# TENEBRÆ

Order of Chant for the Office of Tenebrae according to the use of the Church of Saint Gregory the Great

**MMXV** 

This document is based on a manuscript from the Church of the Advent, Boston, 1981, containing chants adapted from the Roman Office of Holy Thursday and Good Friday.

Edited 2015: Transcribed to Gregorian notation; added some expression marks to responds. Added versicle to Nocturne I, adapted from the Roman Office, per Officium Hebdomadae Sanctae et Octavae Paschae, 1957. Adjusted text setting in respond In monte Oliveti. Omitted first three psalms of Lauds. Omitted repeat of respond Behold in Matins.

## TENEBRÆ

THE EVENING SERVICE ON WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK (MATINS AND LAUDS OF HOLY THURSDAY)

After the procession to the choir, all kneel down and pray silently. Then all stand up and say in silence Our Father, Hail Mary, and The Apostles' Creed.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

OUR FATHER, who are in Heaven, hallowed be thy Name: Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. AMEN.

#### THE ANGELIC SALUTATION

HAIL MARY, full of grace: the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, JESUS. Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death. AMEN.

#### THE APOSTLES' CREED

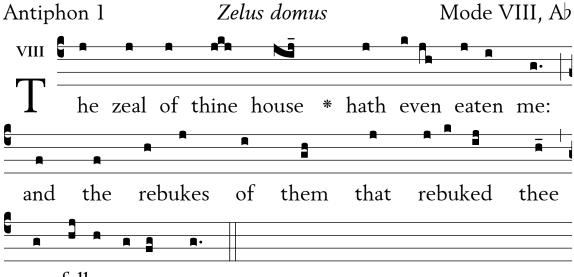
I BELIEVE IN GOD, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in JESUS CHRIST, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN.

When these are done, the Cantor intones the first antiphon, which is continued by the choir.

# AT MATINS: FIRST NOCTURNE

#### STANDING

Note: the pitches specified for "Do" in each case are suggestions. It is always correct to adapt them to your ensemble.



are fallen upon me.



The Cantor begins the first verse. All sit at the first asterisk; then the Cantor sings the remainder of the verse. The full choir sings the even-numbered verses.

- Cantor 1 Save me O | God; \*
  - for the waters are come in, even | unto my soul.
  - All 2 I stick fast in the deep mire where no | ground is; \*

    I am come into deep waters so that the | floods run o(ver) me.
- Cantor 3 I am weary of crying; my throat is | dry; \*
  my sight faileth me for waiting so | long upon (my)
  God.

All 4 They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of my | head; \*

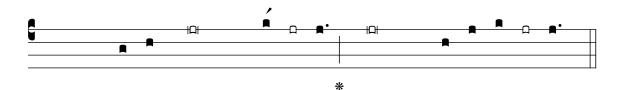
they that are mine enemies, and would destroy me guilt- | less are mighty.

- 5 I paid them the things that I never | took: \*
  God, thou knowest my simpleness, and my faults | are not hid (from) thee.
- 6 Let not them that trust in thee O Lord GOD of hosts, be ashamed for my | cause; \*

let not those that seek thee be confounded through me, O Lord | God of Is(ra)el.

- 7 And why? for thy sake have I suffered re- | proof; \* shame hath cov- | ered my face.
- 8 I am become a stranger unto my | brethren, \* even an alien unto my | mother's children.
- 9 For the zeal of thine house hath even | eat(en) me; \* and the rebukes of them that rebukèd thee are fallen upon me.
- 10 I wept and chastened myself with | fasting, \* and that was tur- | ned to my (re)proof.
- 11 I put on sackcloth | also, \* and they jest- | ed upon me.
- 12 They that sit in the gate speak a- | gainst me, \* and the drunkards make | songs upon me.
- 13 But LORD, I make my prayer unto | thee \* in an ac- | ceptable time.
- 14 Hear me O God in the multitude of thy | mercy, \* even in the truth of | thy salvation.
- 15 Take me out of the mire that I | sink not; \*
  O let me be delivered from them that hate me, and out of | the deep waters.
- 16 Let not the water-flood drown me, neither let the deep swallow me | up; \*

and let not the pit shut her | mouth upon me.



17 Hear me O LORD for thy loving-kindness is comfortable; \*

turn thee unto me according to the multitude | of thy mercies.

18 And hide not thy face from thy servant; for I am in | trouble: \*

O haste | thee, and hear me.

- 19 Draw nigh unto my soul and | save it; \*
  O deliver me because | of mine e(ne)mies.
- 20 Thou hast known my reproach, my shame, and my dis-| honour: \*

mine adversaries are | all in thy sight.

21 Reproach hath broken my heart; I am full of hea(vi)ness: \*

I looked for some to have pity on me, but there was no man, neither found I a- | ny to com(fort) me.

- 22 They gave me gall to | eat; \*
  and when I was thirsty they gave me vin- | egar
  to drink.
- 23 Let their table be made a snare to take themselves with- al; \*

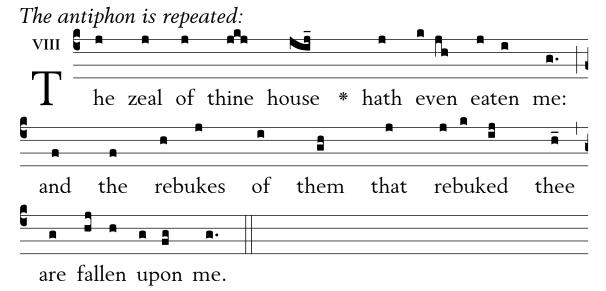
and let the things that should have been for their wealth be unto them an occa- | sion of falling.

- 24 Let their eyes be blinded that they see | not; \* and ever | bow thou down (their) backs.
- 25 Pour out thine indignation up- | on them, \* and let thy wrathful displea- | sure take hold (of) them.
- 26 Let their habitation be | void, \* and no man to | dwell in their tents.
- 27 For they persecute him whom thou hast | smitten; \* and they talk how they may vex them whom | thou hast wounded.

- 28 Let them fall from one wickedness to a- | nother, \* and not come in- | to thy righ(teous)ness.
- 29 Let them be wipèd out of the book of the | living, \* and not be written a- | mong the righteous.
- 30 As for me, when I am poor and in | hea(vi)ness, \* thy help O | God shall lift (me) up.
- 31 I will praise the Name of God with a | song, \* and magnify it | with thanksgiving.
- 32 This also shall please the | LORD \*
  better than a bullock | that hath horns (and)
  hoofs.
- 33 The humble shall consider this and be | glad: \* seek ye after God | and your soul (shall) live.
- 34 For the LORD heareth the | poor, \* and despiseth | not his pri(son)ers.
- 35 Let heaven and earth | praise him: \* the sea, and all that | moveth therein.
- 36 For God will save Sion, and build the cities of | Judah, \* that men may dwell there, and have it | in possession.

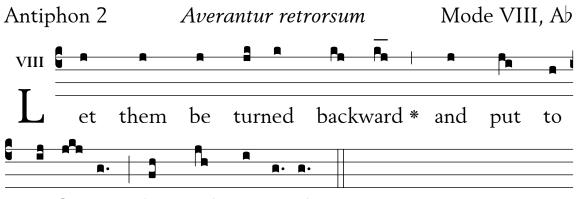
#### STAND

37 The posterity also of his servants shall in- | he(rit) it; \* and they that love his | Name shall dwell (there)in.

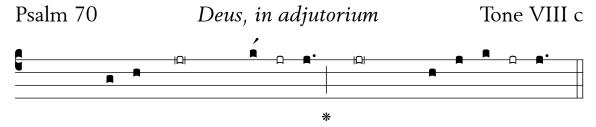


PAUSE The first candle is extinguished.

#### STANDING



confu-sion that wish me e-vil.



All sit at the first asterisk.

- Cantor 1 Haste thee O God to de- | li(ver) me; \* make haste to | help me O LORD.
  - All 2 Let them be ashamed and confounded that seek after my | soul; \*

let them be turned backward and put to confusion that | wish me evil.

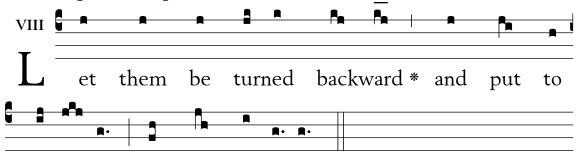
- Cantor 3 Let them for their reward be soon brought to | shame, \* that cry o- | ver me, There! there!
  - All 4 But let all those that seek thee be joyful and | glad (in) thee: \*

and let all such as delight in thy salvation say alway, The | Lord be praised.

STAND

- 5 As for me, I am poor and in mi- | sery: \* haste thee | unto me, (O) God.
- 6 Thou art my helper and my re- | deemer: \*
  O LORD make | no long tar(ry)ing.

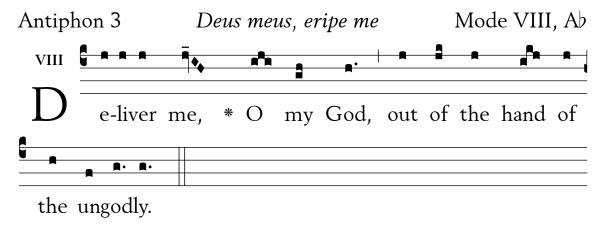
The antiphon is repeated:

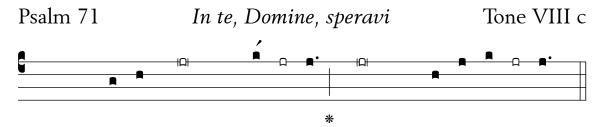


confu-sion that wish me e-vil.

PAUSE The second candle is extinguished.







All sit at the first asterisk.

- Cantor 1 In thee O LORD have I put my trust; let me never be put to con- | fusion, \*

  but rid me and deliver me in thy righteousness: in
  - but rid me and deliver me in thy righteousness; incline thine ear unto | me and save me.
  - All 2 Be thou my stronghold whereunto I may alway re- | sort: \*

thou hast promisèd to help me, for thou art my house of defence | and my castle.

- Cantor 3 Deliver me O my God out of the hand of the un- | godly, \* out of the hand of the unrigh- | teous and cru(el) man.
  - All 4 For thou O Lord GOD art the thing that I | long for: \* thou art my hope, | even from (my) youth.
    - 5 Through thee have I been holden up ever since I was | born: \*

thou art he that took me out of my mother's womb: my praise shall be | alway of thee.

6 I am become as it were a monster unto | many, \* but my sure | trust is in thee.

- O let my mouth be filled with thy | praise, \*
  that I may sing of thy glory and honour | all the
  day long.
- 8 Cast me not away in the time of | age; \* forsake me not when | my strength fail(eth) me.
- 9 For mine enemies speak a- | gainst me; \*
  and they that lay wait for my soul take their counsel
  to- | gether saying,
- 10 God hath for- | sa(ken) him; \*
  persecute him, and take him, for there is none |
  to deli(ver) him.
- 11 Go not far from me O | God; \*
  my God, haste | thee to help me.
- 12 Let them be confounded and perish that are against my | soul; \*

let them be coverèd with shame and dishonour that seek | to do me (e)vil.

- 13 As for me, I will patiently abide | alway, \* and will | praise thee more (and) more.
- 14 My mouth shall daily speak of thy righteousness and sal-| vation; \*

for I | know no end (there)of.

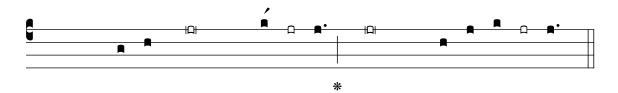
- 15 I will go forth in the strength of the Lord | GOD, \* and will make mention of thy righ- | teousness only.
- 16 Thou O God hast taught me from my youth up until | now; \*

therefore will I tell | of thy won(drous) works.

Forsake me not O God in mine old age, when I am gray- headed, \*

until I have showed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to all them that are | yet for to come.

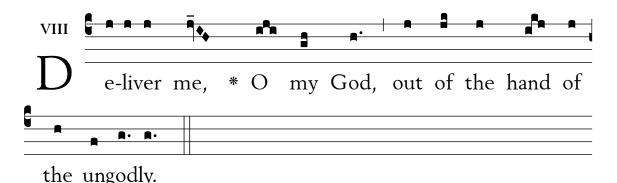
18 Thy righteousness O God is very | high, \* and great things are they that thou hast done: O God, who is | like unto thee!



- O what great troubles and adversities hast thou showed me! and yet didst thou turn and re-| fresh me; \* yea, and broughtest me from the deep | of the earth (a)gain.
- 20 Thou hast brought me to great | honour, \* and comforted me | on every side:
- Therefore will I praise thee and thy faithfulness O God, playing upon an instrument of | music: \* unto thee will I sing upon the harp, O thou Holy | One of Is(ra)el.
- 22 My lips will be glad when I sing unto | thee; \* and so will my soul whom thou hast | deli(ver)èd.

  STAND
- 23 My tongue also shall talk of thy righteousness all the day | long; \*
  for they are confounded and brought unto shame that seek | to do me (e)vil.

The antiphon is repeated:

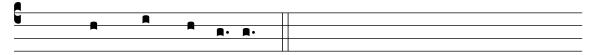


### STANDING

The verse is sung:



V. Let them be tur-ned backward and put to confusion.

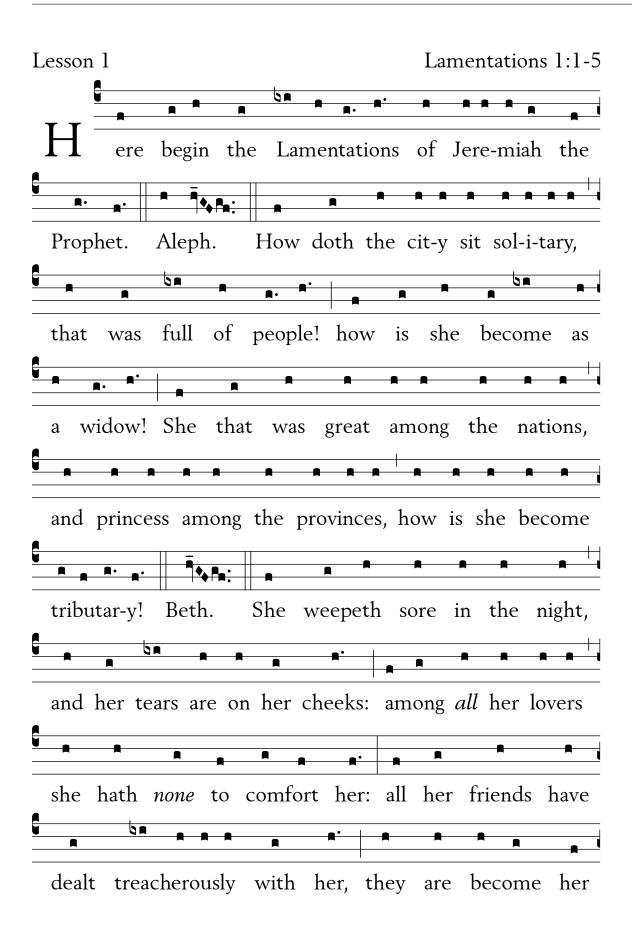


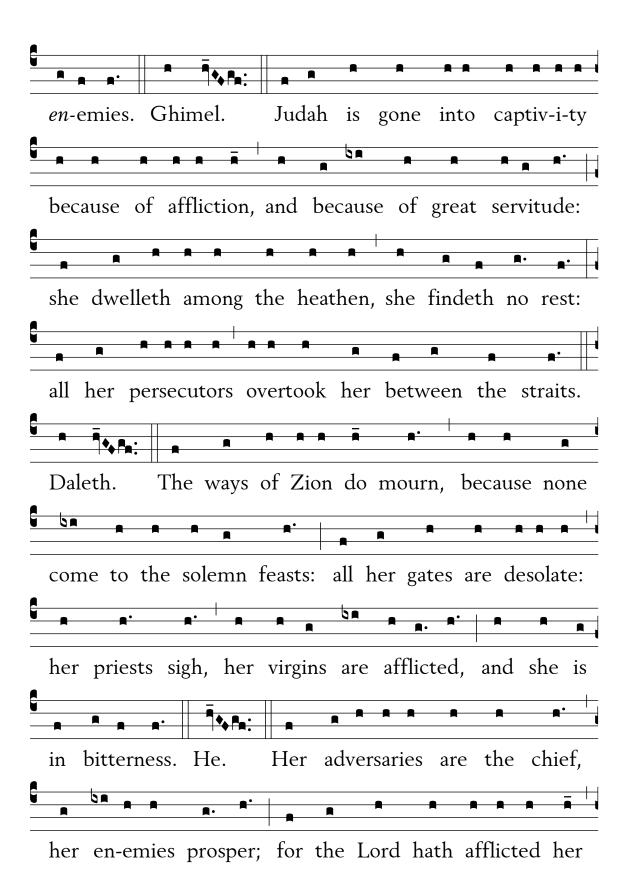
Ry. That wish me e-vil.

PAUSE The third candle is extinguished.

At this point everyone will stand and recite Our Father silently.

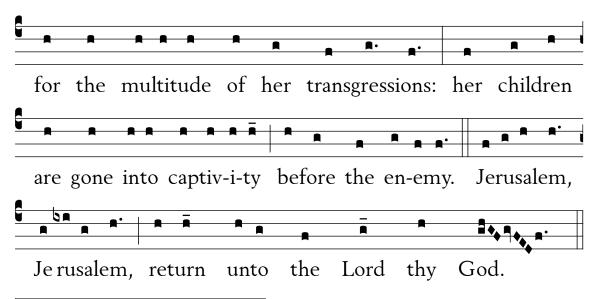
LECTOR TO AMBO, CANTOR TO SEAT.





TENEBRÆ

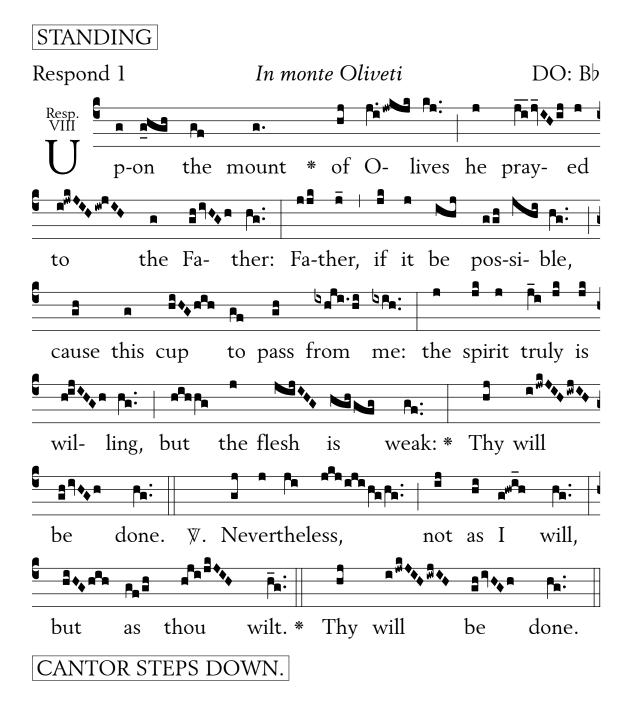
16



# LECTOR STEPS DOWN.

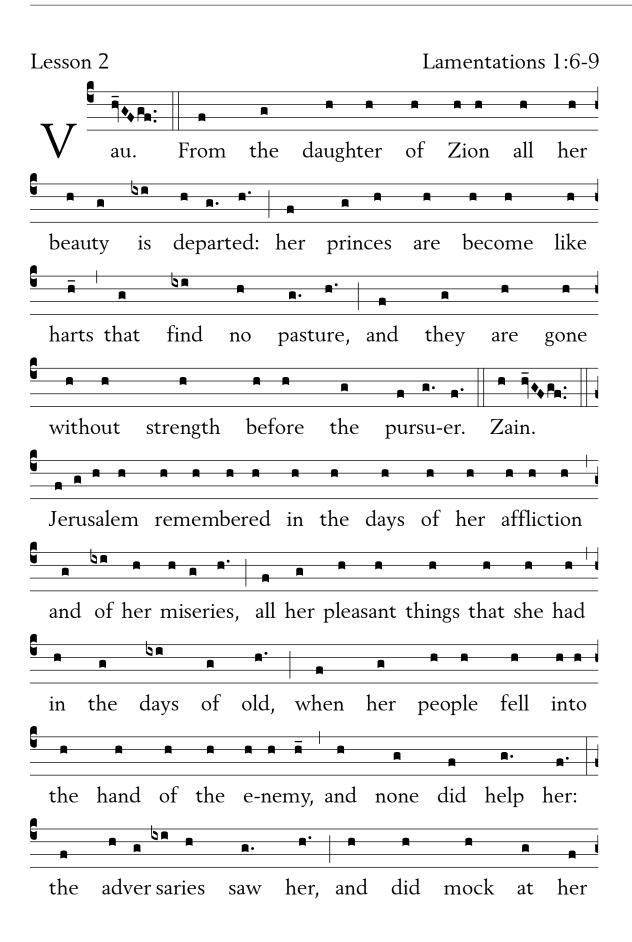
PAUSE The fourth candle is extinguished.

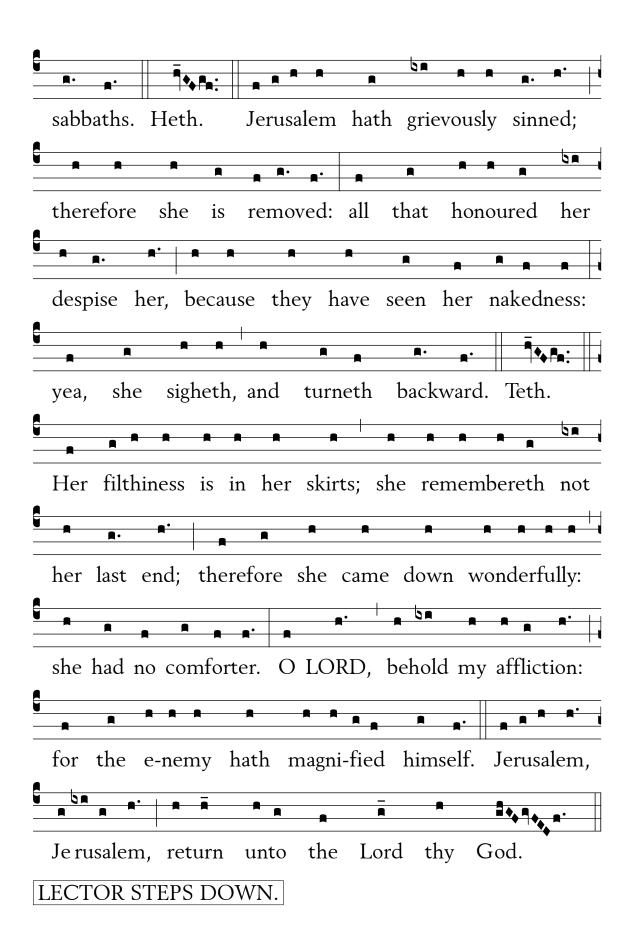
# CANTOR TO LECTERN. ALL STAND



PAUSE The fifth candle is extinguished.

LECTOR TO AMBO, THEN ALL OTHERS SIT

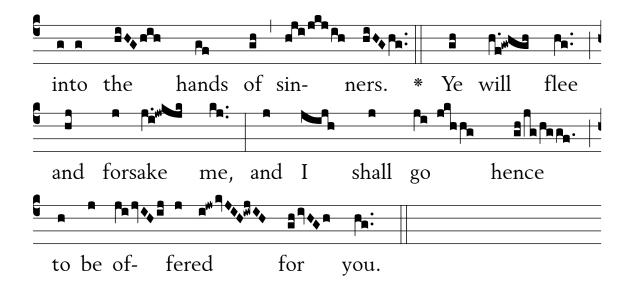




PAUSE The sixth candle is extinguished.

## CANTOR TO LECTERN. ALL STAND

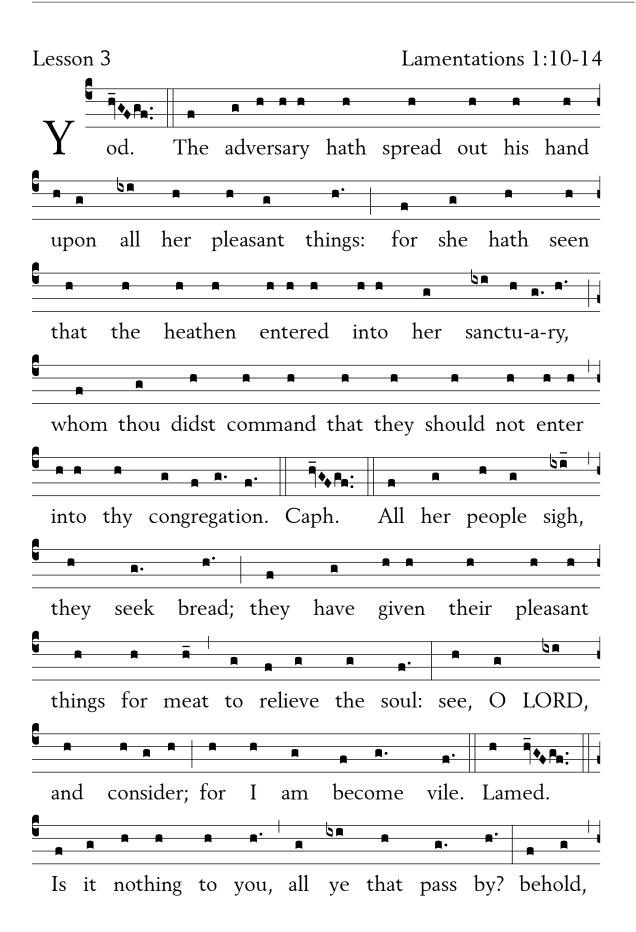


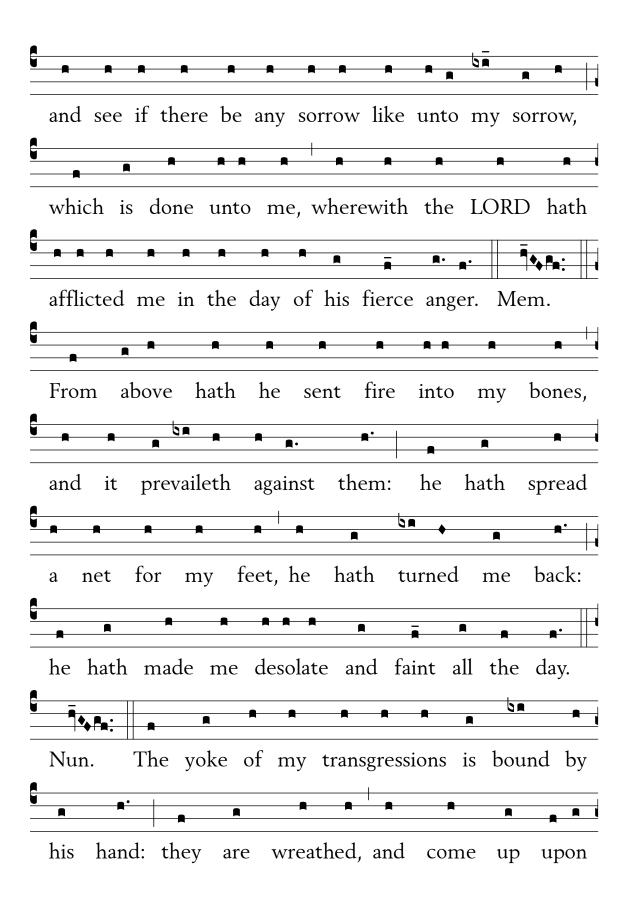


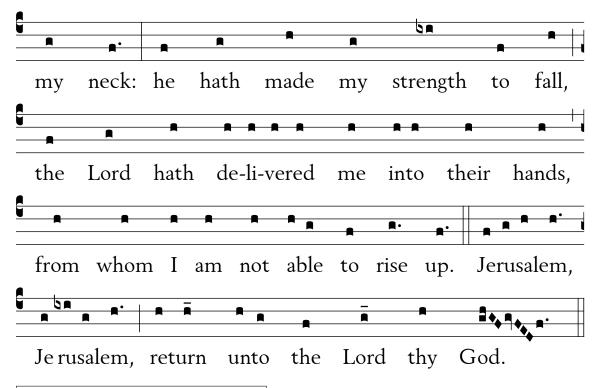
## CANTOR STEPS DOWN.

PAUSE The seventh candle is extinguished.

LECTOR TO AMBO, THEN ALL OTHERS SIT







## LECTOR STEPS DOWN.

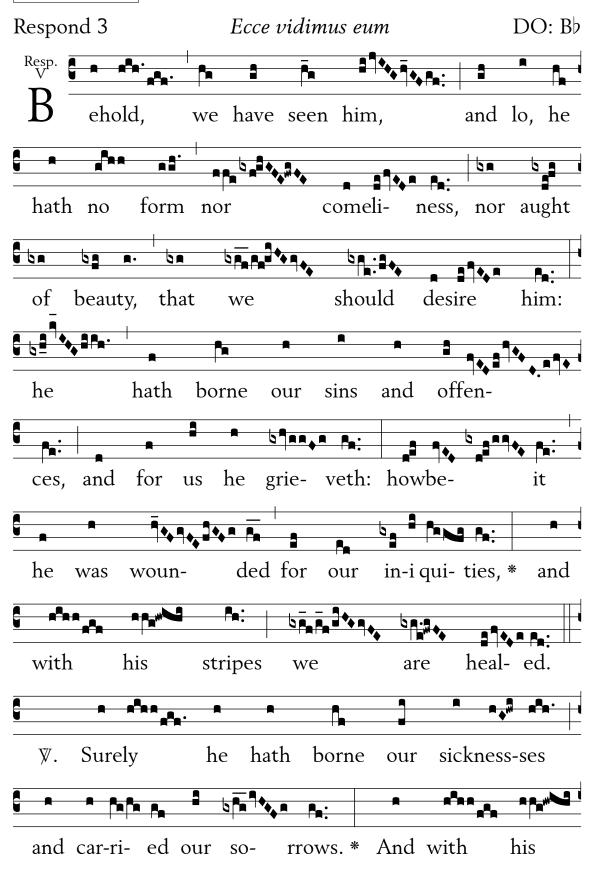
PAUSE The eighth candle is extinguished.

## CANTOR TO LECTERN. ALL STAND



(continued on next page)

#### STANDING





CANTOR STEPS DOWN.

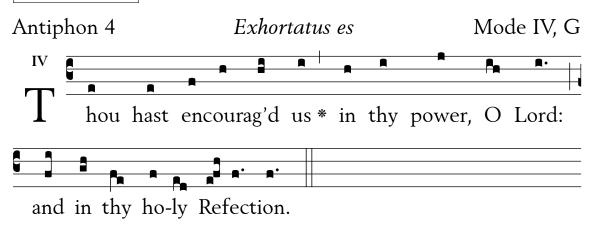
PAUSE The ninth candle is extinguished.

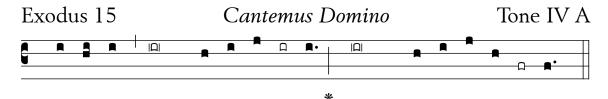
RETURN TO CHOIR. ALL SIT. BRIEF PAUSE.

ALL STAND

# AT LAUDS

#### STANDING





All sit at the first asterisk.

- Cantor 1 <u>I will</u> sing unto the Lord, for he hath | triumph'd glo(rious)ly, \*

  the horse and his rider hath | he thrown into (the) sea.
  - All 2 The Lord is my | strength and song \* and he is be- | come my salvation:
- Cantor 3 He is my God, and I will prepare him an | habitation; \* my father's God, and | I will exalt him.
  - All 4 The Lord is a | man of war: \*
    --- | the Lord is his name.
    - 5 Pharoah's chariots and his host hath he cast in- | to the sea: \*

his chosen captains also are drown- | èd in the Red Sea.

6 The depths have | coverèd them: \* they sank into | the bottom as (a) stone.

- 7 Thy right hand, O Lord, is become glori- | ous in power: \* thy right hand, O Lord, hath dash'd in | pieces the en(em)y.
- And in the greatness of thine excellency, thou hast overthrown them that rose | up against thee; \* thou sentest forth thy wrath which consum- | èd them as stubble.
- 9 And with the blast of your nostrils the waters were gather-| èd together, \*

the floods stood upright as an heap, and the depths were congealed in | the heart of the sea.

10 The enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will di- | vide the spo-il; \*

my lust shall be sat- | isfied u(pon) them.

- 11 I will | draw my sword, \*
  my | hand shall destroy them.
- 12 Thou didst blow with thy wind, the sea co- | verèd them: \*

they sank as lead in | the mighty waters.

- Who is like unto thee, O Lord, a- | mong the gods? \* who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in prais- | es, working wonders?
- 14 Thou stretchedst out | thy right hand, \* the | earth swallowed them.
- 15 Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people which thou | hast redeemed: \*

thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy ly habitation.

- 16 The people shall hear, and | be afraid: \*
  sorrow shall take hold on the inhabitants | of
  Palestina.
- 17 The dukes of Edom shall | be amazèd; \*
  the mighty men of Moab, trembling shall take hold
  upon them; all the inhabitants of Ca- | naan shall
  melt away.

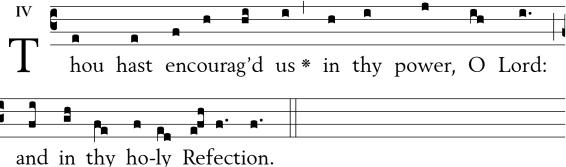


- 18 Fear and dread shall fall upon them: by the greatness of thine arm they shall be as still | as a stone; \* till thy people pass over, O Lord, till the people pass over | which thou hast pur(chas)èd.
- Thou shalt bring them in, and plant them in the mountain of | thine inhe(ri)tance, \*
  in the place, O Lord, which thou hast made for thee to dwell in; in the Sanctuary, O Lord, which thy | hands have estab(lish)èd.
- 20 The | Lord shall reign \* for | ever and ever.

STAND

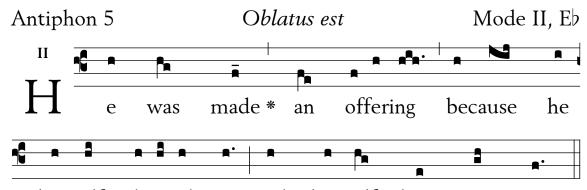
- For the horse of Pharoah went in with his chariots and with his horsemen in- | to the sea, \* and the Lord brought again the waters of | the sea upon them.
- 22 But the children of Israel went | on dry land: \* in | the midst of the sea.

The antiphon is repeated:

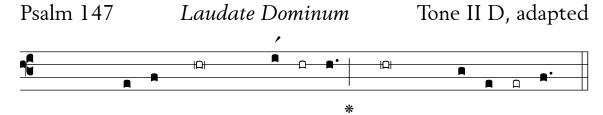


PAUSE The tenth candle is extinguished.

#### STANDING

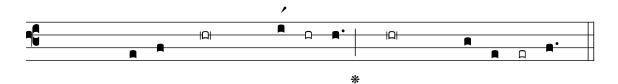


himself desired it: and himself bare our sins.



All sit at the first asterisk.

- Cantor 1 O PRAISE the LORD, for it is a good thing to sing praises unto our | God; \* yea a joyful and pleasant thing it is to | be thankful.
  - All 2 The LORD doth build up Je- | ru(sa)lem, \* and gather together the outcasts | of Is(ra)el.
- Cantor 3 He healeth those that are broken in | heart, \* and giveth medicine to heal | their sickness.
  - All 4 He telleth the number of the | stars, \* and calleth them all | by their names.
    - 5 Great is our Lord and great is his | power; \* yea and his wisdom | is in(fi)nite.
    - 6 The LORD setteth up the | meek, \* and bringeth the ungodly down | to the ground.
    - O sing unto the LORD with thanks- | giving; \* sing praises upon the harp un- | to our God:



8 Who covereth the heaven with clouds, and prepareth rain for the | earth; \*

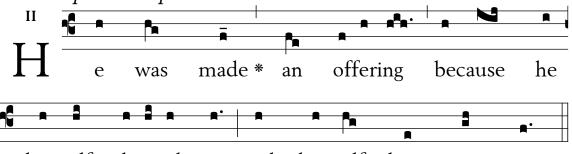
and maketh the grass to grow upon the mountains, and herb for | the use (of) men;

- 9 Who giveth fodder unto the | cattle, \* and feedeth the young ravens that call | upon him.
- 10 He hath no pleasure in the strength of an | horse; \* neither delighteth he in a- | ny man's legs.

STAND

11 But the LORD'S delight is in them that | fear him, \* and put their trust in | his mercy.

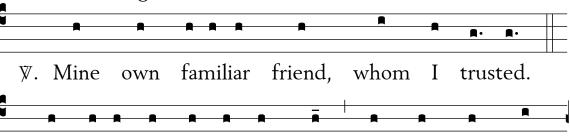
The antiphon is repeated:



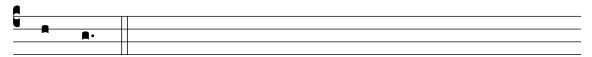
himself desired it: and himself bare our sins.

PAUSE The eleventh candle is extinguished.

The verse is sung:



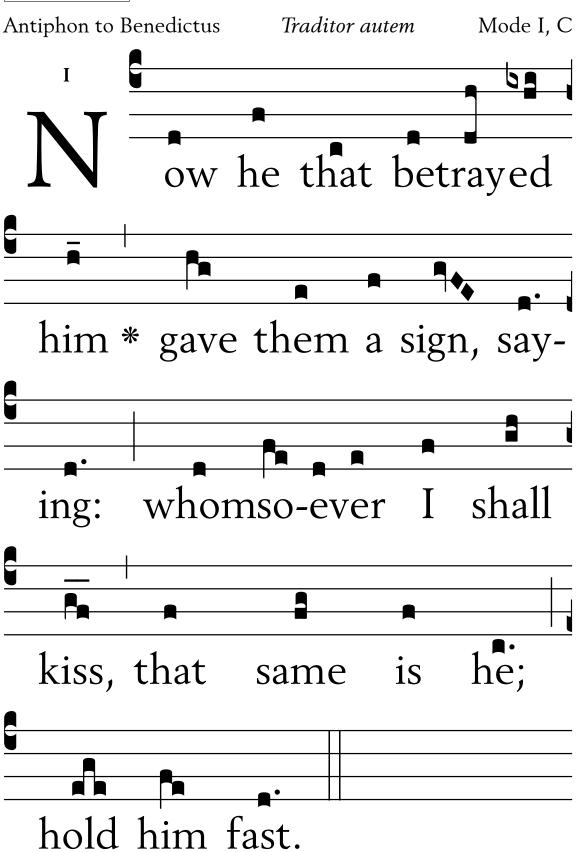
Ry. Who al-so did eat of my bread, hath laid great wait

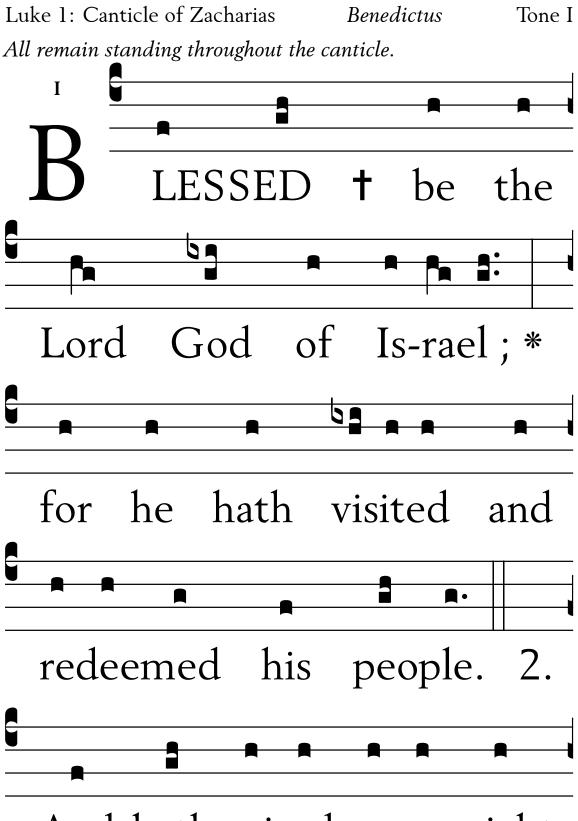


for me.

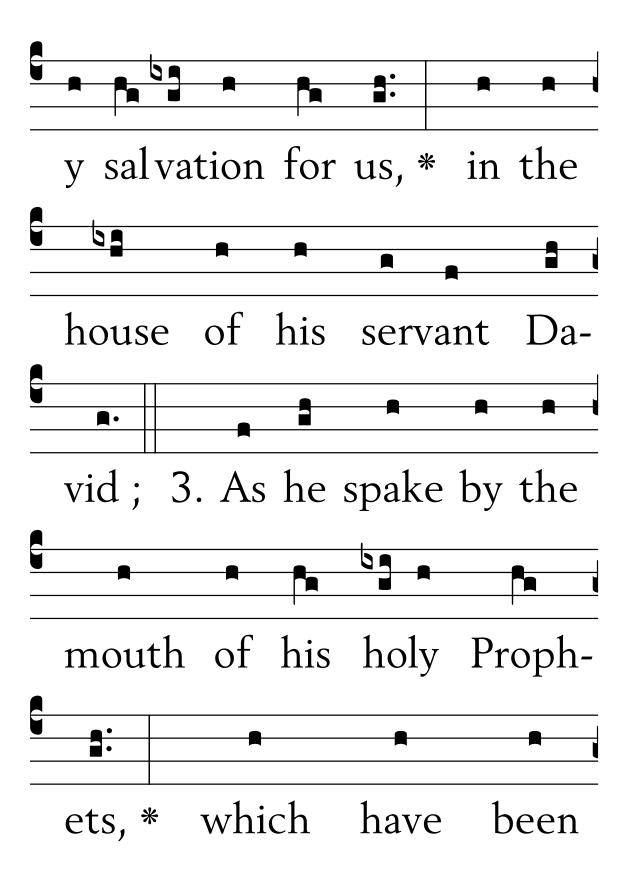
PAUSE The twelfth candle is extinguished.

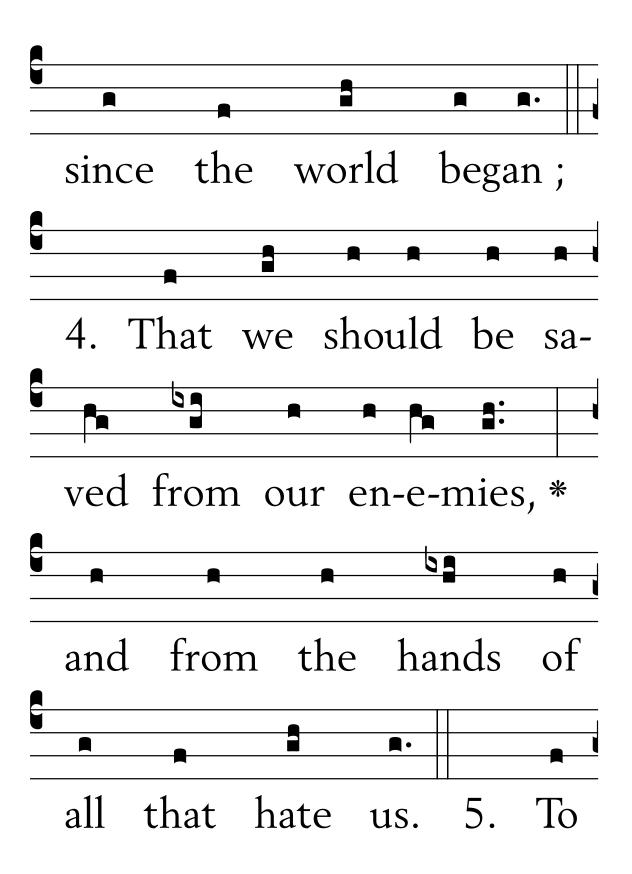
## STANDING



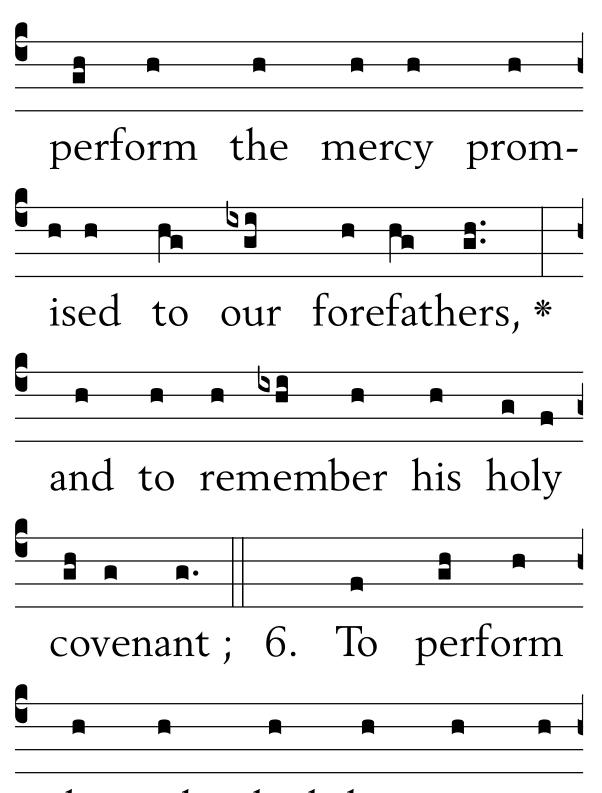


And hath raised up a might-

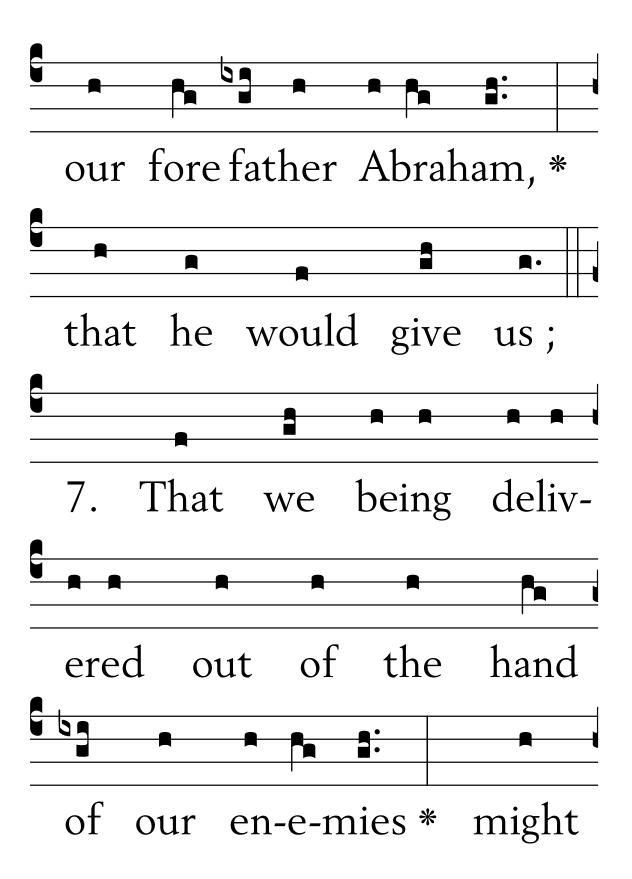


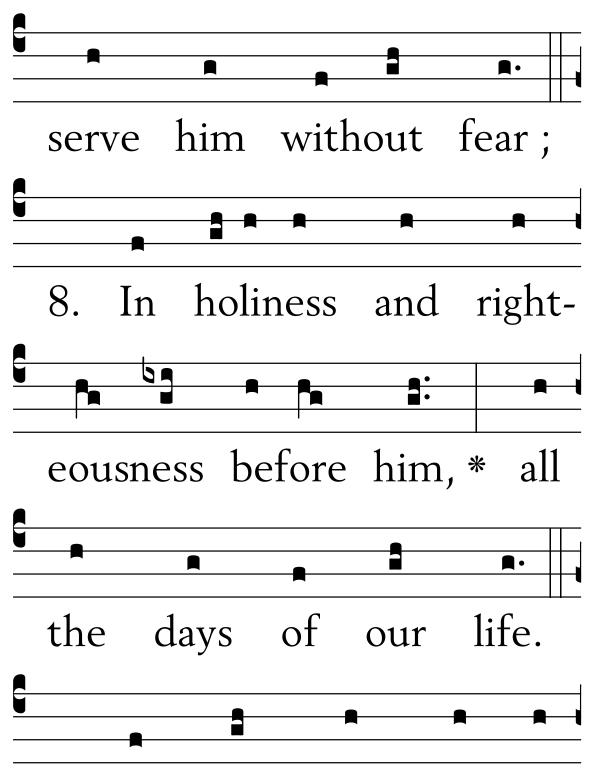


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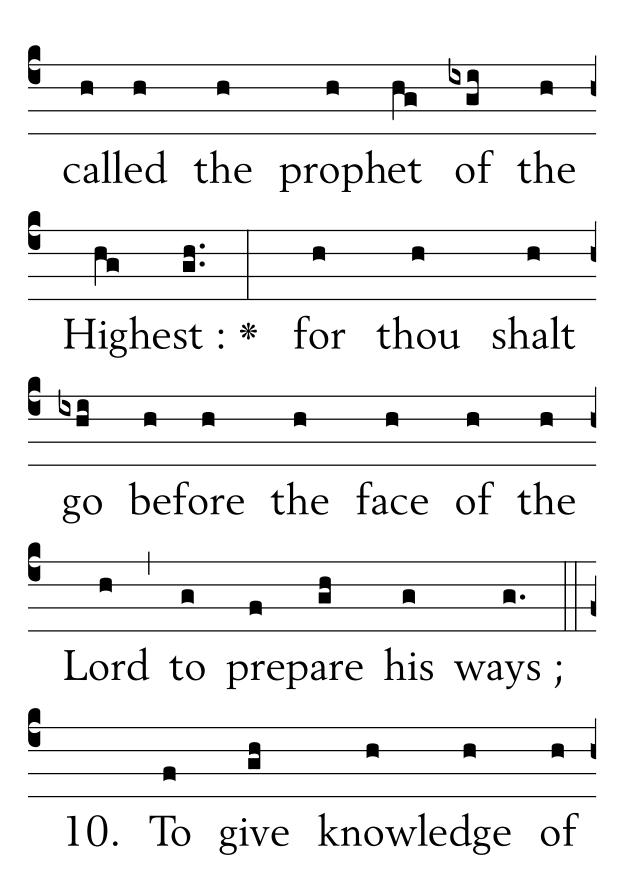


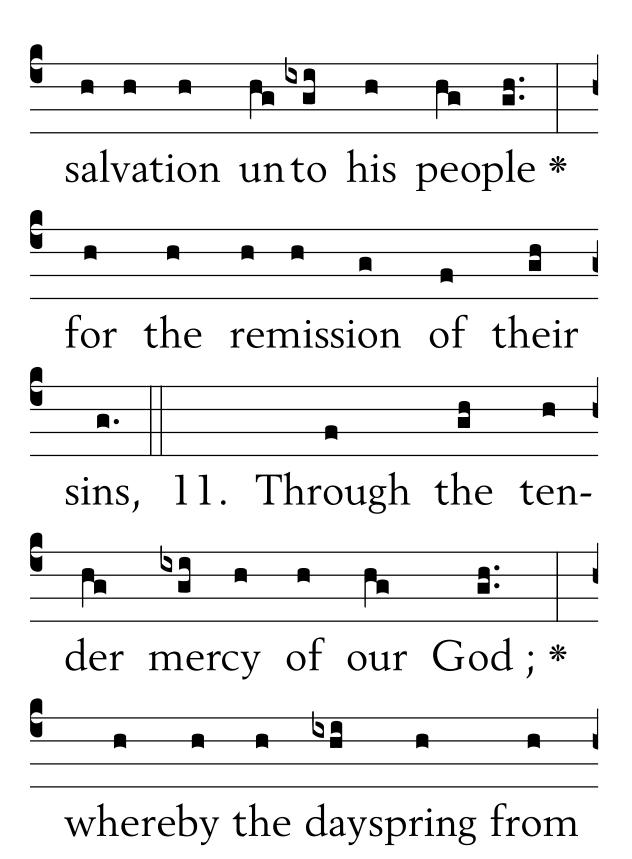
the oath which he sware to

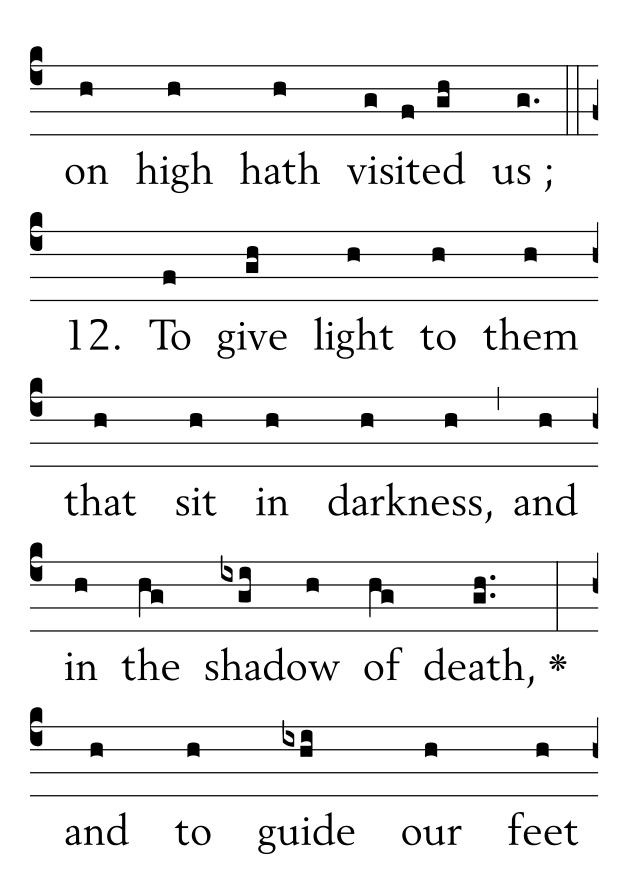


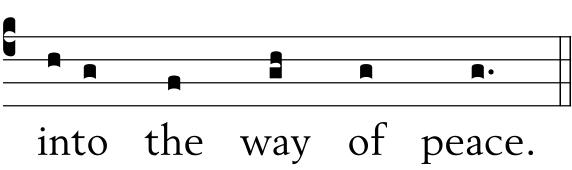


9. And thou, child, shalt be

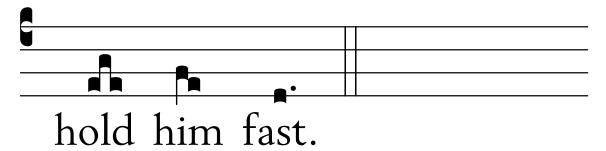






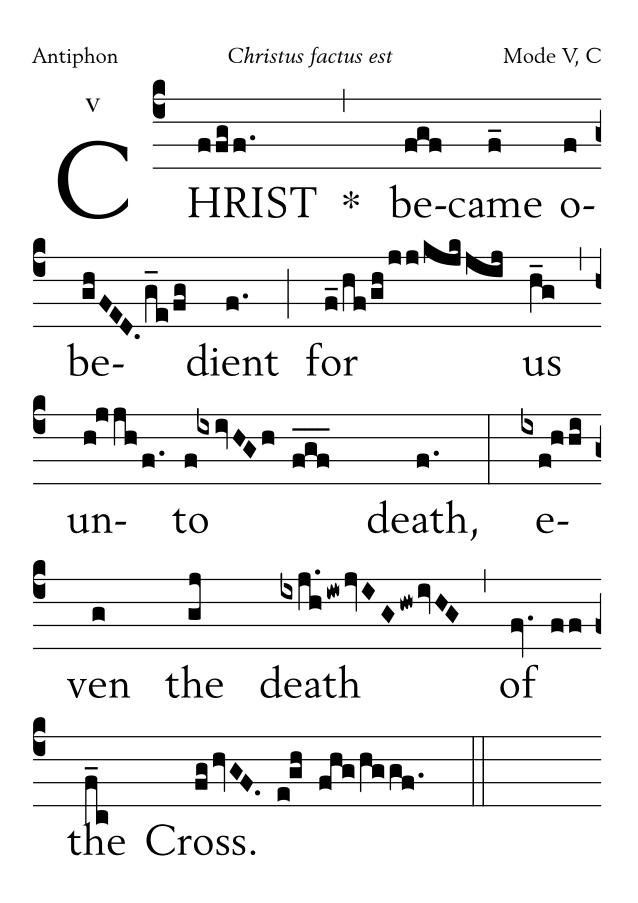


The antiphon is repeated: ow he that betrayed him \* gave them a sign, saywhomso-ever I shall kiss, that same is



PAUSE The Christ candle is hidden.

KNEEL



Our Father is then said silently.

Then the collect is sung to the ferial tone B or the ancient simple tone, without "The Lord be with you" or "Let us pray."

#### THE COLLECT

Almighty God, we beseech thee graciously to behold this thy family, for which our Lord Jesus Christ was contented to be betrayed, and given up into the hands of wicked men, and to suffer death upon the Cross.

#### He adds silently:

Who now liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

Then a noise is made, the hidden lighted candle is shown, and all rise and leave in silence in the order in which they entered.