

A SUITE FOR HOLY WEEK

# PRAYERS AT THE CROSS

by LEE DENGLER and SUSAN NAUS DENGLER

## CONTENTS

*in order of performance*

### VOCAL SCORE

Father, Forgive .....	5
My God, I Feel Forsaken .....	17
Into Your Hands .....	25

### OPTIONAL INSTRUMENTAL PARTS

Father, Forgive	
Violin .....	34
My God, I Feel Forsaken	
Cello .....	35
Into Your Hands	
Violin .....	37
Cello .....	39

#### COMPANION MATERIALS

Booklet	0 80689 11223 2	\$3.95
CD Preview Pack	0 80689 55536 7	10.00
Bulk CD	0 80689 75872 0	29.95

Jubilate  
MUSIC

*A Division of*



© 2011 Word Music, LLC  
All Rights Reserved. Printed in U.S.A.

No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

Possession of a CCLI license does not give you permission to make any copy of the music contained in this book. If you are unsure as to what rights you do have to copy under a CCLI license or if you want information about CCLI, please call 1-800-234-2446.

## FOREWORD

The Lenten season, and especially Holy Week, affords Christians all around the world an opportunity to reflect upon the unparalleled love of God shown to us through Jesus. In so doing, we are called to examine our own lives in the light of Jesus' earthly ministry and the events that led to His death on the cross.

In Jesus' life and death, we find many examples of how to live our lives. Jesus' prayer life is certainly one aspect of His life worthy of our attention. Many of His prayers, including the familiar "Lord's Prayer" found in Matthew and Luke, and His "High Priestly Prayer" found in John, are effective models for us to use as we offer our own prayers to God. Other prayers offered by Jesus may be found as we read the gospels. Of the seven "last words," or phrases, spoken by Jesus from the cross, four were directed to persons who were part of that scene. The first, fourth and final "words" were spoken to God, and were, in effect, prayers.

Through music, narration and scripture, *Prayers at the Cross* follows the events of Jesus' crucifixion as we consider these three prayers and their impact on our own lives.

Lee Dengler  
Susan Naus Dengler

## PROGRAM NOTES

*Prayers at the Cross* may be presented in a variety of ways. Here are some suggestions:

- It may be presented in its entirety, as part of a worship service or sacred concert.
- It may be extended to create a larger work by inserting congregational hymns after the second, third, fifth and sixth words which appear in the narration.
- It may be presented without the narration.
- Each of the choral prayers may be presented separately, with or without the narration.
- If the narration is used, it is suggested that there be two readers – one to read the scriptures, the other to serve as the narrator.
- Instrumental parts for violin and cello are also provided and are optional.
- Since the themes of the three prayers – forgiveness, feelings of abandonment and placing one's life in God's hands – are not exclusively Holy Week themes, each of these anthems may be used appropriately in many worship settings.

**SCRIPTURE:**

“Lord, teach us to pray...” *Luke 11:1b (NIV)*

**NARRATION:**

This was the request of one of the disciples who had observed Jesus in prayer countless times during His earthly ministry. The prayers of Jesus recorded in scripture are perfect models for our own prayer life, for though Jesus was God incarnate, the scriptures tell us:

**SCRIPTURE:**

He had to be one of us, so that He could serve God as our merciful and faithful high priest and sacrifice Himself for the forgiveness of our sins. And now that Jesus has suffered and was tempted, He can help anyone else who is tempted. *Hebrews 2:17-18 (CEV)*

**NARRATION:**

Even as Jesus hung on the cross, suffering for the sins of the world, He prayed. Of the seven words spoken by Jesus on the cross, three are prayers – prayers that grew out of His own grief and pain, and His love and mercy for each of us. These prayers may serve to help us as we, too, pour out our deepest petitions to our loving God.

**SCRIPTURE:**

When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified Him along with the criminals – one on His right and the other on His left. Jesus said, (first word) **“Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”** *Luke 23:33-34a (NIV)*

# Father, Forgive

for S.A.T.B. voices, optional violin, accompanied \*

Words by  
SUSAN NAUS DENGLER

Music by  
LEE DENGLER

With passion and great expression (♩ = ca. 69)

ACCOMP.  $\oplus$  vl. *p*

4 SOPRANO / ALTO *p* 5

TENOR / BASS *p*

O Fa - ther, for - give our sins We are

7 help - less. We have lost our way. — O Fa - ther, for -

*Legal Use Requires Purchase*

\* Part for Violin is on page 34.

© 2011 Word Music, LLC (ASCAP)  
All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission.

EVEN IF YOU POSSESS A CCLI LICENSE, YOU MAY NOT COPY THIS MUSIC.  
If you have questions about CCLI, please call 800/234-2446.

give our sins. In Your mer - cy save us! Hear our cry!

14 *mp* On a cross of grief and pain, — Je - sus suf - fered

14 *mp*

17 *mf* for our shame. — Such a - maz - ing love He — showed. *mf*

# My God, I Feel Forsaken

17

for S.A.T.B. voices, optional cello, accompanied \*

Words by  
SUSAN NAUS DENGLER

Music by  
LEE DENGLER

Soulfully (♩ = ca. 84)

SOPRANO  
ALTO

*mp unis.*

ACCOMP.

⊕ vlc.

*mp*

My

5

God, I feel for - sak - en. My

⊖ vlc.

⊕ vlc.

9

God, I feel a - lone. My

3 3 3

\* Part for Cello is on pages 35-36.

© 2011 Word Music, LLC (ASCAP)  
All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission.

EVEN IF YOU POSSESS A CCLI LICENSE, YOU MAY NOT COPY THIS MUSIC.  
If you have questions about CCLI, please call 800/234-2446.



sin has left me far \_\_\_\_\_ from You, a

17 *cresc.* child \_\_\_\_\_ so far, \_\_\_\_\_ a child \_\_\_\_\_ so

21 *f* far from home. \_\_\_\_\_ *a tempo mp*

# Into Your Hands

for S.A.T.B. voices, optional violin and cello, accompanied \*

Words by  
SUSAN NAUS DENGLER

Music by  
LEE DENGLER

Serenely (♩ = ca. 56-60)

⊕ vl.  
vlc. (play cued notes only in absence of instruments)

ACCOMP.

8 SOPRANO / ALTO

9 *p*

In to — Your hands of love do I com-

TENOR / BASS

9 (play) ⊖ vl.

\* Part for Violin is on pages 37-38.  
Part for Cello is on pages 39-40.

© 2011 Word Music, LLC (ASCAP)  
All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission.

EVEN IF YOU POSSESS A CCLI LICENSE, YOU MAY NOT COPY THIS MUSIC.  
If you have questions about CCLI, please call 800/234-2446.



12

mit my spir - it. In - to Your ten - der care do

17

I com-mit my life. In - to Your arms of

19

21

grace do I com - mit my spir - it. In - to Your