

**Gospel: Luke 22:14–23:56  
(or Luke 23:1-49)**

*The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted. The congregation may be seated for the first part of the Passion. The Passion Gospel is announced in the following manner: The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

**NARRATOR:** When the hour came, Jesus took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them,

**JESUS:** I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.

**NARRATOR:** Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said,

**JESUS:** Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.

**NARRATOR:** Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying,

**JESUS:** This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

**NARRATOR:** And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying,

**JESUS:** This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!

**NARRATOR:** Then the apostles began to ask one another, which one of them it could be who would do this. A dispute also arose among the apostles as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But Jesus said to them,

**JESUS:** The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. You are those who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel. Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.

**NARRATOR:** And Peter said to Jesus,

**PETER:** Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!

**NARRATOR:** Jesus said,

**JESUS:** I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me.

**NARRATOR:** Jesus said to his apostles,

**JESUS:** When I sent you out without a purse, bag, or sandals, did you lack anything?

**NARRATOR:** They said,

**DISCIPLE:** No, not a thing.

**NARRATOR:** Jesus said to them,

**JESUS:** But now, the one who has a purse must take it, and likewise a bag. And the one who has no sword must sell his cloak and buy one. For I tell you, this scripture must be fulfilled in me, "And he was counted among the lawless"; and indeed what is written about me is being fulfilled.

**NARRATOR:** They said,

**DISCIPLE:** Lord, look, here are two swords.

**NARRATOR:** He replied,

**JESUS:** It is enough.

**NARRATOR:** Jesus came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them,

**JESUS:** Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.

**NARRATOR:** Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed,

**JESUS:** Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.

**NARRATOR:** Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them,

**JESUS:** Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial.

**NARRATOR:** While Jesus was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him,

**JESUS:** Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?

**NARRATOR:** When those who were around Jesus saw what was coming, they asked,

**DISCIPLE:** Lord, should we strike with the sword?

**NARRATOR:** Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said,

**JESUS:** No more of this!

**NARRATOR:** And he touched the slave's ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him,

**JESUS:** Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!

**NARRATOR:** Then the crowd seized Jesus and led him away. The crowd brought Jesus into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing Peter in the firelight, stared at him and said,

**SERVANT 1:** This man also was with him.

**NARRATOR:** But Peter denied it, saying,

**PETER:** Woman, I do not know him.

**NARRATOR:** A little later someone else, on seeing Peter, said,

**SERVANT 2:** You also are one of them.

**NARRATOR:** But Peter said,

**PETER:** Man, I am not!

**NARRATOR:** Then about an hour later still another kept insisting,

**SERVANT 3:** Surely this man also was with the prisoner; for he is a Galilean.

**NARRATOR:** But Peter said,

**PETER:** Man, I do not know what you are talking about!

**NARRATOR:** At that moment, while Peter was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how Jesus had said to him,

**JESUS:** Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.

**NARRATOR:** And Peter went out and wept bitterly. Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and kept asking him,

**SOLDIER 1:** Prophecy!

**SOLDIER 2:** Who is it that struck you?

**NARRATOR:** They kept heaping many other insults on Jesus. When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought Jesus to their council. They said,

**ELDER 1:** If you are the Messiah, tell us.

**NARRATOR:** Jesus replied,