

TENEBRAE

The ministers enter the church in silence and proceed to their places. The Office then begins immediately with the Antiphon on the first Psalm. It is customary to sit for the Psalmody.

First Nocturn

Antiphon 1

Zeal for your house has eaten me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

Psalm 69:1-22 *Salvum me fac*

- 1 Save me, O God, *
for the waters have come up even to my neck.
- 2 I sink down in the deep mire, where there is no ground; *
I have come into deep waters, so that the floods run over me.
- 3 I am weary of crying; my throat is dry; *
my sight fails me from waiting so long for my God.
- 4 Those who hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of my head; *
those who are my enemies, and would destroy me wrongfully,
are mighty.
- 5 They bid me restore things I never took. *
O God, you know my foolishness, and my faults are not hidden
from you.
- 6 Let not those who trust in you, O Lord GOD of hosts, be not
ashamed because of me. *
let not those who seek you be confounded through me, O God
of Israel.
- 7 Surely, for your sake have I suffered reproach, *
shame has covered my face.

- 8 I have become a stranger to my brethren, *
unknown to my mother's children.
- 9 Because zeal for your house has consumed me, *
and the reproaches of those who reproached you have fallen
upon me.
- 10 I wept, and humbled myself with fasting, *
but that was turned to my reproach.
- 11 I put on sackcloth also, *
and I became a byword among them.
- 12 Those who sit in the gate speak against me, *
and the drunkards make songs about me.
- 13 But, LORD, I make my prayer to you *
in an acceptable time.
- 14 Hear me, O God, in the multitude of your mercy, *
even in the truth of your salvation.
- 15 Take me out of the mire; lest I sink; *
O let me be delivered from those who hate me,
and out of the deep waters.
- 16 Let not the flood waters drown me,
neither let the deep swallow me up, *
and let not the Pit shut its mouth upon me.
- 17 Hear me, O LORD, for your loving-kindness is good; *
turn to me according to the multitude of your mercies;
- 18 And hide not your face from your servant, for I am in trouble; *
O hasten and hear me.
- 19 Draw near to me and save me; *
O deliver me because of my enemies.
- 20 You have known my reproach, my shame, and my dishonor; *
my adversaries are all in your sight.

21 Reproach has broken my heart; I am full of heaviness; *
I looked for some to have pity on me, but there was no one,
neither have I found any to comfort me.

22 They gave me gall to eat; *
and when I was thirsty they gave me vinegar to drink.

Antiphon: Zeal for your house has eaten me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

Antiphon 2

Let them draw back and be disgraced who take pleasure in my misfortune.

Psalm 70 *Deus, in adiutorium*

1 Hasten, O God, to deliver me; *
make haste to help me, O Lord.

2 Let them be ashamed and confounded who seek after my life; *
let them be turned back and put to confusion
who wish me evil.

3 Let them be soon brought to shame *
who cry over me, "Aha! Aha!"

4 But let all those who seek you be joyful and glad in you; *
and let all who delight in your salvation say always,
"The Lord be praised."

5 As for me, I am poor and in misery; *
hasten to me, O God.

6 You are my helper and my deliverer; *
O Lord, do not tarry.

Antiphon: Let them draw back and be disgraced
who take pleasure in my misfortune.

Antiphon 3

Arise, O God, maintain my cause.

Psalm 74 *Ut quid, Deus?*

- 1 O God, why have you utterly cast us off? *
Why is your wrath so hot against the sheep of your pasture?
- 2 O think upon your congregation *
whom you have purchased and redeemed of old.
- 3 Think upon the tribe of your inheritance, *
and Mount Zion, where you have dwelt.
- 4 Draw near and behold how all is made desolate *
and how the enemy has destroyed all that is in your sanctuary.
- 5 Your adversaries roar in the midst of your holy place *
and set up their banners as tokens of victory.
- 6 Like hewers of timber in a thicket of trees, *
so have they broken down all the carved work
with axes and hammers.
- 7 They have set fire to your holy place *
and have defiled the dwelling place of your Name,
even to the ground.
- 8 They said in their hearts, "Let us make havoc of them altogether." *
Thus have they burnt up all the houses of God in the land.
- 9 We do not see any signs; there is not one prophet anymore; *
there is no one who knows how long these things shall
continue.
- 10 O God, how long shall the adversary do this dishonor? *
How long shall the enemy blaspheme your Name, for ever?
- 11 Why do you withdraw your hand? *
Why do you not take your right hand out of your bosom to
consume the enemy?

- 12 For God is my King of old; *
he is the one bringing help upon the earth.
- 13 You divided the sea through your power; *
you broke the heads of the dragons in the waters.
- 14 You smote the heads of Leviathan in pieces *
and gave him to be food for the people in the wilderness.
- 15 You brought fountains and waters out of the hard rocks, *
and you dried up mighty waters.
- 16 The day is yours, and the night is yours; *
you have prepared the light and the sun.
- 17 You have set all the borders of the earth; *
you have made summer and winter.
- 18 Remember this, O Lord, how the enemy scoffed, *
and how the foolish people have blasphemed your Name.
- 19 Deliver not the soul of your turtledove to the wild beasts, *
and forget not for ever the lives of your poor.
- 20 Look upon your covenant, *
for the dark places of the earth are full of violence.
- 21 Let not the oppressed go away ashamed, *
but let the poor and needy give praise to your Name.
- 22 Arise, O God, maintain your own cause; *
remember how the foolish one blasphemes you daily.
- 23 Forget not the voice of your enemies, *
nor the tumult of those who hate you,
which increases ever more and more.

Antiphon: Arise, O God, maintain my cause.

V. Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked:
R. From the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor.

All stand for silent prayer. The appointed Reader then goes to the lectern and everyone else sits down.

Lesson 1

A Reading from the Lamentations of Jeremiah the Prophet. [1:1- 14]

Aleph. How solitary lies the city, once so full of people! How like a widow has she become, she that was great among the nations! She that was queen among the cities has now become a vassal.

Beth. She weeps bitterly in the night, tears run down her cheeks; among all her lovers she has none to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her; they have become her enemies.

Gimel. Judah has gone into the misery of exile and of hard servitude; she dwells now among the nations, but finds no resting place; all her pursuers overtook her in the midst of her anguish.

Daleth. The roads to Zion mourn, because none come to the solemn feasts; all her gates are desolate, her priests groan and sigh; her virgins are afflicted, and she is in bitterness.

He. Her adversaries have become her masters, her enemies prosper; because the Lord has punished her for the multitude of her rebellions; her children are gone, driven away as captives by the enemy.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

Responsory 1 *In monte Oliueti*

On the mount of Olives Jesus prayed to the Father:

Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Watch and pray, that you may not enter into temptation.

The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Lesson 2

Waw. And from Daughter Zion all her majesty has departed; her princes have become like stags that can find no pasture, and that run without strength before the hunter.

Zayin. Jerusalem remembers in the days of her affliction and bitterness all the precious things that were hers from the days of old; when her people

fell into the hand of the foe, and there was none to help her; the adversary saw her, and mocked at her downfall.

Heth. Jerusalem has sinned greatly, therefore she has become a thing unclean; all who honored her despise her, for they have seen her nakedness; and now she sighs, and turns her face away.

Teth. Uncleaness clung to her skirts, she took no thought of her doom; therefore her fall is terrible, she has no comforter. "O Lord, behold my affliction, for the enemy has triumphed."

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

Responsory 2 *Tristis est anima mea*

My soul is very sorrowful, even to the point of death;
remain here and watch with me. Now you shall see the crowd who will surround me; you will flee, and I will go to be offered up for you.

Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

You will flee, and I will go to be offered up for you.

Lesson 3

Yodh. The adversary has stretched out his hand to seize all her precious things; she has seen the Gentiles invade her sanctuary, those whom you had forbidden to enter your congregation.

Kaph. All her people groan as they search for bread; they sell their own children for food to revive their strength. "Behold, O Lord, and consider, for I am now beneath contempt!"

Lamedh. Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Behold and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow, which was brought upon me, which the Lord inflicted, on the day of his burning anger.

Mem. From on high he sent fire, into my bones it descended; he spread a net for my feet, and turned me back; he has left me desolate and faint all the day long.

Nun. My transgressions were bound into a yoke; by his hand they were fastened together; their yoke is upon my neck; he has caused my strength to fail. The Lord has delivered me into their hands, against whom I am not able to stand up.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

Responsory 3 *Ecce vidimus eum*

Lo, we have seen him without beauty or majesty,
with no looks to attract our eyes.

He bore our sins and grieved for us,

He was wounded for our transgressions, and by his scourging we are healed.

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows:

And by his scourging we are healed.

[When this Responsory is sung rather than recited, repeat all that precedes the Verse:

Lo, we have seen ...we are healed.]

Second Nocturn

Antiphon 4

The kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together,
against the Lord and against his Anointed.

Psalm 2 *Quare fremuerunt gentes?*

1 Why do the nations so furiously rage together? *

And why do the peoples devise a vain thing?

2 The kings of the earth stand up, and the rulers take counsel together, *
against the Lord and against his Anointed:

3 “Let us break their bonds asunder *
and cast away their cords from us.”

4 He who dwells in heaven shall laugh them to scorn; *
the Lord shall hold them in derision.

5 Then shall he speak to them in his wrath *
and terrify them in his great anger:

6 “I myself have set my King *
upon my holy hill of Zion.”

- 7 I will proclaim the decree of the Lord; *
he said to me, "You are my Son; this day have I begotten you.
- 8 Ask of me, and I shall give you the nations for your inheritance *
and the ends of the earth for your possession.
- 9 You shall bruise them with a rod of iron *
and break them in pieces like a potter's vessel."
- 10 Be wise now, O you kings; *
be warned, you judges of the earth.
- 11 Serve the Lord in fear, *
and rejoice with trembling.
- 12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way;
for his wrath is quickly kindled. *
Blessed are all those who put their trust in him.

Antiphon: The kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, against the Lord and against his Anointed.

Antiphon 5

The divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing.

Psalm 22:1-22 *Deus, Deus meus*

- 1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me, *
and are so far from my cry, and from the words of my
complaint?
- 2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not hear; *
in the night season also, but I find no rest.
- 3 But you remain holy, *
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
- 4 Our fathers hoped in you; *
they trusted in you, and you delivered them.

- 5 They called upon you, and were delivered; *
they put their trust in you, and were not confounded.
- 6 But as for me, I am a worm, and no man, *
scorned by all, and the outcast of the people.
- 7 All those who see me laugh me to scorn; *
they curl their lips, and shake their heads, saying,
- 8 “He trusted in God, that he would deliver him; *
let him deliver him, if he will have him.”
- 9 But you are he that took me out of my mother’s womb; *
you were my hope, when I was yet upon my mother’s breasts.
- 10 I have been cast upon you ever since I was born; *
you are my God, even from my mother’s womb.
- 11 O go not far from me, for trouble is near at hand, *
and there is none to help me.
- 12 Many oxen have come around me; *
fat bulls of Bashan close me in on every side.
- 13 They gape at me with their mouths, *
like a ravening and a roaring lion.
- 14 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; *
my heart also in the midst of my body is like melting wax.
- 15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue cleaves to my gums, *
and you bring me into the dust of death.
- 16 For many dogs have come about me, *
and the council of the wicked lays siege against me.
- 17 They pierced my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones; *
they stand staring and looking upon me.

- 18 They part my garments among them, *
and casts lots for my clothing.
- 19 But be not far from me, O Lord. *
You are my succor; hasten to help me.
- 20 Deliver my soul from the sword, *
my life from the power of the dog.
- 21 Save me from the lion's mouth, *
and my soul in misery from among the horns of wild oxen.
- 22 I will declare your Name to my brethren; *
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.
- Antiphon:* The divide my garments among them;
they cast lots for my clothing.

Antiphon 6

False witnesses have risen up against me, and also those who speak malice.

Psalm 27 *Dominus illuminatio*

- 1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? *
The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I
be afraid?
- 2 When the wicked, even my enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat
up my flesh, *
they stumbled and fell.
- 3 Though a host were encamped against me,
yet my heart would not be afraid, *
and though war rose up against me,
yet would I put my trust in him.
- 4 One thing have I desired of the Lord; one thing I seek: *
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days
of my life,

- 5 To behold the fair beauty of the Lord, *
and to seek him in his temple.
- 6 For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his tabernacle; *
indeed, in the secret place of his dwelling he shall hide me,
and set me high upon a rock of stone.
- 7 And now he shall lift up my head *
above my enemies round about me.
- 8 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with great gladness; *
I will sing and speak praises unto the Lord.
- 9 Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I cry unto you; *
have mercy upon me and hear me.
- 10 You speak to my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, O Lord, will I seek.
- 11 O hide not your face from me, *
nor cast your servant away in displeasure.
- 12 You have been my helper; *
leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.
- 13 When my father and my mother forsake me, *
the Lord takes me in.
- 14 Teach me your way, O Lord, *
and lead me in the right way, because of my enemies.
- 15 Deliver me not over to the will of my adversaries, *
for there are false witnesses who have risen up against me,
and those who speak wrong.
- 16 I would utterly have fainted, *
had I not believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living.
- 17 O wait for the Lord; be strong, and he shall comfort your heart. *
O put your trust in the Lord.

Antiphon: False witnesses have risen up against me,
and also those who speak malice.

V. They divide my garments among them:

R. They cast lots for my clothing.

All stand for silent prayer. The appointed Reader then goes to the lectern, and everyone else sits down.

Lesson 4

A Reading from the Treatise of Saint Augustine the Bishop on the Psalms.
[Vulgate Psalm 54. Prayer Book Psalm 55:1, 2, 10c]

"Hear my prayer, O God; do not hide yourself from my petition. Listen to me and answer me. I mourn in my trial and am troubled."

These are the words of one disquieted, in trouble and anxiety. He prays under much suffering, desiring to be delivered from evil. Let us now see under what evil he lies; and when he begins to speak, let us place ourselves beside him, that, by sharing his tribulation, we may also join in his prayer.

"I mourn in my trial," he says, "and am troubled."

When does he mourn? When is he troubled? He says, "In my trial." He has in mind the wicked who cause him suffering, and he calls this suffering his "trial." Do not think that the evil are in the world for no purpose, and that God makes no good use of them. Every wicked person lives either that he may be corrected, or that through him the righteous may be tried and tested.

Responsory 4 *Tamquam ad latronem*

Have you come out as against a robber,
with swords and clubs to capture me?

*Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me;
But now, behold, you scourge me,
and lead me away to be crucified.*

When they had laid hands on Jesus and were holding him, he said:
*Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me;
but now, behold, you scourge me,
and lead me away to be crucified.*

Lesson 5

Would that those who now test us were converted and tried with us; yet though they continue to try us, let us not hate them, for we do not know whether any of them will persist to the end in their evil ways. And most of the time, when you think you are hating your enemy, you are hating your brother without knowing it.

Only the devil and his angels are shown to us in the Holy Scriptures as doomed to eternal fire. It is only their amendment that is hopeless, and against them we wage a hidden battle. For this battle the Apostle arms us, saying, "We are not contending against flesh and blood," that is, not against human beings whom we see, "but against the principalities, against the powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world." So that you may not think that demons are the rulers of heaven and earth, he says, "of the darkness of this world."

He says, "of the world," meaning the lovers of the world -- of the "world," meaning the ungodly and wicked -- the "world" of which the Gospel says, "And the world knew him not."

Responsory 5 *Tenebrae factae sunt*

Darkness covered the whole land

when Jesus had been crucified; and about the ninth hour he cried with a loud voice:

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

And he bowed his head and handed over his spirit.

Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said:

Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

And he bowed his head and handed over his spirit.

Lesson 6

"For I have seen unrighteousness and strife in the city."

See the glory of the cross itself. On the brow of kings that cross is now placed, the cross which enemies once mocked. Its power is shown in the result. He has conquered the world, not by steel, but by wood. The wood of the cross seemed a fitting object of scorn to his enemies, and standing before that wood they wagged their heads, saying, "If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." He stretched out his hands to an unbelieving and rebellious people. If one is just who lives by faith, one who does not have faith is unrighteous. Therefore when he says "unrighteousness," understand that it is unbelief. The Lord then saw unrighteousness and strife in the city, and stretched out his hands to an unbelieving and rebellious people. And yet, looking upon them, he said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Responsory 6 *Ecce quomodo moritur*

See how the righteous one perishes,
and no one takes it to heart.

The righteous are taken away, and no one understands. From the face of evil the righteous one is taken away, and his memory shall be in peace.

Like a sheep before its shearers is mute, so he opened not his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away:
And his memory shall be in peace.

*[When this responsory is sung rather than recited, repeat all that precedes the Verse:
See how the righteous . . . in peace.]*

Third Nocturn

Antiphon 7

God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life.

Psalm 54 *Deus, in nomine*

- 1 Save me, O God, for your Name's sake, *
and avenge me in your strength.
- 2 Hear my prayer, O God, *
and hearken to the words of my mouth.
- 3 For the arrogant have risen up against me, *
and tyrants, who do not have God before their eyes,
seek after my life.
- 4 Behold, God is my helper; *
the Lord is he who upholds my life.
- 5 He shall repay the evil of my enemies. *
O destroy them in your faithfulness.
- 6 A freewill offering will I give you, *
and praise your Name, O Lord, because it is good.
- 7 For he has delivered me out of all my trouble, *
and my eye has seen the ruin of my enemies.

Antiphon: God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life.

Antiphon 8

At Salem is his tabernacle, and his dwelling is in Zion.

Psalm 76 *Notus in Judaea*

- 1 In Judah God is known; *
his Name is great in Israel.
- 2 At Salem is his tabernacle, *
and his dwelling is in Zion.
- 3 There he broke the arrows of the bow, *
the shield, the sword, and the weapons of battle.
- 4 You are of more honor and might *
than the everlasting hills.

- 5 The strong of heart have been despoiled; they have slept their sleep; *
and all those whose hands were mighty have lost their strength.
- 6 At your rebuke, O God of Jacob, *
both the chariot and horse lie stunned upon the ground.
- 7 You, even you, are to be feared, *
and who may stand in your sight when you are angry?
- 8 You caused your judgment to be heard from heaven; *
the earth trembled and was silent,
- 9 When God arose to judgment *
and to help all the meek upon earth.
- 10 The wrath of man shall be turned to your praise, *
and the remnant of fierceness you shall restrain.
- 11 Make a vow unto the Lord your God and keep it,
all you who are round about him; *
bring gifts unto him who is worthy to be feared.
- 12 He restrains the spirit of princes, *
and is feared among the kings of the earth.

Antiphon: At Salem is his tabernacle, and his dwelling is in Zion.

Antiphon 9

I have become like one who has no strength, lost among the dead.

Psalm 88 *Domine, Deus*

- 1 O Lord God of my salvation, I have cried day and night before you; *
O let my prayer enter into your presence; incline your ear
to my call.
- 2 For my soul is full of trouble, *
and my life draws nigh to the Grave.

- 3 I am counted as one of those who go down into the pit, *
and I have become as one who has no strength.
- 4 I have become like the dead, and like the slain who lie in the grave, *
whom you remember no more,
and who are cut off from your hand.
- 5 You have laid me in the lowest pit, *
in a place of darkness, and in the deep.
- 6 Your indignation lies heavy upon me, *
and you have overwhelmed me with all your storms.
- 7 You have put my friends far from me, *
and made me to be abhorred by them.
- 8 I am in prison; *
I cannot go forth.
- 9 My sight fails because of trouble; *
Lord, I have called daily upon you;
I have stretched forth my hands unto you.
- 10 Do you show wonders among the dead, *
or shall the dead rise up again and praise you?
- 11 Shall your loving-kindness be shown in the grave, *
or your faithfulness in destruction?
- 12 Shall your wondrous works be known in the dark, *
and your righteousness in the land where all things are
forgotten?
- 13 Unto you have I cried, O Lord, *
and early shall my prayer come before you.
- 14 Lord, why do you cast off my soul *
and hide your face from me?
- 15 I am in misery, like one who is at the point of death; *
even from my youth, your terrors have I suffered with a
troubled mind.

- 16 Your wrathful displeasure goes over me, *
and the fear of you has undone me.
- 17 Daily they come round about me like water, *
and encompass me on every side.
- 18 My companions and neighbors you have put away from me, *
and hidden my friends out of my sight.

Antiphon: I have become like one who has no strength,
lost among the dead.

All stand for silent prayer. The appointed Reader then goes to the lectern, and everyone else sits down.

Lesson 7

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews. [4:15--5:10; 9:11-15a]

We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sinning. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people.

Responsory 7 *Eram quasi agnus*

I was like a trusting lamb led to the slaughter.

*I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,*

*Let us destroy the tree with its fruit;
let us cut him off from the land of the living.*

All my enemies whispered together against me, and devised evil against me, saying:

*Let us destroy the tree with its fruit;
let us cut him off from the land of the living.*

Lesson 8

And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also, Christ did not exalt himself to be made high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "You are my Son, this day have I begotten you;" as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, after to the order of Melchizedek." In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard for his godly fear. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and, having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

Responsory 8 *Velum templi*

The veil of the temple was torn in two,
*And the earth shook, and the thief from the cross cried out,
Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom.*

The rocks were split, the tombs were opened,
and many bodies of the saints who slept were raised:
*And the earth shook, and the thief from the cross cried out,
Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom.*

Lesson 9

But when Christ came as a high priest of the good things that are to come, then, through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), he entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls, with the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify your

conscience from dead works to serve the living God. Therefore, he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.

Responsory 9 *Sepulto Domino*

When the Lord was buried, they sealed the tomb,
rolling a great stone to the door of the tomb; and they stationed soldiers to guard him.

The chief priest gathered before Pilate, and petitioned him:
And they stationed soldiers to guard him.

[*When this Responsory is sung rather than recited, repeat all that precedes the Verse:
When the Lord ... to guard him.*]

Lauds

Antiphon 10

God did not spare his own Son, but delivered him up for us all.

Psalm 63 *Deus, Deus meus*

- 1 O God, you are my God; *
early will I seek you.
- 2 My soul thirsts for you, my flesh also longs after you, *
in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
- 3 Thus I have looked upon you in your holy place, *
that I might behold your power and glory.
- 4 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; *
my lips shall praise you.
- 5 As long as I live I will magnify you, *
and lift up my hands in your Name.
- 6 My soul shall be satisfied, as with marrow and fatness, *
when my mouth praises you with joyful lips.

- 7 When I remember you on my bed, *
I meditate on you in the watches of the night.
- 8 Because you have been my helper, *
therefore under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- 9 My soul clings to you; *
your right hand has upheld me.
- 10 Those who seek to destroy my life *
shall go down into the earth.
- 11 Let them fall upon the edge of the sword, *
that they may be a portion for jackals.
- 12 But the King shall rejoice in God;
all those who swear by him shall be commended, *
for the mouth of those who speak lies shall be stopped.

Antiphon: God did not spare his own Son, but delivered him up for us all.

Antiphon 11

He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and he opened not his mouth.

Psalm 90 *Domine, refugium*

- 1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the earth and the world were made, *
you are God from everlasting, and world without end.
- 3 You turn man back to the dust; *
you say, "Return, O children of men."
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are as yesterday, *
even as a day that is past.
- 5 You scatter them as a night-watch that comes quickly to an end; *
they are even as a dream and fade away.

- 6 They are like the grass, which in the morning is green, *
but in the evening is dried up and withered.
- 7 For we consume away in your displeasure *
and are afraid at your wrathful indignation.
- 8 You have set our misdeeds before you, *
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
- 9 For when you are angry, all our days are gone; *
we bring our years to an end, as a tale that is told.
- 10 The days of our life are seventy years,
and though some be so strong that they come to eighty years, *
yet is their span but labor and sorrow; so soon it passes away,
and we are gone.
- 11 But who regards the power of your wrath, *
and who considers the fierceness of your anger?
- 12 So teach us to number our days, *
that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.
- 13 Turn again, O Lord, and tarry not; *
be gracious unto your servants.
- 14 O satisfy us with your mercy in the morning; *
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.
- 15 Comfort us again, according to the measure of the days that you have
afflicted us, *
and for the years in which we have suffered adversity.
- 16 Show your servants your work *
and their children your glory.
- 17 And may the grace of the Lord our God be upon us; *
prosper the work of our hands; O prosper our handiwork.

Antiphon: He was led like a lamb to the slaughter,
and he opened not his mouth.

Antiphon 12

They shall mourn for him as one mourns for an only child;
for the Lord, who is without sin, is slain.

Psalm 143 *Domine, exaudi*

- 1 Hear my prayer, O Lord, and consider my supplications; *
hearken to me, for your truth and righteousness' sake.
- 2 Enter not into judgment with your servant, *
for in your sight shall no one living be justified.
- 3 For the enemy has persecuted my soul;
he has smitten my life down to the ground; *
he has laid me in the darkness,
like those who have been long dead.
- 4 Therefore my spirit faints within me, *
and my heart within me is desolate.
- 5 Yet I remember the time past; I muse upon all your works; *
indeed, I meditate on the works of your hands.
- 6 I stretch forth my hands to you; *
my soul gasps for you as a thirsty land.
- 7 Hear me, O Lord, and very soon, for my spirit grows faint; *
hide not your face from me, lest I be like those who go down
into the pit.
- 8 O let me hear your loving-kindness in the morning,
for in you have I put my trust; *
show me the way that I should walk in, for I lift up my soul
unto you.
- 9 Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies, *
for I flee unto you to hide me.
- 10 Teach me to do the thing that pleases you, for you are my God; *
let your loving Spirit lead me forth into the land
of righteousness.

11 Revive me, O Lord, for your Name's sake; *
and for your righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble.

12 Of your goodness slay my enemies, *
and destroy all those who afflict my soul, for I am your servant.

Antiphon: They shall mourn for him as one mourns for an only child;
for the Lord, who is without sin, is slain.

Antiphon 13

From the gates of hell, O Lord, deliver my soul.

The Song of Hezekiah *Isaiah 38:10-20*

In my despair I said,

“In the quiet of my days I must depart; *

I am consigned to the gates of Sheol for the rest of my years.”

I said, “I shall not see the LORD, the LORD in the land of the living; *

I shall look on man no more among the inhabitants of the world.”

My dwelling is plucked up and removed from me *

like a shepherds tent;

like a weaver I have rolled up my life; *

he cuts me off from the loom.

from day to night you bring me to an end; *

I calmed myself until morning;

like a lion he breaks all my bones; *

from day to night you bring me to an end.

Like a swallow or a crane I chirp; *

I moan like a dove.

My eyes are weary with looking upward. *

O Lord, I am oppressed; be my pledge of safety!

What shall I say? For he has spoken to me, *

and he himself has done it.

I walk slowly all my years *

because of the bitterness of my soul.

O Lord, by these things men live, and in all these is the life of my spirit. *

Oh restore me to health and make me live!

Behold, it was for my welfare that I had great bitterness; *
but in love you have delivered my life from the pit of destruction,
for you have cast all my sins behind your back.
For Sheol does not thank you; death does not praise you; *
those who go down to the pit do not hope for you faithfulness.
The living, the living, he thanks you, as I do this day; *
the father makes known to the children your faithfulness.
The LORD will save me, *
and we will play my music on stringed instruments
all the days of our lives, at the house of the LORD.

Antiphon: From the gates of hell, O Lord, deliver my soul.

Antiphon 14

O Death, I will be your death; O Grave,
I will be your destruction.

Psalm 150 *Laudate Domi*

- 1 Praise the LORD. Praise God in his holiness; *
praise him in the firmament of his power.
- 2 Praise him for his mighty acts; *
praise him for his excellent greatness.
- 3 Praise him with the sound of the trumpet; *
Praise him upon the lyre and harp.
- 4 Praise him with the timbrels and dances; *
praise him upon the strings and pipe.
- 5 Praise him with the resounding cymbals; *
praise him with the loud cymbals.
- 6 Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. *
O praise the Lord.

Antiphon: O Death, I will be your death;
O Grave, I will be your destruction.

V. My flesh also shall rest in hope:

R. You will not let your holy one see corruption.

All stand. During the singing of the following Canticle, the candles at the Altar, and all other lights in the church (except the one remaining at the top of the triangular candlestick), are extinguished.

Antiphon

Now the women sitting at the tomb made lamentation,
weeping for the Lord.

Benedictus *The Song of Zechariah (Luke 1:68-79)*

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.

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 in the shadow of death, *

 and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; *

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Antiphon: Now the women sitting at the tomb made lamentation,
weeping for the Lord.

*After the Canticle, during the repetition of the Antiphon, the remaining candle is taken from
the stand and hidden beneath or behind the Altar, or in some other convenient place.*

All kneel for the singing of the following anthem Christus factus est

Christ for us became obedient unto death, even death on a cross;
therefore God has highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the Name
which is above every name.

A brief silence is observed.

*The following Psalm is then said quietly. If it is sung, it is customary to monotone alternate
verses.*

Psalm 51 *Miserere mei, Deus*

- 1 Have mercy upon me, O God, in your great goodness; *
according to the multitude of your mercies wipe away my
offences.
- 2 Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I acknowledge my faults, *
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned, and done this evil in your sight, *
so that you are justified in your sentence, and blameless in your
judgment.
- 5 Behold, I was brought forth in wickedness, *
and in sin my mother conceived me.
- 6 But behold, you desire truth in the inward parts *

and shall make me understand wisdom secretly.

- 7 You shall purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; *
you shall wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- 8 You shall make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the bones which you have broken may rejoice.
- 9 Turn your face from my sins, *
and blot out all my misdeeds.
- 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 11 Cast me not away from your presence, *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 12 O give me the comfort of your help again, *
and sustain me with your willing Spirit.
- 13 Then shall I teach your ways unto the wicked, *
and sinners shall return unto you.
- 14 Deliver me from blood-guilt, O God, the God of my salvation, *
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.
- 15 O Lord, open my lips, *
and my mouth shall show forth your praise.
- 16 For you desire no sacrifice, or else I would give it to you; *
but you delight not in burnt-offerings.
- 17 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; *
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you shall not despise.
- 18 O be favorable and gracious unto Zion; *
may you build up the walls of Jerusalem.
- 19 Then you shall be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness,
with the burnt-offerings and oblations; *
then shall they offer young bullocks upon your altar.

The officiant says the Collect without the chant, and without the usual conclusion.

Almighty God, we beseech you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross.

Nothing further is said; but a noise is made, and the remaining candle is brought from its hiding place and replaced on the stand. By its light the ministers and people depart in silence.