

JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

NARRATION BY MARK TAYLOR
UNDERScores BY DON CHAPMAN

This "Journey to the Cross" Easter service guide is designed to be used with a HymnCharts.com subscription and/or the "Complete Easter" video sing-a-long hymns from WorshipFilms.com. However, the guide can be used all by itself - simply use your own songs and arrangements. You can follow the guide exactly or be creative - throw in a few special solos, choir numbers or instrumentals.

Included with the readings are keyboard underscores, and these keys match the keys of the HymnCharts and "Complete Easter" music. If you use your own songs and arrangements you can change the keys of the underscores with Finale or Sibelius to fit your music. If you don't own Finale or Sibelius, you can change keys using the free Finale Notepad. Download a copy of Finale Notepad at this link:

<http://www.finalemusic.com/notepad/>

Here's a tutorial at HymnCharts.com for using the free Finale Notepad:

<http://www.hymncharts.com/NotePad.htm>

What you'll need to provide for your Easter service:

- 1. Up to 6 narrators.** One person can do all the narration or pick a different person for each narration. Or, play the MP3 vocal versions.
- 2. Sermon.** There's a slot for the pastor's sermon, plus the pastor will probably do the Benediction.
- 3. Alternate Scripture.** The KJV version is provided here for the Scripture readings, but you may have a favorite translation you'd rather use. Try "The Message" version for a contemporary reading.
- 4. Congregational songs and special music.** This service guide and keyboard underscores are designed to be used with HymnCharts.com arrangements and/or the "Complete Easter" videos. Feel free to use your own songs and arrangements.
- 5. Journey to the Cross song.** Download a free MP3 and chord chart at this link:

<http://www.JourneyToTheCross.net>

Scenarios for using the "Journey to the Cross" Easter service guide:

1. No musicians. Use the MP3 underscores for the narration and WorshipFilm.com's "Complete Easter" video for congregational singing. Burn a CD with the underscores in order and play them from a CD that's hooked into your sound system (or even from a boom box!) Another person can run the DVD. Round up a few people in your church for the readings or use the vocal narration MP3s.

Or, play the underscore MP3s and "Complete Easter" videos directly from worship projection software like MediaShout and EasyWorship that can handle digital files.

2. Keyboard player. Have a keyboard player accompany the narration by playing the underscores under the narration (the underscores have chords so a guitarist can play along, too.) The keyboard player can accompany the congregation with your own music and arrangements, with HymnCharts.com sheet music or WorshipFlims.com's "Complete Easter" videos.

3. Your own Easter service. Perhaps you've created your own Easter service in past years and use the same template each year. Use this service guide and the keyboard underscores to freshen up your program. Use Finale, Sibelius or the free Finale Notepad to change the key of the keyboard underscores to match your own music and arrangements.

I can't stress enough that I want you to feel free to be creative with this service guide. Use it as is, use parts of it, switch readings, use your own music, whatever! Make it your own and have fun.

How to use this service guide:

Each part of this Easter service guide is on one page. Print out all the pages for all your narrators so they can follow along and mark their parts.

The final page is a one page, at-a-glance overview so those involved can see the entire program.

If you're using the MP3 underscores without vocals, make sure your narrators have a chance to practice with them. Feel free to burn a CD or email the MP3s to them so they can make sure their narrations fit the music. The keyboard underscores are composed with repeats making them more flexible.

Dead space kills a worship service! Both the keyboard underscores and MP3 underscores are designed to help you flow directly into the next song. If you're using the MP3s, wait until you hear the final chord - the chord will ring out for a few seconds giving you time to start playing the introduction to the next song or start the "Complete Christmas" sing-a-long carol.

Have a wonderful Easter season!
Don Chapman
EasterWorshipIdeas.com

JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

AT-A-GLANCE

UNDERSCORE 1 STARTS [MP3 1:48]

Narration 1

SONG: JOURNEY TO THE CROSS [MP3 4:06]

additional songs:

UNDERSCORE 2 STARTS [MP3 1:00]

Narration 2

Colossians 1:15-20

SONG: NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD [MP3 3:05]

UNDERSCORE 3 STARTS [MP3 1:10]

Narration 3

SONG: WHEN I SURVEY [MP3 2:59]

UNDERSCORE 4 STARTS [MP3 1:10]

Narration 4

1 Peter 1:3-9

SONG: JESUS PAID IT ALL [MP3 3:18]

HOMILY / SERMON

UNDERSCORE 5 STARTS [MP3 1:19]

Prayer [*Narration 5*]

SONG: AT THE CROSS [MP3 3:42]

UNDERSCORE 6 STARTS [MP3 :21]

Narration 6: [closing words before final song]

SONG: CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY [MP3 2:56]

BENEDICTION

Hebrews 13.20-21

POSTLUDE: Journey to the Cross [vocal demo or video]

TOTAL TIME OF MUSIC: 26:54 [plus add times for any additional songs]