


Tenebrae - Holy Saturday

MATINS 1st Nocturne

Lesson 1 (*Lamentations 3: 22-30*)




From the Lamen - ta - tion of Jeremi - ah the Pro - phet.

2



Heth.

6




The mer - cy of the Lord ne - ver cea - ses, his faith - ful love never comes to an end;
they are new eve - ry mor ning; great is thy faith - ful - ness.
"The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him."

8



Teth.

12



The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him.
It is good that one should wait quiet - ly for the sal - va - tion of the Lord.
It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.

14

Jod. _____

18

Let him sit a - lone in si - lence when he has laid it on___ him;
 let him put his mouth in the___ dust - there may yet be___ hope;
 let him give his cheek to the smi - ter, and be filled with in - sults.

20

Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - ru - sa - lem, re - turn to the Lord___ thy___ God.

The Responsory '*Sicut ovis*' is now sung or said.

The original plainchant melody for the Greek letters is given below and may be substituted for the four-part version.

22

Heth. _____
 Teth. _____
 Jod. _____

It was standard practise for the Greek letters to be musically embellished to contrast the declaimed nature of the Lamentations. There are many fine examples to be found by Palestrina, Victoria, Charpentier, Zelenka etc. The above setting is my own, composed for the most basic parish choir to attempt and to add a little musical interest to the sombre words of the Prophet Jeremiah.