

Pilate's Rule

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "When Pi - late ruled Jer - u - sa - lem They brought our Sav - iour to con - demn The". The second staff continues the melody for the second line: "mult - i - tude our Lord des - pised Cry - ing let him be cru - ci - fied." The notation includes various note values, rests, and phrasing slurs.

1. When Pilate ruled Jerusalem
They brought our Saviour to condemn
The multitude our Lord despised
Crying let him be crucified.
2. They brought our Saviour to the tree
Where for our sins He nailed must be
His hands and feet were pierced with sword
His blood was for our sins reward.
3. There were two thieves we understand
He suffered with one on each hand
And one of these to Him did say
Save thou thyself and us this day.
4. The other said "Lord I believe
Thou can't my precious soul receive."
Christ answered "Yea and thou shalt be
This day in Paradise with me."
5. Now Joseph had his own new tomb
He'd hewn it out of rocky stone
And laid the body down with care
And perfumed it with spices rare.
6. Three guards of soldiers then straightway
Were sent to watch 'til it were day
To see if Christ would really rise
And mark what wonders met their eyes.
7. God sent a very great earthquake
Which made the soldiers' hearts to shake
Our Saviour then rose from the dead
As in the Scriptures we have read.

Source: Charley Williams, Bream, Forest of Dean. Collected 19 November 1977
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