

The Office of Tenebrae



St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
Elkhart, IN

Before the reform of Holy Week in 1955, Tenebrae was observed by combining the offices of Matins and Lauds (the first two hours of the Divine Office) for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. The service was anticipated on the previous afternoon or evening, with a tradition of gradually extinguishing candles during the ceremony. This evening's service will imitate the traditional composition: we will celebrate the Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (the first two services of the post-conciliar Liturgy of the Hours) for Holy Saturday.

Throughout history there developed a rich tradition of sacred music for Tenebrae. Many composers wrote settings of the responsories for the many psalms and canticles, as well as items such as *The Lamentations of Jeremiah* and *Miserere mei*. The music offered this evening is a sampling of this great treasury of sacred music.



Today, listen to the **voice** of the Lord:
Do not grow stubborn, as your fathers did **in** the wil-der-ness,
when at Meribah and Massah they challenged me **and** pro-voked me
although they had **seen** all of my works.
Forty years I endured that **ge**-ne-ra-tion.
I said, “They are a people **whose** hearts go a-stray
and they do **not** know my ways.”
So I swore in my anger, “They shall not en-**ter** in-to my rest.”

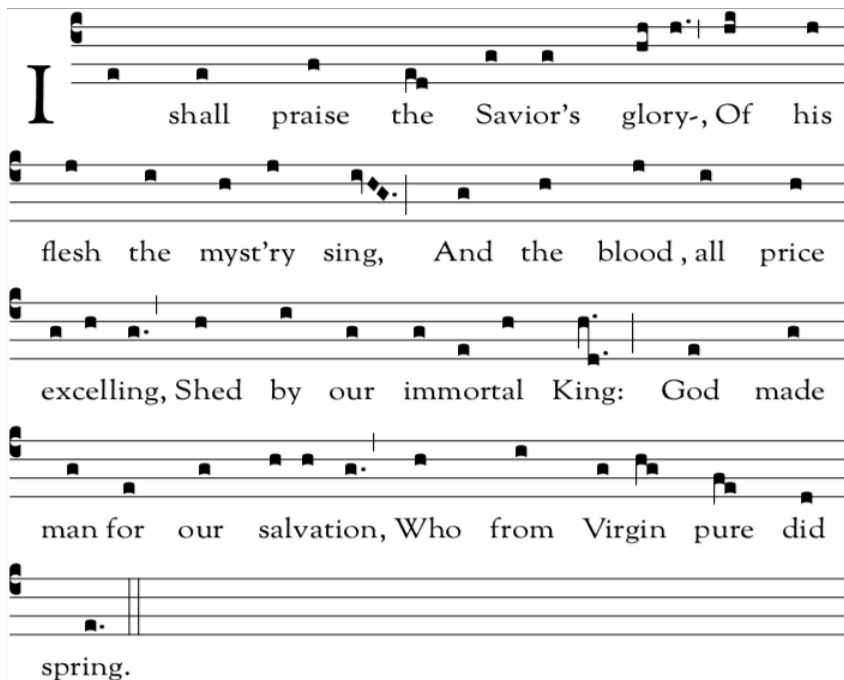
The choir repeats the antiphon.



THE OFFICE OF READINGS

Hymn *sung by all*

Pange lingua gloriosi



I shall praise the Savior's glory-, Of his
flesh the myst'ry sing, And the blood, all price
excelling, Shed by our immortal King: God made
man for our salvation, Who from Virgin pure did
spring.

2. Born for us, and for us given, born a man like us below,
Christ as man with man residing, lived the seed of truth to sow,
Suffered bitter death unflinching, and immortal love did show.

3. On the night before he suffered, seated with his chosen band,
Jesus, when they all had feasted, faithful to the law's command,
Far more precious food provided: gave himself with his own hand.

4. Word made flesh, true bread of heaven, by his word made flesh to be,
From the wine his blood is taken, though our senses cannot see,
Faith alone which is unshaken shows pure hearts the mystery.

5. Therefore we, before him falling, this great sacrament revere;
ancient forms are now departed, for new acts of grace are here,
Faith our feeble senses aiding, makes the Savior's presence clear.

6. To the everlasting Father and his son who reigns on high,
With the Holy Ghost proceeding forth from each eternally,
Be all honor, glory, blessing, pow'r and endless majesty. Amen.

Please be seated.

PSALMODY

Antiphon *sung by the choir before and after the psalm*

In pace, in idipsum, dormiam et requiescam.

In peace, I will lie down and sleep.

Psalm 4

Cum invocarum

plainchant, mode 8



CHOIR When I call, answer me, O God of **jus**-tice;
from anguish you released me; have mer-**cy** and hear me!

ALL O men, how long will your hearts **be** closed,
will you love what is futile and **seek** what is false?

CHOIR It is the Lord who grants favors to those whom **he** loves;
the Lord hears me whenev-**er** I call him.

ALL Fear him; do not sin: ponder on your bed and **be** still.
Make justice your sacrifice and **trust** in the Lord.

CHOIR “What can bring us happiness?” man-**y** say.
Let the light of your face shine **on** us, O Lord.

ALL You have put into my heart a grea-**ter** joy
than they have from abundance of **corn** and new wine.

CHOIR I will lie down in peace and sleep comes **at** once
for you alone, Lord, make me **dwell** in safe-ty. *The choir repeats the antiphon.*



Antiphon *sung by the choir before and after the psalm*

Caro mea requiescet in spe.
My body shall rest in hope.

Psalm 16

Conserva me, Deus

plainchant, mode 7



- CHOIR Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.
I say to the Lord: “**Y**ou are my God.
My happiness lies **in** you a-lone.
- ALL He has put into my heart a **mar**-vel-lous love
for the faithful ones who **dw**ell in his land.
- CHOIR Those who choose other gods increase their sorrows.
Never will I offer their **of**-fe-rings of blood.
Never will I take their name **u**-pon my lips.
- ALL O Lord, it is you who are my **por**-tion and cup;
it is you yourself **who** are my prize.
- CHOIR The lot marked out for **me** is my delight:
welcome indeed the heritage **that** falls to me.
- ALL I will bless the Lord who **gives** me coun-sel,
who even at night **di**-rects my heart.
- CHOIR I keep the Lord **e**-ver in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, **I** shall stand firm.
- ALL And so my heart rejoices, **my** soul is glad;
even my body **shall** rest in safe-ty.
- CHOIR For you will not leave my **soul** a-mong the dead,
nor let your belo-**ved** know de-cay.
- CHOIR You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of **joy** in your presence,
at your right hand, hap-**pi**-ness for ev-er. *the choir repeats the antiphon*

Antiphon *sung by the choir before and after the psalm*

Elevamini, porta aeternales, et introibit Rex gloriae.
Lift high the ancient portals. The King of glory enters.

Psalm 24

Domini est terra

plainchant, mode 5



- CHOIR The Lord's is the earth and **its** fullness,
the world and **all** its peo-ples.
- ALL It is he who set it on **the** seas;
on the rivers **he** made it firm.
- CHOIR Who shall climb the mountain of **the** Lord?
Who shall stand in **his** ho-ly place?
- ALL The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worth-**less** things,
who has not sworn so as to de-**ceive** his neigh-bor.
- CHOIR He shall receive blessings from **the** Lord
and reward from the **God** who saves him.
- ALL Such are the men who **seek** him,
seek the face of the **God** of Ja-cob.
- CHOIR O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, an-**cient** doors.
Let him enter, the **King** of glo-ry.
- ALL Who is the king of glory? The Lord, the mighty, the **va**-liant,
the Lord, the **va**-liant in war.
- CHOIR O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, an-**cient** doors.
Let him enter, the **King** of glory!
- ALL Who is he, the king of glory? He, the Lord of **ar**-mies,
he is the **king** of glo-ry. *the choir repeats the antiphon*

CHOIR They will understand **God's** deeds.
The just will rejoice **in** the Lord

ALL and fly to him **for** refuge.
All the upright **hearts** will glory. *the choir repeats the antiphon*



Antiphon *sung by the choir before and after the canticle*

A porta inferi, erue, Domini animam meam.
From the jaws of hell, Lord, rescue my soul.

Isaiah 38: 10-14, 17-20

Ego dixit

plainchant, mode 2



CHOIR Once I said, "In the noontime of life I must **de**-part!
To the gates of the netherworld I shall be con-signed for the rest **of** my years."

ALL I said, "I shall see the Lord **no** more
in the land **of** the living.

CHOIR No longer shall I behold my fel-**low** men
among those who dwell **in** the world.

ALL My dwelling, like a shep-**herd's** tent,
is struck down and borne a-**way** from me;

CHOIR you have folded up my life, like **a** weaver
who severs **the** last thread.

ALL Day and night you give me over **to** torment;
I cry out un-**til** the dawn.

CHOIR Like a lion he breaks all **my** bones;
day and night you give me o-**ver** to torment.

the canticle continues



ALL Like a swallow I utter **shrill** cries;
I moan **like** a dove.

CHOIR My eyes grow weak, gazing hea-**ven**-ward:
O Lord, I am in straits; **be** my surety.

ALL You have preserved **my** life,
from the pit **of** des-truction,

CHOIR when you cast behind **your** back,
cast aside **all** my sins.

ALL For it is not the nether world that gives **you** thanks,
nor **death** that praises you;

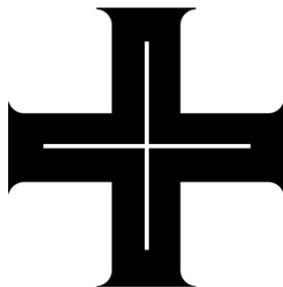
CHOIR neither do those who go down into **the** pit
a-**wait** your kindness.

ALL The living, the living give **you** thanks,
as I **do** to-day.

CHOIR Fathers declare to **their** sons,
O **God**, your faithfulness.

ALL The Lord is **our** savior;
we shall sing **to** stringed instruments

CHOIR in the house of **the** Lord
all the days **of** our life. *the choir repeats the antiphon*



Antiphon *sung by the choir before and after the psalm*

Ego fui mortuus, et ecce sum vivens in saecula saeculorum, et habeo claves mortis et inferni.
I was dead, but now I live for ever, and I hold the keys of death and of hell.

Psalm 150

Laudate Dominum

plainchant, mode 8



CHOIR Praise God in his ho-ly place,
praise him in his **might**-y heav-ens.

ALL Praise him for his power-ful deeds,
praise his sur-**pas**-sing great-ness.

CHOIR O praise him with sound **of** trumpet,
praise him **with** lute and harp.

ALL Praise him with timbrel **and** dance,
praise him **with** strings and pipes.

CHOIR O praise him with resoun-**ding** cymbals,
praise him with cla-**shing** of cymbals.

ALL Let everything that lives and **that** breathes
give **praise** to the Lord. *the choir repeats the antiphon*

the psalm continues



READING AND RESPONSE

Reading I

Hosea 5: 15b -- 16: 2

Versicle *sung by the choir*

Christus factus est

Felice Anerio
(1560-1614)

Christus factus est pro nobis obediens usque ad mortem. Mortem autem crucis. Propter quod et Deus exaltavit illum et dedit illi nomen, quod est super omne nomen.

Christ became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God highly exalted him and gave him a name above all names.

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Antiphon *sung by the choir before and after the canticle*

Salvator mundi, salva nos, qui per crucem et sanguinem redemistinos, auxiliare nobis, te deprecamur, Deus noster.

Save us, O Savior of the world. On the cross you redeemed us by the shedding of your blood; we cry out for help, O God.

Canticle of Zechariah - Luke 1: 68-79 *sung by the choir*

Benedictus Dominus Deus Israel

G.P. da Palestrina
(1526-1594)

Please stand and make the Sign of the Cross when the canticle begins.

*Benedictus Dominus Deus Israel,
quia visitavit, et fecit redemptionem plebis suae.*

*Et erexit cornu salutis nobis:
in domo David pueri sui.*

*Sicut locutus est per os sanctorum, quia saeculo
sunt, prophetarum eius. salute ex inimicis nostris:
et de manu omnium qui oderunt nos.*

*Ad faciendam misericordiam cum patribus nostris:
et memorari testamenti sui sancti.*

*Iusiurandum quod iuravit: ad Abraham patrem nostrum
daturum se nobis. Ut sine timore, de manu inimicorum
nostrorum liberati, serviamus illi.*

*In sanctitate et iustitia coram ipso;
omnibus diebus nostris.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel:
he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty Savior,
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised
of old that he would save us
from our enemies,

from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father
Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our
enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy
and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

*Et tu puer, Propheta Altissimi vocaberis:
praeibis enim ante faciem Domini
parare vias eius.
ad dandam scientiam salutis plebi eius:
in remissionem peccatorum eorum.
Per viscera misericordiae Dei nostri:
in quibus visitavit nos, oriens ex alto.
Illuminare his qui in tenebris
et in umbra mortis sedent:
Ad dirigendos pedes nostros
in viam pacis.*

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the
Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
to give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God,
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
to shine on those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet
into the way of peace.

INTERCESSIONS

Please respond "Lord, have mercy on us."

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CONCLUDING PRAYER

STREPITUS



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The Rev'd Fr Patrick Hake *vicar*

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