# TENEBRÆ 

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

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 <br> 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.
Antiphon $1 \quad$ Zelus domus Mode VIII, Ab

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 $1 \quad$ Save me O | God; *
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

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 ashamèd 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 sufferèd re- \| proof; * shame hath cov- \| erèd my face.
8 I am become a stranger unto my | brethren, ${ }^{\star}$ 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 fal| len upon me.
10 I wept and chastenèd myself with | fasting, * and that was tur- $\mid$ nèd to my (re)proof.
11 I put on sackcloth | also, * and they jest- $\mid$ 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 0 God in the multitude of thy | mercy, * even in the truth of $\mid$ thy salvation.
15 Take me out of the mire that I | sink not; * $O$ let me be deliverèd 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 $\mid$ mouth upon me.

*
17 Hear me O LORD for thy loving-kindness is comforta- | ble; *
turn thee unto me according to the multitude $\mid$ 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 $\mid$ 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 lookèd 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; $\star$
and let the things that should have been for their wealth be unto them an occa- $\mid$ 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, ${ }^{\star}$ and let thy wrathful displea- $\mid$ 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- $\mid$ to thy righ(teous)ness.
29 Let them be wipèd out of the book of the \| living, * and not be written a- $\mid$ mong the righteous.
30 As for me, when I am poor and in | hea(vi)ness, * thy help 0 | God shall lift (me) up.
31 I will praise the Name of God with a | song, * and magnify it $\mid$ 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 $\mid$ 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.

The antiphon is repeated:

are fallen upon me.
PAUSE The first candle is extinguished.

## STANDING

Antiphon 2 Averantur retrorsum Mode VIII, Ab
 L et them be turned backward * and put to

confu-sion that wish me e-vil.

*
All sit at the first asterisk.
Cantor $1 \quad$ Haste thee O God to de- $\mid \mathrm{li}(\mathrm{ver}) \mathrm{me}$; ${ }^{\star}$ make haste to | help me O LORD.
All 2 Let them be ashamèd and confounded that seek after my | soul; *
let them be turnèd backward and put to confusion that $\mid$ 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 praisèd.

## 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:


L et them be turned backward ${ }^{*}$ and put to

confusion that wish me evil.

PAUSE The second candle is extinguished.

## STANDING

Antiphon $3 \quad$ Deus meus, eripe me Mode VIII, Ab

the ungodly.

Psalm 71 In te, Domine, speravi Tone VIII c

*
All sit at the first asterisk.
Cantor 1 In thee O LORD have I put my trust; let me never be put to con- $\mid$ fusion, *
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- $\mid$ teous and $\mathrm{cru}(\mathrm{el})$ 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 $\mid$ trust is in thee.



19 O what great troubles and adversities hast thou showèd 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, *
21 Therefore will I praise thee and thy faithfulness O God, playing upon an instrument of $\mid$ 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:

the ungodly.

## 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.



Prophet. Aleph. How doth the cit-y sit sol-i-tary,

that was full of people? how is she become as

a widow! She that was great among the nations,

and princess among the provinces, how is she become

tributar-y! Beth. She weepeth sore in the night,

and her tears are on her cheeks: among all her lovers

she hath none to comfort her: all her friends have

dealt treacherously with her, they are become her

en-emies. Ghimel. Judah is gone into captiv-i-ty

because of affliction, and because of great servitude:

she dwelleth among the heathen, she findeth no rest:

all her persecutors overtook her between the straits.


Daleth. The ways of Zion do mourn, because none

come to the solemn feasts: all her gates are desolate:

her priests sigh, her virgins are afflicted, and she is

her en-emies prosper; for the Lord hath afflicted her

for the multitude of her transgressions: her children

are gone into captiv-i-ty before the en-emy. Jerusalem,


Je rusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

## LECTOR STEPS DOWN.

PAUSE The fourth candle is extinguished.
CANTOR TO LECTERN. ALL STAND

## STANDING

Respond $1 \quad$ In monte Oliveti $\mathrm{DO}: \mathrm{Bb}$

cause this cup to pass from me: the spirit truly is

wil- ling, but the flesh is weak: * Thy will


## CANTOR STEPS DOWN.

PAUSE The fifth candle is extinguished.

## LECTOR TO AMBO, THEN ALL OTHERS SIT

## Lesson 2

Lamentations 1:6-9

beauty is departed: her princes are become like

harts that find no pasture, and they are gone

without strength before the pursu-er. Kain.


Jerusalem remembered in the days of her affliction

and of her miseries, all her pleasant things that she had

in the days of old, when her people fell into

the hand of the e-nemy, and none did help her:


sabbaths. Heth. Jerusalem hath grievously sinned;

therefore she is removed: all that honoured her

despise her, because they have seen her nakedness:

yea, she sigheth, and turneth backward. Teth.


Her filthiness is in her skirts; she remembereth not

her last end; therefore she came down wonderfully:

she had no comforter. O LORD, behold my affliction:

for the e-nemy hath magni-fied himself. Jerusalem,


Je rusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

## LECTOR STEPS DOWN.

PAUSE The sixth candle is extinguished.

## CANTOR TO LECTERN. ALL STAND

## STANDING

Respond 2 Tristis est anima meat DO: Bb



with me: now shall ye behold a multitude $\begin{array}{llllllll} \\ \text { which will throng } & \text { about } & \text { me: * } & \text { Ye } & \text { will } & \text { flee }\end{array}$ and forsake me, and I shall go hence

hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed

and forsake me, and I shall go hence


## CANTOR STEPS DOWN.

PAUSE The seventh candle is extinguished.
LECTOR TO AMBO, THEN ALL OTHERS SIT

upon all her pleasant things: for she hath seen

that the heathen entered into her sanctu-a-ry,

whom thou didst command that they should not enter

into thy congregation. Caph. All her people sigh,

they seek bread; they have given their pleasant

things for meat to relieve the soul: see, O LORD,

and consider; for I am become vile. Lamed.


Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? behold,

and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow,

which is done unto me, wherewith the LORD hath

afflicted me in the day of his fierce anger. Mem.


From above hath he sent fire into my bones,

and it prevaileth against them: he hath spread

a net for my feet, he hath turned me back:

he hath made me desolate and faint all the day.


Nun. The yoke of my transgressions is bound by

his hand: they are wreathed, and come up upon

my neck: he hath made my strength to fall,

the Lord hath de-li-vered me into their hands,

from whom I am not able to rise up. Jerusalem,


## LECTOR STEPS DOWN.

PAUSE The eighth candle is extinguished.
CANTOR TO LECTERN. ALL STAND

(continued on next page)

## STANDING

Respond 3 Ace vidimus eur DO: Bb


B ehold, we have seen him, and lo, he
 hath no form nor comeli- ness, nor aught

ces, and for us he gre- veth: howbe- it

he was woun- dod for our in-iqui- ties, * and

X. Surely he hath borne our sickness-ses

and car-ri- ed our so- rows.* And with his


PAUSE The ninth candle is extinguished.

## AT LAUDS

## STANDING

Antiphon 4 Exhortatus es Mode IV, G


All sit at the first asterisk.
Cantor $1 \quad$ I will sing unto the Lord, for he hath $\mid$ 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- $\mid$ come my salvation:
Cantor 3 He is my God, and I will prepare him an | habitation; * my father's God, and I 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- $\mid$ 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- $\mid$ ous in power: ${ }^{\star}$
thy right hand, O Lord, hath dash'd in | pieces the
en(em)y.

8 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 congealèd 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 $u(p o n)$ 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 $\mid$ the mighty waters.
13 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 stretchèdst out | thy right hand, *
the \| earth swallowèd them.
15 Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people which thou | hast redeemèd: *
thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy ho| 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, 0 Lord, till the people pass over | which thou hast pur(chas)èd.
19 Thou shalt bring them in, and plant them in the mountain of $\mid$ thine inhe(ri)tance, ${ }^{\star}$
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. <br> STAND

21 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 $\mid$ the sea upon them.
22 But the children of Israel went | on dry land: * in $\mid$ the midst of the sea.

The antiphon is repeated:

and in thy ho-ly Refection.
PAUSE The tenth candle is extinguished.

## STANDING

Antiphon 5 Oblatus est Mode II, Eb

himself desired it: and himself bare our sins.
Psalm 147 Laudate Dominum Tone II D, adapted

*
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 $\mid$ 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 $\mid$ 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 $\mid$ is in(fi)nite.
6 The LORD setteth up the | meek, * and bringeth the ungodly down $\mid$ to the ground.
7 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- $\mid$ ny man's legs.

## STAND

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

The antiphon is repeated:

himself desired it: and himself bare our sins. PAUSE The eleventh candle is extinguished.
The verse is sung:
X. Mine own familiar friend, whom I trusted.


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

for me.
PAUSE The twelfth candle is extinguished.

STANDING

him * gave them a sign, say-

kiss, that same is he;


Luke 1: Canticle of Zacharias Bened
All remain standing throughout the canticle.


LESSED $\dagger$ be the


Lord God of Is-rael ; *

for he hath visited and

redeemed his people. 2.


And hath raised up a might-

y salvation for us, * in the

house of his servant Da-

vid ; 3. As he spake by the

ets, * which have been
since the world began;

4. That we should be sa-

ved from our en-e-mies, *

and from the hands of

.
all that hate us. 5. To

perform the mercy prom-

ised to our forefathers, *

and to remember his holy

the oath which he sware to

our fore father Abraham, *

7. That we being deliv-

ered
out
of the
hand

of our en-e-mies * might

serve him without fear;

eousness before him, * all

the days of our life.

9. And thou, child, shalt be

called the prophet of the


Highest: * for thou shalt

go before the face of the


Lord to prepare his ways ;

10. To give knowledge of

salvation unto his people * ! ! !
for the remission of their sins, 11 . Through the ten-

der mercy of our God ; *

whereby the dayspring from

12. To give light to them

that sit in darkness, and

in the shadow of death, *

and to guide our feet


The antiphon is repeated:

him * gave them a sign, say-


hold him fast.
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.

