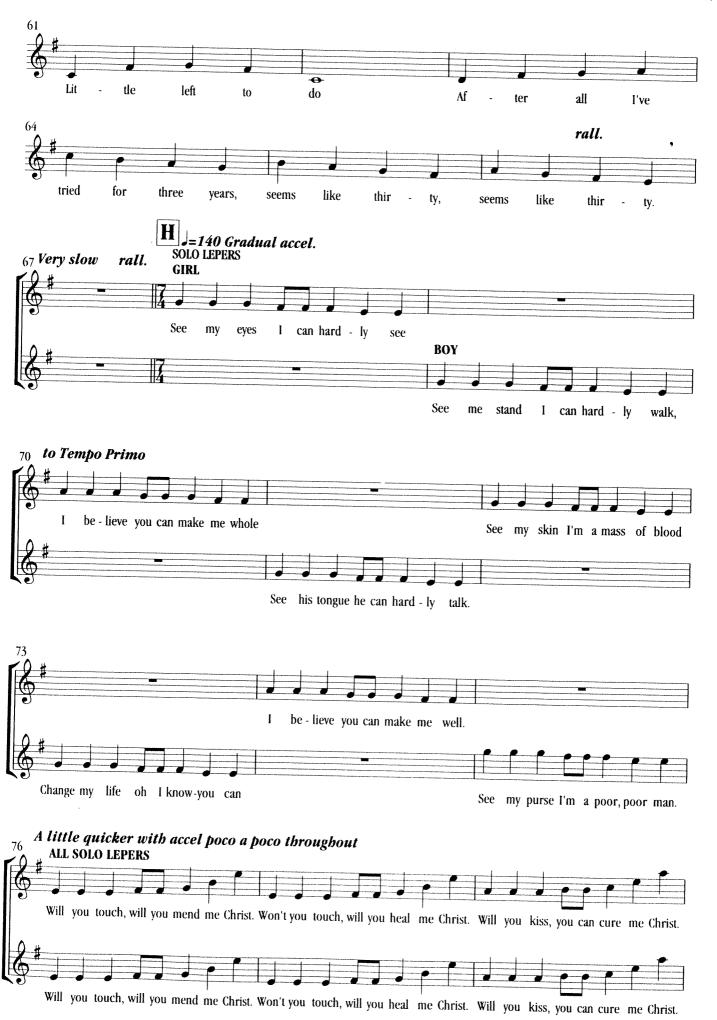


15. Gethsemane



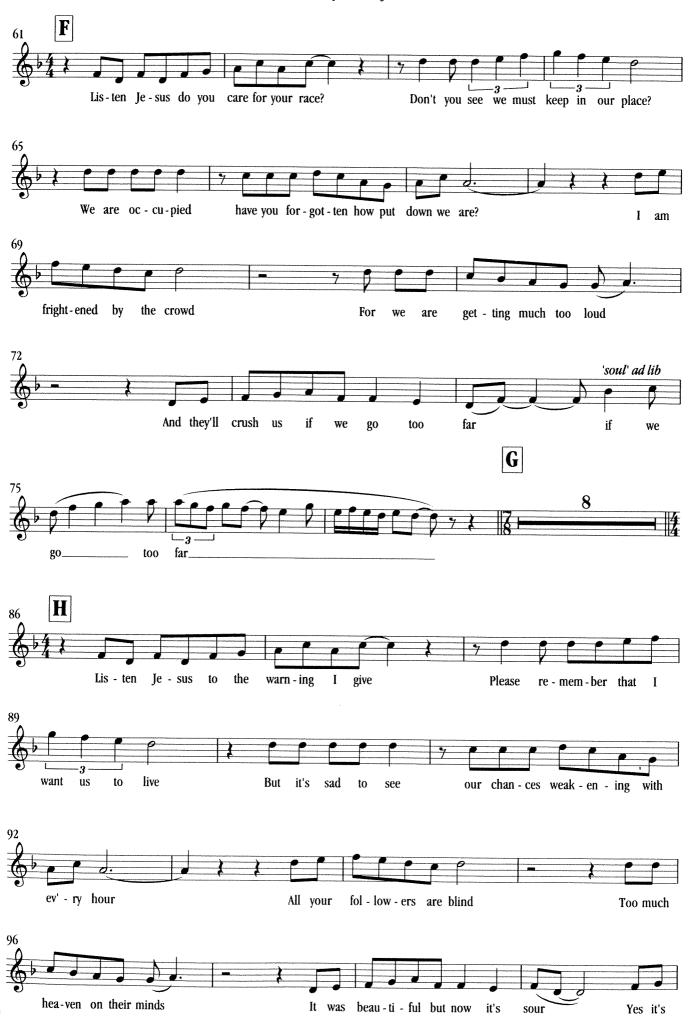












2. Heaven On Their Minds





20. Judas's Death







12. I Don't Know How To Love Him

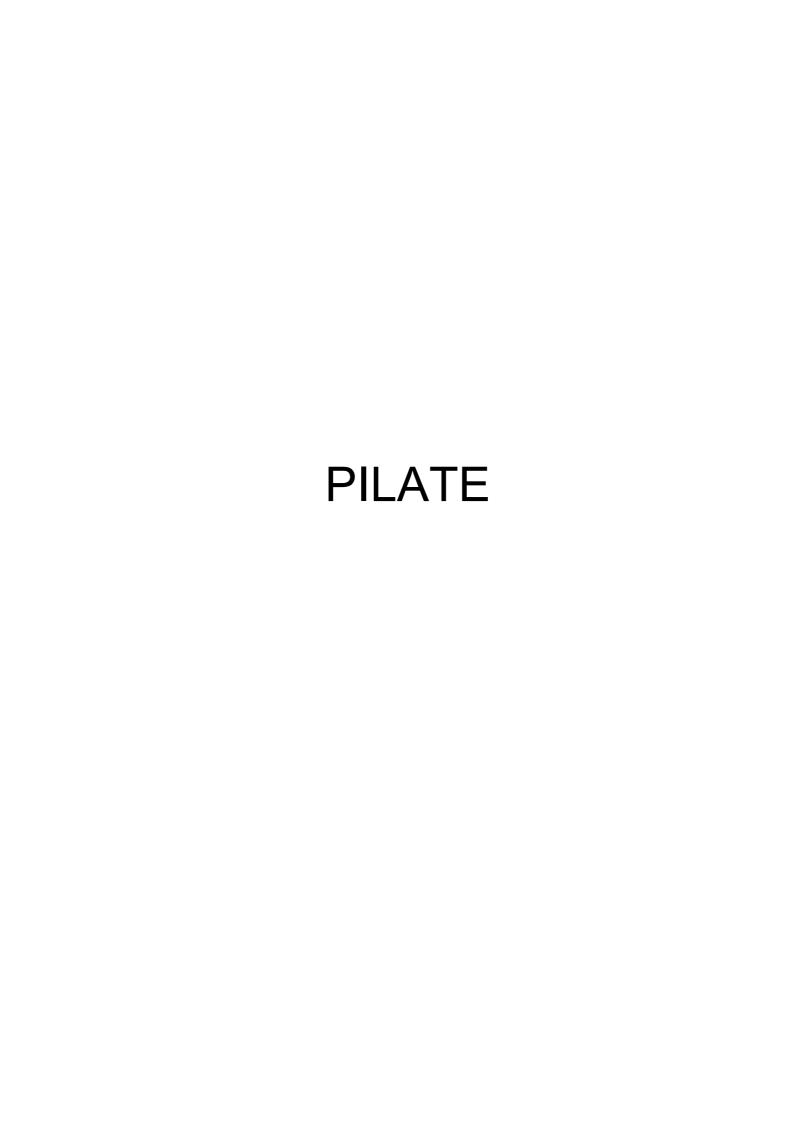






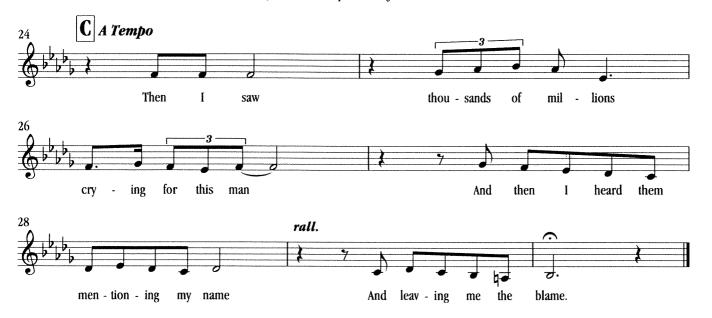






9. Pilate's Dream







die if you want to

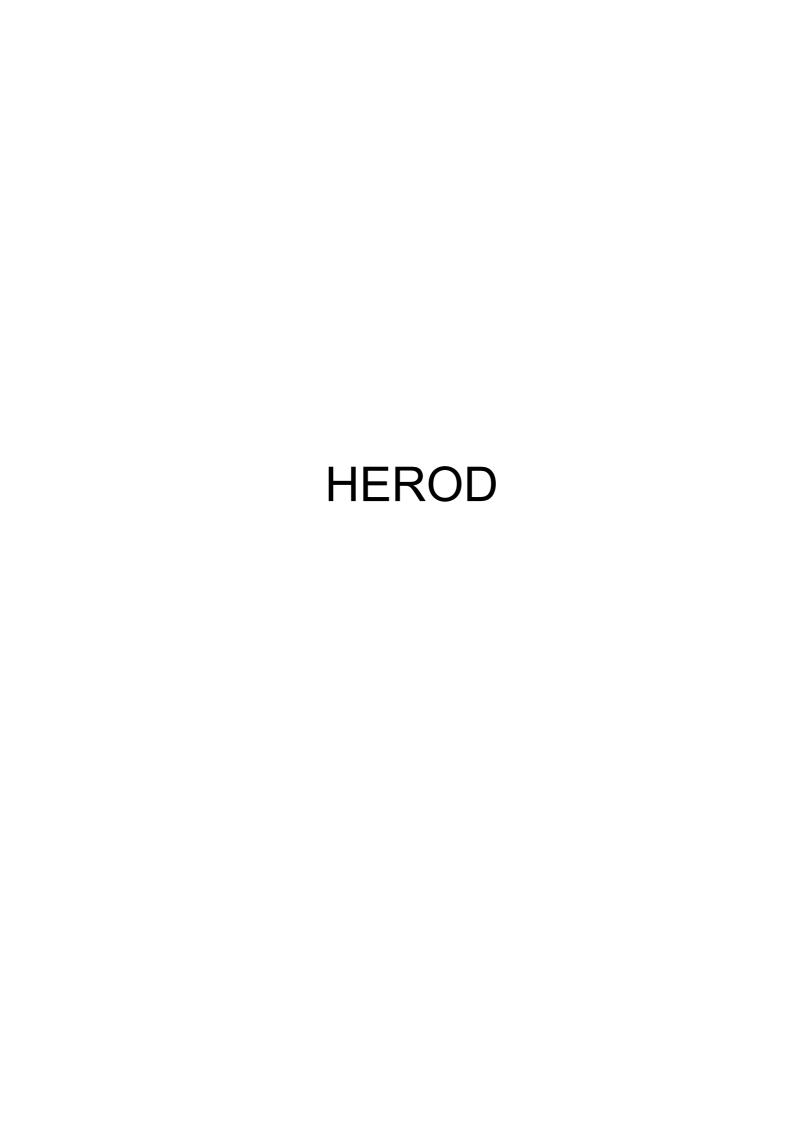
you

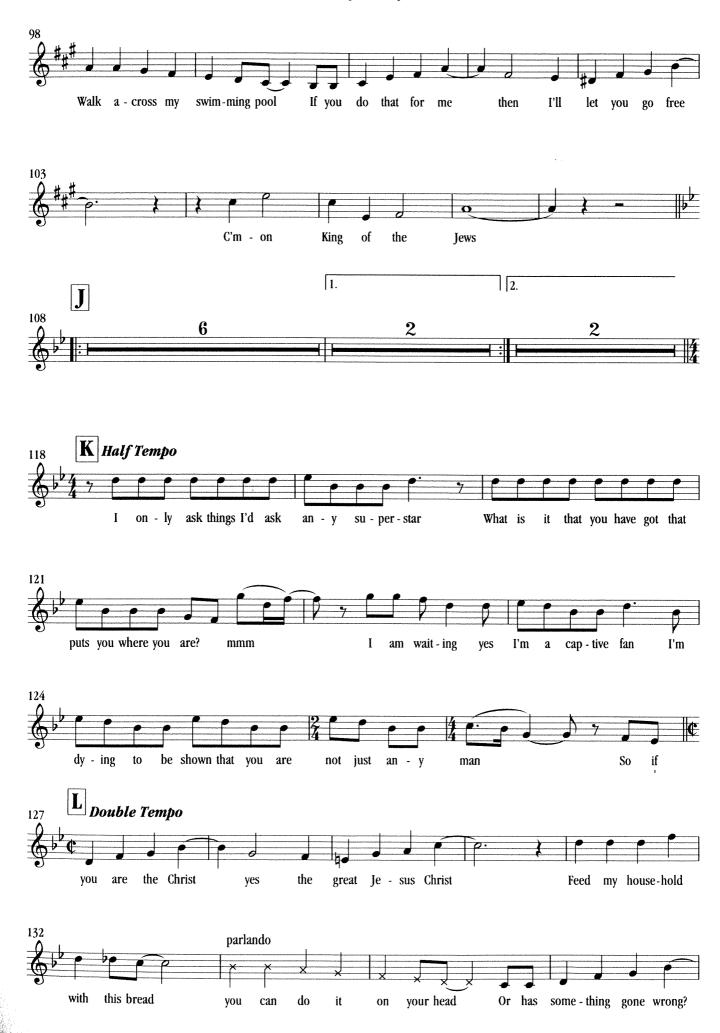
in - no - cent pup - pet!

I wash my hands

of

your de - mo - li - tion

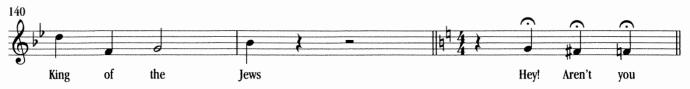




18. Pilate and Christ/Herod's Song



Slowly, dramatically = 128



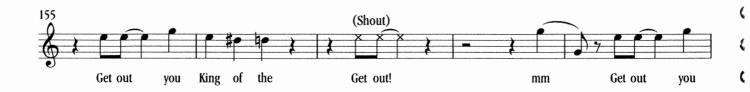


gradual accel.

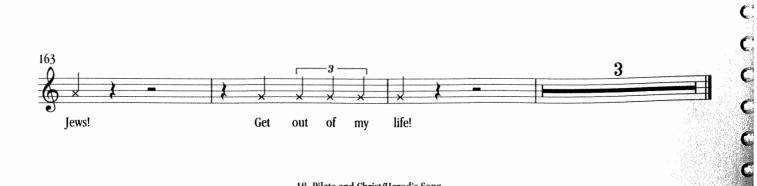


151 In 2, Ragtime Style (Come Sopra)











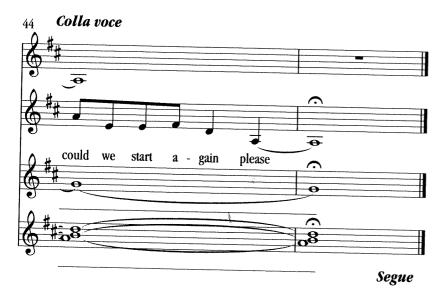
17. Peter's Denial

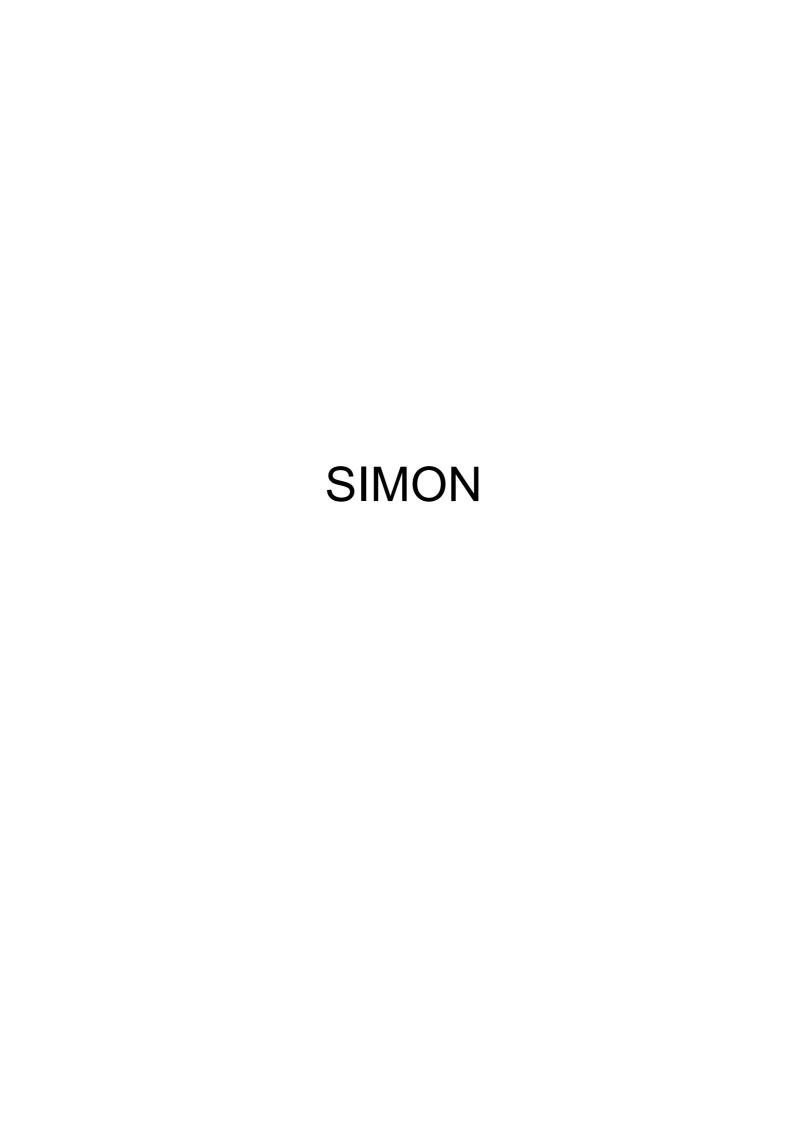












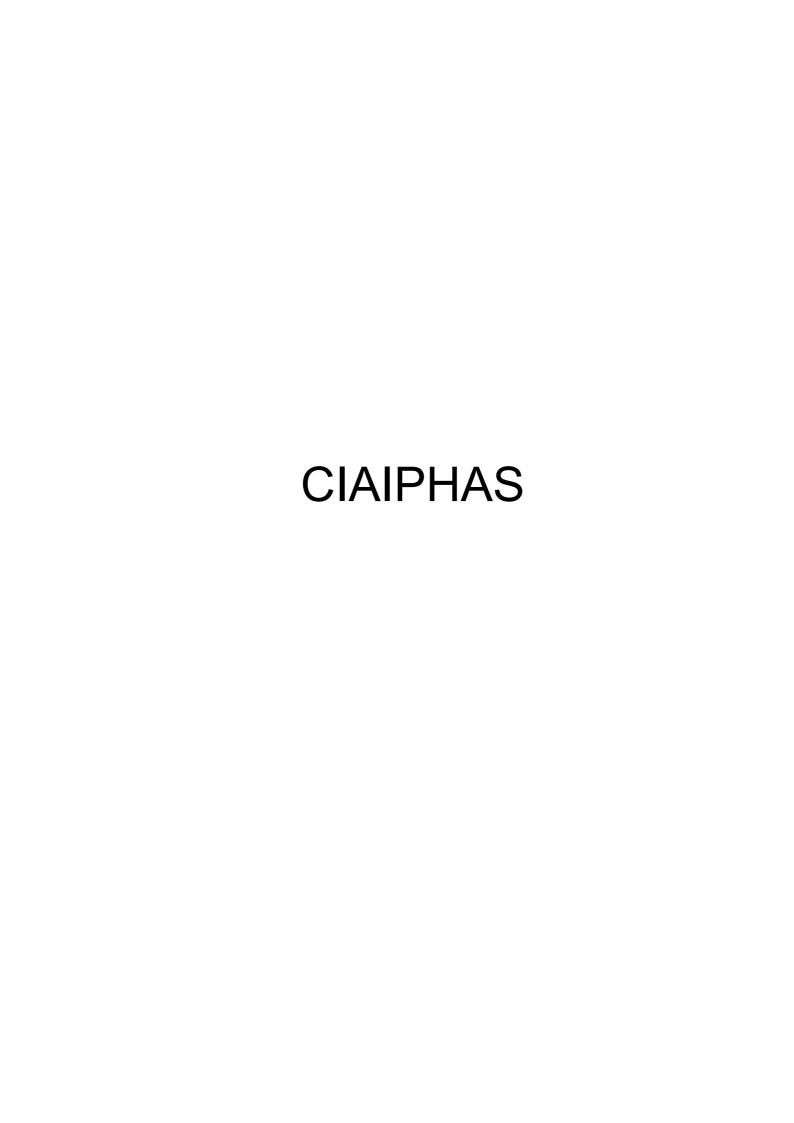


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8. Simon Zealotes/Poor Jerusalem













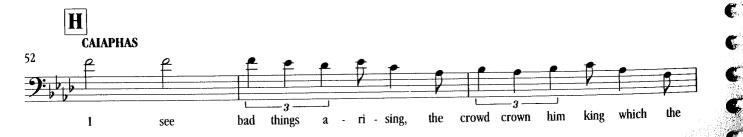
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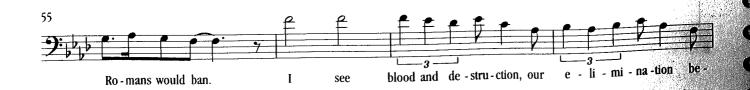
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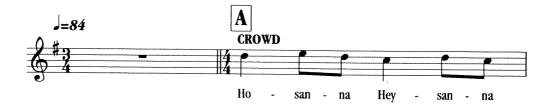






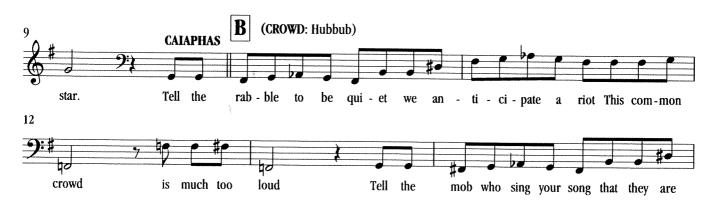
6. This Jesus Must Die

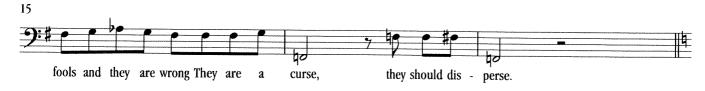
7. Hosanna

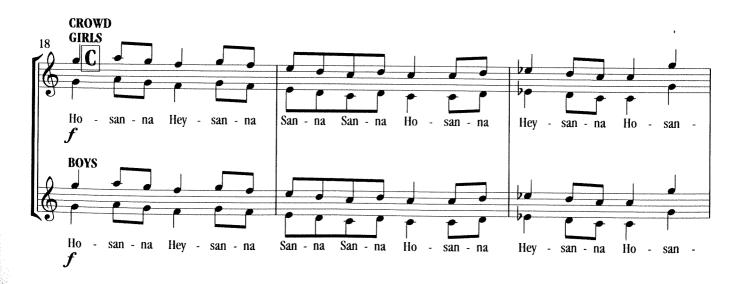


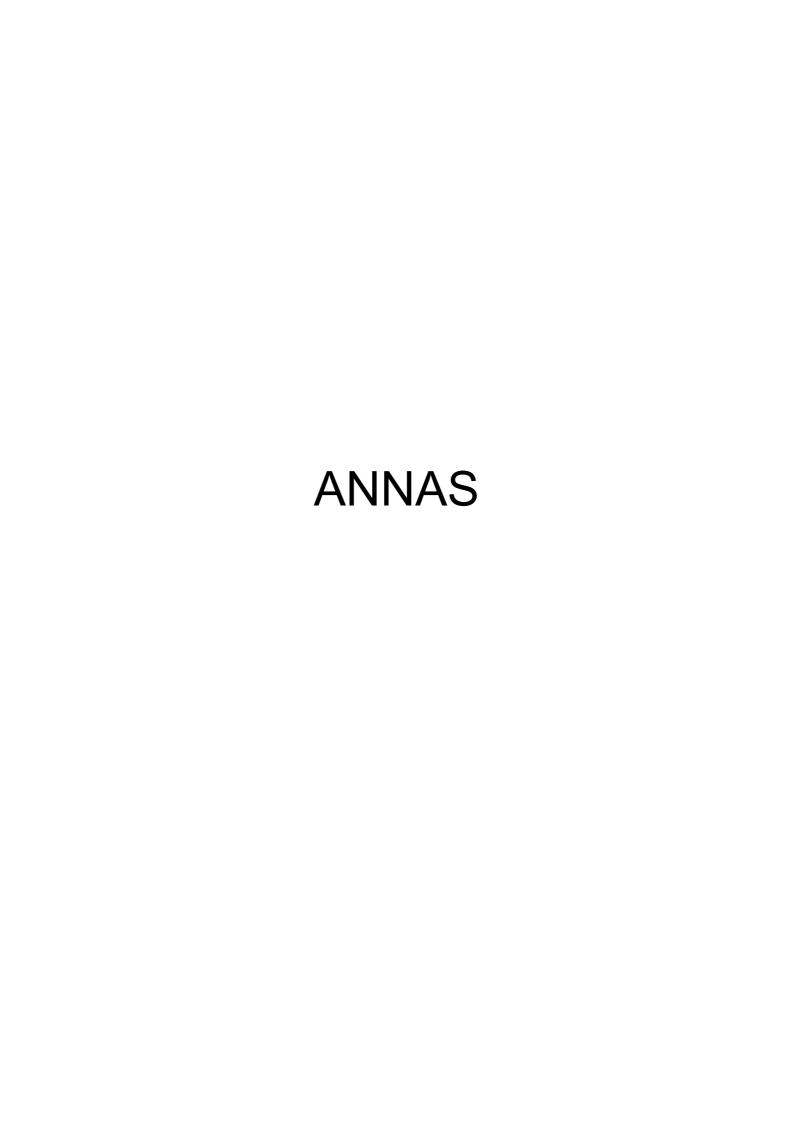












6. This Jesus Must Die



