



On that Friday We Call “Good”

ACCESSIBILITY: Written description of the music

We start the song stripped back and bare. The focus here is on the opening lyrics (John Wilson); allowing the song to breathe. The Conga drums represent Jesus' steady and painful walk to Calvary. Reminiscent of a marching drum; the feeling of movement, a journey.

As the story progresses, we build to a crescendo, not just in volume but intensity, as we're guided through the chapters of the story.

Mary's grief is echoed in the wailing solo violin that haunts verse three. The string arrangement (John Wilson) is performed by Chris Orton with sensitivity and intimacy. The violin is renowned for its singing tone. It can be delicate or abrupt, making it the perfect vehicle in story telling. The strings support, echo, and at times copy the melody line. Chris Orton layered 12 violins creating the feel of an orchestral string section. The only solo violin we hear is in verse three, the voice of Mary.

The middle eight: 'Cause no-one else has loved me, has loved me quite the same...' is an opportunity for worship and reflection. A simple phrase that allows us to meditate on what God/Jesus has done for us. The repetition gives the worshipper time to do that without being distracted by anything too busy. We take a moment here to summarise the song, both musically and lyrically. We pare back the instruments and gradually increase the momentum.

The drums build to spur us on, until by the last repeat, the drummer (Andy McGlasson) uses the tom-toms to reflect the march at the start of the song reminding us of the whole story, the journey we've just taken, the journey Jesus took. That Jesus is the alpha and omega. The beginning and the end.



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Credits

Signed by **Mary-Jayne Russell de Clifford**

Translation consultant: **Gill Behenna**

Vocals by **David Luke**

Strings by **Chris Orton**

String Arrangement by **John Wilson**

Drums by **Andy McGlasson**

Music and lyrics by **David Luke & John Wilson**

Written in association with **Tom Pearson**

and with thanks to **Brian Pearson** and **Gill Behenna**

Recorded and produced by **David Luke**

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John Wilson – Composer, arranger, performer, and a retired music educator with over 40 years’ experience.

Chris Orton – Has written six musicals, four plays, and toured with Sir Cliff Richard and The Glenn Miller Orchestra.

Andy McGlasson – Has played live/recorded with artists such as Lady Gaga, Beyonce, One Direction, Lionel Richie, Josh Groban, Seal, Dame Shirley Bassey, Michael Bublé, Jon Bon Jovi, The Bee Gees, Take That, Michael Bolton, Sir Cliff Richard, and many more.

David Luke – Singer, songwriter, musician and actor. Has toured the UK and Europe as backing vocalist and rhythm guitarist for Sir Cliff Richard.

VIDEO: Watch in British Sign Language at christianbsl.com/music