

I Stand All Amazed

Narration

Who is this Man? (Soloist)

Stand All Amazed (Choir/Instrumental/Choir)

Narrator: “Who is this Jesus, whose voice the winds obey? What manner of man is this?” Such were the questions asked by the people of Galilee two thousand years ago when Jesus of Nazareth came among them as a teacher, a healer, and a marvel among men. The winds obeyed him; the blind received sight at his touch; the penitent sinner found forgiveness and understanding; the hungry were fed in body and in spirit. They watched him perform miracles, and wondered, “Who is this man?” Some said he was John the Baptist; some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. His fame grew, until rumor of him reached even Herod, who asked, “...who is this, of whom I hear such things?”

As they saw his mighty works, a new hope arose in the hearts of the humble. In his power, his kindness, his love, they saw the promise of life, a chance to be made whole and to learn truth. And so they sought him to be taught and fed and healed.

I Come to Him (Choir)

Narrator: For three years, Jesus labored among his people, ministering to them, healing the sick, and blessing their little children.

Then, near the end of his ministry, he went up to the feast of the Passover at Jerusalem. As he entered the city, a great multitude spread their garments in his path; others cut down branches from the trees, and laid them in the way, crying, “Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel.”

The Pharisees were displeased with this show of adoration, and they said to Jesus, “Master, rebuke thy disciples.” But he answered, “I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.” And so the people continued to shout in his praise, “Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.”

Hosanna (Choir)

Narrator: “And when he was come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, Who is this? And the multitude said, This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth.”

The Pharisees and the chief priests were envious of his acclaim and threatened by his doctrines. Their attempts to discredit him and turn the hearts of the people against him had been in vain. They said among themselves, “Perceive ye how ye prevail nothing? behold, the world is gone after him.” In their envy they took counsel together, to put him to death.

On the day of the feast, Jesus gathered his disciples into an upper room to teach them, and to prepare them for the days to come. He spoke plainly of his death and separation from them. And there, he knelt and washed the dust from his disciples’ feet. And he said to them, “Know ye what I have done to you? Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done.”

The Greatest Among Us (Choir/ Soloist)

Narrator: During these last hours together, Jesus taught his disciples the things that would sustain them through the times that must follow. He taught them to love one another, to be united in spirit and purpose; he warned them of the trials they must endure in the coming days and years, and he prayed to the Father for them. Then, as this brief time of peace came to a close, they joined in singing a final hymn, drawing strength and comfort from the unity of their uplifted voices.

O Strengthen Me (Men's Chorus)

Narrator: "And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives. Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder. And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy. Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.

"And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, saying, "Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done." And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground."

Gethsemane (Soloist)

Narrator: "And when he rose up from prayer, and was come to his disciples, he found them sleeping for sorrow." And he said unto them, "Rise up, let us go; lo, he that betrayeth me is at hand."

Even as he spoke, a multitude approached. Judas, one of his own disciples, went before them, and drew near to Jesus to kiss him. But Jesus said unto him, "Judas, betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss?" Then they bound Jesus, and led him away to the palace of the high priest. They accused him and mocked him, but had not the power to condemn him to death. So they carried him to Pilate the Roman governor.

Though Pilate found no fault in him, he took Jesus and scourged him, hoping to appease the angry crowd. The Roman soldiers robed Jesus in purple and placed a crown of thorns on his head, mocking him and smiting him with their hands. Pilate brought Jesus forth, and said to the multitude, "Behold the man!" But they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him." Then Pilate washed his hands before them, and said, "I am innocent of the blood of this just person; see ye to it." And they answered, "His blood be on us, and on our children." So Pilate delivered Jesus into their hands, and they led him away. And he, bearing his cross, went forth to Golgotha, where they crucified him.

The Price of Mercy (Choir)

I Stand All Amazed (Soloist)

Narrator: On the eve of the sabbath, his weary disciples removed his body from the cross and laid it hastily in a borrowed tomb. Then they departed to keep their sabbath, to grieve, and to wait for they knew not what—“For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead.” Their master, their friend, the source of their hope was gone, and where he went they could not follow. All that remained was to complete the anointing of the body according to their custom.

On the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene, and others with her, came to the sepulchre at the rising of the sun. But they saw that the stone had been rolled away; entering in, they found an angel clothed in white, and they were afraid. But the angel said unto the women, “Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead...” And they departed from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and ran to bring word to his disciples.

Come and See (Women’s Chorus)
The Resurrection and the Life (Choir)

Narrator: Jesus was risen. He showed himself first to Mary Magdalene in the garden, then to Peter and John, and then to his assembled disciples. When they had seen with their own eyes, and touched the wounds in his hands and feet, and felt their hearts burn within them, they knew with certainty that Jesus had conquered death.

Their witness echoes through the ages, testifying that this Man, who calmed the angry seas, who made blind men see and lame men walk, is the Christ, the Son of the living God. He who was lifted up on the cross, who died for our sakes, arose from the tomb and lives again, bringing the promise of life to us all. He is our Savior and Redeemer, the Messiah, the Shepherd of our souls.

The Shepherd of My Soul (Soloist)

Narrator. “Who is this Jesus, whose voice the winds obey? What manner of man is this?” These are questions men and women still ask today. In answer we may offer titles that he bears, or report what others have said of him. But, like his disciples long ago, each of us must answer his gentle, personal question, “But whom say ye that I am?”

Like his disciples of old, we bear witness that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. We testify of his perfect love for us. We marvel that he would descend from the heavens to atone for our sins and ransom our souls.

“Oh, it is wonderful
That he should care for me enough to die for me.
Oh, it is wonderful
Wonderful to me!”

I Stand All Amazed (Choir)