



MARCH 27, 2024 • 8:00 PM
TENEBRAE SERVICE



Tenebræ is the Latin for “darkness.” This service - originally the combined offices of Matins and Lauds on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday - takes its name from the responsory, *Tenebræ factæ sunt*, “darkness was wrought.”

Lamentations is a small psalter of communal laments over Jerusalem, following its destruction by the Babylonians in 587 BC. The first four chapters are alphabetic acrostics (with a stanza for each of the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet), and the fifth has the same number

of verses as the alphabet.

The gradual extinction of all the lights in the Cathedral symbolizes the temporary triumph of the prince of darkness over the Light of the World, and the loud noise, or *strepitus*, at the conclusion of the service, suggests the earthquake described in the Passion narratives.

The single candle left burning is the symbol and promise of Christ's triumph over death and darkness. -Paul Thornock

PROCESSION | *Pange lingua gloriosi* *Please stand as the procession enters the Cathedral.*

Sing, my tongue, the Savior's glory: Tell his triumph far and wide; Tell aloud the famous story Of his body crucified; How upon the cross a victim, Vanquishing in death, he died.

Faithful cross, O tree all beauteous! Tree all peerless and divine, Not a grove on earth can show us Such a flow'r and leaf as thine. Sweet the nails, and sweet the wood, Laden with so sweet a load!

Eating of the tree forbidden, Humans sank in Satan's snare, When our pitying Creator Did this second tree prepare;

Destined, many ages later, That first evil to repair.

Lofty tree, bend down your branches, To embrace your sacred load; Oh, relax the native tension Of that all too rigid wood; Gently, gently bear the members Of your dying King and God.

Blessing, honor, everlasting, To the immortal Deity; To the Father, Son, and Spirit, Equal praises ever be; Glory through the earth and heaven, Trinity in Unity. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER *Please be seated.*

READING *Isaiah 53:2-3*

He grew up like a sapling before him,
like a shoot from the parched earth;
He had no majestic bearing to catch
our eye, no beauty to draw us to him.

He was spurned and avoided by men, a
man of suffering, knowing pain, like one
from whom you turn your face, spurned,
and we held him in no esteem.

RESPONSORY

Reader: We worship You, o Christ, and we praise You.

All: Because by Your holy cross You have redeemed the world.

PSALM 102



PSALM PRAYER

Please stand and in each instance remain standing until the candle is extinguished. Once the flame has been extinguished, please be seated.

LAMENTATIONS OF JEREMIAH 1:1-2

Here begins the Lamentation of Jeremiah the prophet.

ALEPH. How solidarity sits the city once filled with people! She who was great among the nations is now like a widow! Once a princess among the provinces, now a toiling slave.

BETH. She weeps incessantly in the night, her cheeks damp with tears. She has no one to comfort her from all her lovers; Her friends have all betrayed her and become her enemies.

Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.

SILENT PRAYER

Please stand.

RESPONSORY | *Tenebræ factæ sunt, Ingegneri*

Darkness fell when Jesus was crucified: Jesus cried with a loud voice and said,
and about the ninth hour Jesus cried Father, into thy hands I commend my
with a loud voice: “My God, my God, spirit. And he bowed his head and gave
why have you forsaken me?” And he up his spirit.
bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

PSALM 22 *Accurso*

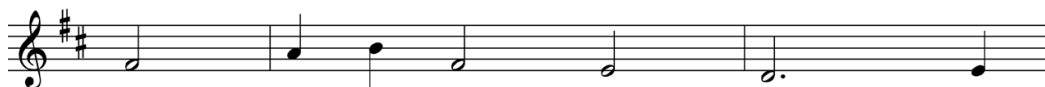


PSALM PRAYER

Please stand.

HYMN

Please remain standing.



1. My song is love un - known, My
 2. He came from his blest throne, Sal -
 3. Some - times they strew his way And
 4. Here might I stay and sing, No



Sav - ior's love for - me, Love to the love - less
 va - tion to be - stow, But all made strange, and
 his sweet prais - es sing, Re - sound - ing all the
 sto - ry so di - vine; Nev - er was love, dear



shown That they might love - ly be. O
 none The longed - for Christ would know. But
 day Ho - san - nas to their King. Then
 King, Nev - er was grief like thine. This



who am I That for my sake My
 O my friend, My friend in - deed, Who
 "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all they breathe, And
 is my friend, In whose sweet praise I



Lord shall take Frail flesh, and die?
 at my need His life did spend.
 for his death They thirst and cry.
 all my days Could glad - ly spend.

SILENT PRAYER

Please remain standing.

READING | *Isaiah 53:6-7*

We had all gone astray like sheep, all following our own way; But the LORD laid upon him the guilt of us all. Though harshly treated, he submitted and did

not open his mouth; Like a lamb led to slaughter or a sheep silent before shearers, he did not open his mouth.

RESPONSORY | *Crux fidelis, John IV of Portugal*

Reader: He has plunged me into darkness.

All: Like the dead, long forgotten.

LAMENTATIONS OF JEREMIAH 1:3-5

GHIMEL. Judah has gone into exile after oppression and harsh labor; she dwells among the nations, yet finds no rest; All her pursuers overtake her in the narrow straits.

DALETH. The roads to Zion mourn, empty of pilgrims to her feasts. All her gateways are desolate, her priests

groan; her young women grieve; her lot is bitter.

HETH. Her foes have come out on top, her enemies are secure; because the Lord has afflicted her for her many rebellions; her children have gone away, captives before the foe. Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.

SILENT PRAYER

Please stand.

RESPONSORY | *Crux fidelis, John IV of Portugal*

Faithful cross, above all other, one and blossom, none in fruit thy peer may be.
only noble tree: None in foliage, none in
Sweetest wood and sweetest iron, sweetest weight is hung on thee!

PSALM 69



Turn to the Lord in your need and you will live.

PSALM PRAYER

Please stand.

GOSPEL CANTICLE | *Nunc dimittis, Rocca, C.S.C., Victoria*

Please remain standing.

Protect us, Lord as we stay awake; go in peace, according to your word,
watch over us as we sleep, that awake for my eyes have seen your salvation,
we may keep watch with Christ and which you prepared in sight of all the
asleep, rest in his peace. peoples, a light for revelation to the

Now, Master, you may let your servant Israel. Gentiles, and glory for your people

SILENT PRAYER

*Please remain standing until the one remaining candle is
removed and the Cathedral is cast into complete darkness.*

STREPITUS

*All then make sustained noise with hand or book until the candle is returned.
When the candle returns, the Cathedral is silent and all are seated.*

PSALM 51 | *Miserere mei, Deus, Allegri*

Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness: according to the multitude of thy mercies do away mine offences. Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness: and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my faults: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified in thy saying, and clear when thou art judged.

Behold, I was shapen in wickedness: and in sin hath my mother conceived me. But lo, thou requirest truth in the inward parts: and shalt make me to understand wisdom secretly. Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness: that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.

Turn thy face from my sins: and put out all my misdeeds. Make me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit

within me. Cast me not away from thy presence: and take not thy holy Spirit from me. O give me the comfort of thy help again: and stablish me with thy free Spirit. Then shall I teach thy ways unto the wicked: and sinners shall be converted unto thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, thou that art the God of my health: and my tongue shall sing of thy righteousness.

Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord: and my mouth shall shew thy praise. For thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it thee: but thou delightest not in burnt-offerings. The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit: a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt thou not despise.

O be favourable and gracious unto Sion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem. Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with the burnt-offerings and oblations: then shall they offer young bullocks upon thine altar.

All depart in silence.