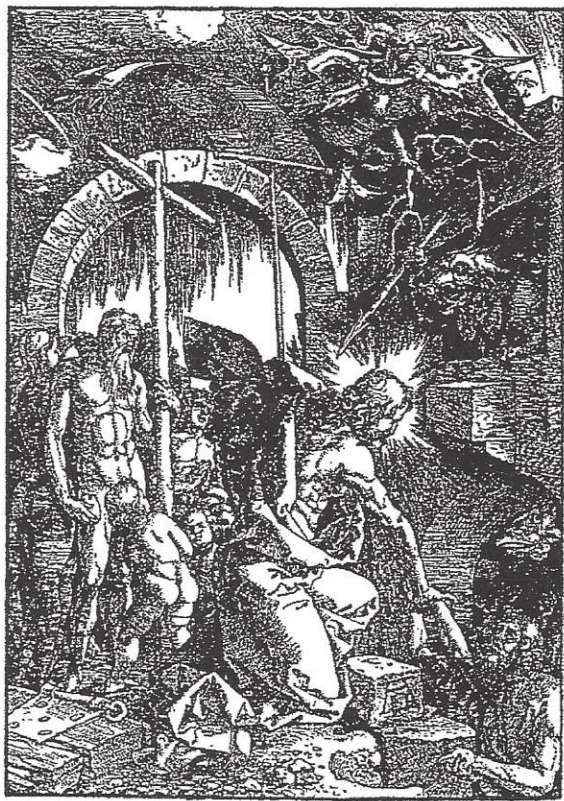


Holy Saturday

Tenebrae Office of Darkness



"Christ's Descent into Hell"
Albrecht Dürer, 1510

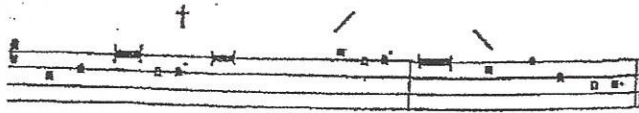
Office of Readings

Invitatory

Priest: Lord, open my lips.

All: And my mouth will proclaim your praise.

Gregorian Tone-VIII-g



Antiphon: *Come, let us worship Christ,
who for our sake suffered death and was buried.*

Come, let us sing to the Lord
and shout with joy to the Rock who saves us.
Let us approach him with praise and thanksgiving
and sing joyful songs to the Lord. **(All repeat antiphon)**

The Lord is God, the mighty God,
the great king over all the gods.
He holds in his hands the depths of the earth
and the highest mountains as well.
He made the sea; it belongs to him,
the dry land, too, for it was formed by his hands. **(All repeat antiphon)**

Come, then, let us bow down and worship,
bending the knee before the Lord, our maker.
For he is our God and we are his people,
the flock he shepherds. **(All repeat antiphon)**

Today listen to the voice of the Lord:

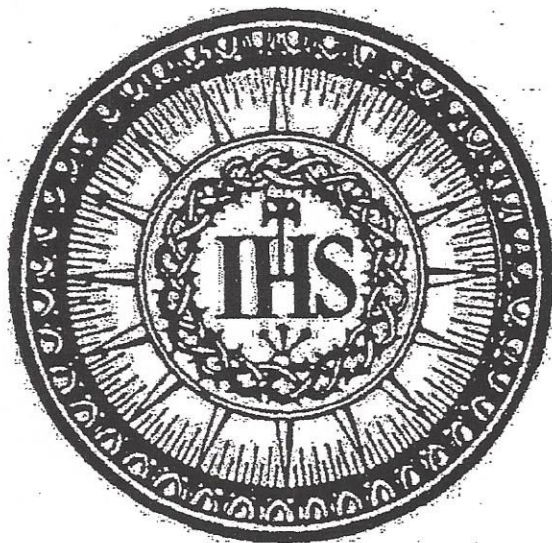
Do not grow stubborn, as your fathers did in the wilderness,
when at Meribah and Massah they challenged me and provoked me,
although they had seen all of my works. **(All repeat antiphon)**

Forty years I endured that generation.

I said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray
and they do not know my ways."

So I swore in my anger, "They shall not enter into my rest."

(All repeat antiphon)



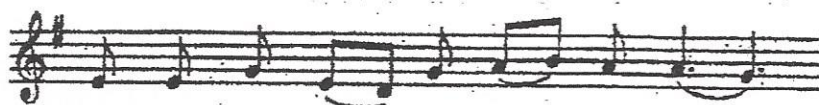
Hymn – Great Silence Reigns



1. Great si - lence reigns on earth this day
2. But Je - sus gone to dark - est hell
3. His bod - y's ves - sel smashed a - part
4. Thus in that dark - ness Light shines out
5. The bonds and gates of hell give way
6. O may we, Lord, who yet must die,



1. Great lone - li - ness em - brac - es all
2. Has en - tered on the Sab - bath rest
3. His life and love now flood the world
4. And men from A - dam to the last
5. A great pro - ces - sion comes to sight
6. Who pray a - wait - ing the great feast



1. For death has had its ruth - less way
2. In which he with his Fa - ther still
3. And pen - e - trat - ing to its heart
4. Raise up their hands in joy and shout
5. Who leads them is him - self the Way
6. Of your a - ris - ing from the dead



1. And caught the Lord and Love of all.
2. Works might - y won - ders for the blest.
3. A - mong all men whirl up and swirl.
4. Be - hold the Lord the First the Last.
5. Their goal him - self in God's full Light.
6. Be joined with you in end - less peace.

Psalmody

Gregorian Tone VIII-g



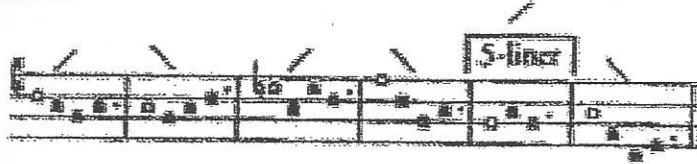
Antiphon: *In peace, I will lie down and sleep.*

Psalm 4

- I. When I call, answer me, O God of justice;
from anguish you released me; have mercy and hear me!
- II. O men, how long will your hearts be closed,
will you love what is futile and seek what is false?
- I. It is the Lord who grants favors to those whom he loves;
the Lord hears me whenever I call him.
- II. Fear him; do not sin: ponder on your bed and be still.
Make justice your sacrifice and trust in the Lord.
- I. "What can bring happiness?" many say.
Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord.
- II. You put into my heart a great joy
than they have from abundance of corn and new wine.
- I. I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Antiphon: *In peace, I will lie down and sleep.*

Meinrad Tone I



Antiphon: *My body / shall rest in hope.*

Psalm 16

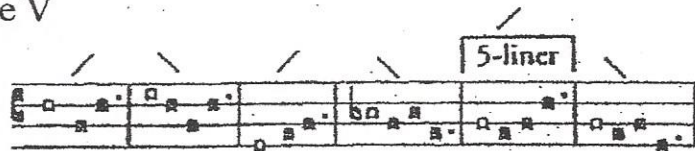
- I. Preserve me God, I take refuge in you.
I say to the Lord:
"You are my God.
My happiness lies in you alone."
- II. He has put into my heart a marvelous love
for the faithful ones who dwell in his land.
Those who choose other God's increase their sorrows.
Never will I offer their offerings of blood. +
Never will I take their name upon my lips.
- I. O Lord it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize.
The lot marked out for me is my delight;
welcome indeed the heritage that falls to me!
- II. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel
who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight;
since he is at my right hand I shall stand firm.

I. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead
nor let your beloved know decay.

II. You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand
happiness forever.

Antiphon: My body / shall rest in hope.

Meirad Tone V



Antiphon: Lift high the ancient portals. / The king of glory enters.

Psalm 24

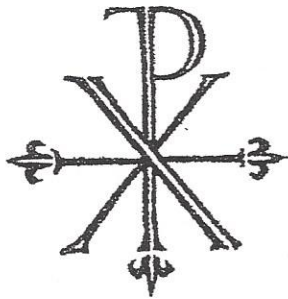
- I. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm.
- II. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things,
who has not sworn
as to deceive his neighbor.

I. He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob.

II. O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher ancient doors.
Let him enter the king of glory!
Who is the king of glory?
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,
the Lord, the valiant in war.

I. O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher ancient doors.
Let him enter the king of glory!
Who is he, the king of glory?
He, the Lord of armies,
he is the king of glory.

Antiphon: *Lift high the ancient portals. / The king of glory enters.*



Verse: *Take up my cause and rescue me.
Be true to your word, give me life.*

First Reading – From the Letter to the Hebrews (4:1-13)
Let us strive to enter the Lord's rest.

Responsory – Matthew 27:66, 60, 62

They buried the Lord and sealed the tomb by rolling a large stone in front of it.

--They stationed soldiers there to guard it.

The chief priests asked Pilate for a guard.

--They stationed soldiers there to guard it.

Second Reading – From an ancient homily on Holy Saturday
(PG 43, 439, 451, 462-463)
The Lord descends into hell

Responsory – 1 Pt. 1:18-19; Eph. 2:18; 1 Jn. 1:7

Our shepherd, the source of the water of life, has died. The sun was darkened when he passed away. But now man's captor is made captive.

--This is the day when our Savior broke through the gates of death.

He has destroyed the barricades of hell, overthrown the sovereignty of the devil.

--This is the day when our Savior broke through the gates of hell.

The Lamentations of the Prophet Jeremiah

I

From the Lamentations of Jeremiah the Prophet

Heth. The favors of the Lord are not exhausted, his mercies are not spent;

Heth. They are renewed each morning, so great is his faithfulness.

Heth. My portion is the Lord, says my soul; therefore will I hope in him.

Teth. Good is the Lord to one who waits for him, to the soul that seeks him;

Teth. It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the Lord.

Teth. It is good for a man to bear the yoke from his youth.

Jod. Let him sit alone and in silence, when it is laid upon him.

Jod. Let hi put his mouth to the dust; there may yet be hope.

Jod. Let him offer his cheek to be struck, let him be filled with disgrace.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God

Responsory:

Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and whilst he was tortured, he opened not his mouth. He was delivered unto death

--that he might give life to his people.

He delivered himself up to death, and was counted among the wicked;

--that he might give life to his people

II

Aleph. How tarnished is the gold, how changed the noble metal;
how the sacred stones lie strewn at every street corner!

Beth. Sion's precious sons, fine gold their counterpart, now worth no more than earthen jars made by the hands of a potter!

Ghimel. Even the jackals bare their breast and suckle their young;
the daughter of my people has become as cruel as the ostrich in the desert.

Daleth. The tongue of the suckling cleaves to the roof of its mouth in
thirst; the babes cry for food, but there is no one to give it to them.

He. Those accustomed to dainty food perish in the streets;
those brought up in purple now cling to the ash heaps.

Vau. The punishment of the daughter of my people is greater than the
penalty of Sodom, which was overthrown in an instant without the turning
of a hand.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.

Responsory:

*Arise, O Jerusalem, and put off your garments of joy; put on ashes and
sackcloth,*

--For in you was slain the Savior of Israel.

*Shed your tears like a torrent, day and night, and let not the apple of your
eye be dry.*

--For in you was slain the Savior of Israel.

III

Here begins the Prayer of Jeremiah the Prophet.

Remember, O Lord, what has befallen us, look and see our disgrace: our
inherited lands have been turned over to strangers, our homes to
foreigners. We have become orphans, fatherless; widowed are our
mothers. The water we drink we must buy, for our own wood we must
pay. On our necks is the yoke of those who drive us; we are worn out, but
allowed no rest. To Egypt we submitted, and to Assyria, to fill our need of
bread. Our fathers, who sinned, are no more; but we bear their guilt.
Slaves rule over us; there is no one to rescue us from their hands. At the
peril of our lives we bring in our sustenance, in the face of the desert heat;

our skin is shriveled up, as though by a furnace, with the searing blasts of famine. The wives of Sion were ravished by the enemy, the maidens in the cities of Judah.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, be converted to the Lord your God.

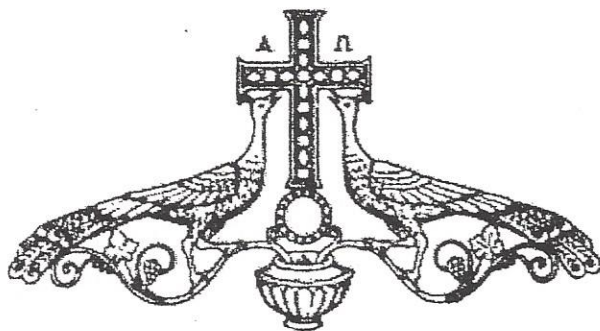
Responsory:

Mourn as a virgin, O my people; you shepherds, weep in ashes and sackcloth.

--For the day of the Lord is come, the great and exceedingly bitter day.

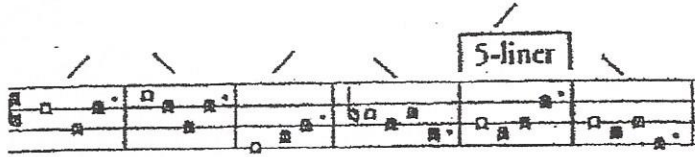
Gird yourselves, you priests; and mourn, you ministers of the altar, sprinkle yourselves with ashes,

--For the day of the Lord is come, the great and exceedingly bitter day.



Morning Prayer Psalmody

Meinrad Tone V



Antiphon: *Though sinless, the Lord has been put to death.
The world is in mourning as for an only son.*

Psalm 64

- I. Hear my voice, O God, as I complain,
guard my life from the dread of the foe.
Hide me from the band of the wicked,
from the throng of those who do evil.
- II. They sharpen their tongues like swords;
they aim bitter words like arrows
to shoot at the innocent from ambush,
shooting them suddenly and recklessly.
- I. They scheme their evil course;
they conspire to lay secret snares.
They say: "Who will see us?
Who can search out our crimes?"

II. He will search who searches the mind
and knows the depth of the heart.
God has not shot them with his arrow
and dealt them sudden wounds.
Their own tongue has brought them to ruin
and all who see them mock.

I. Then will all men fear;
they will tell what God has done.
They will understand God's deeds.
The just will rejoice in the Lord
and fly to him for refuge.
All the upright hearts will glory.

Antiphon: *Though sinless, the Lord has been put to death.
The world is in mourning as for an only son.*

Meinrad Tone VII



Antiphon: *From the jaws of hell, / Lord, rescue my soul.*

Isaiah 38:10-14, 17-20

I. Once I said,
"In the noontime of life I must depart!
To the gates of the nether world I hall be consigned,
for the rest of my years."

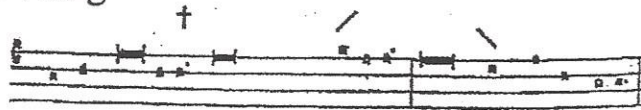
- II. I said, "I shall see the Lord no more
in the land of the living.
No longer shall I behold my fellow men
among those who dwell in the world."
- I. My dwelling, like a shepherd's tent,
is struck down and borne away from me;
you have folded up my life, like a weaver
who severs the last thread.
- II. Day and night you give me over to torment;
I cry out until the dawn.
Like a lion he breaks all my bones;
day and night you give me over to torment.
- I. Like a swallow I utter shrill cries;
I moan like a dove.
My eyes grow weak, gazing heaven-ward:
O Lord, I am in straits; be my surety!
- II. You have preserved my life
from the pit of destruction,
when you cast behind your back
all my sins.
- I. For it is not the nether world that gives you thanks
nor death that praises you;
neither do those who go down into the pit
await your kindness.

II. The living, the living give you thanks,
as I do today.
Fathers declare to their sons,
O God, your faithfulness.

I. The Lord is our savior,
we shall sing to stringed instruments
in the house of the Lord
all the days of our life.

Antiphon: *From the jaws of hell, / Lord, rescue my soul.*

Gregorian Tone VIII-g



Antiphon: *I was dead, but now I live forever,
and I hold the keys of death and of hell.*

Psalm 150

- I. Praise God in his holy place,
praise him in his mighty heavens.
Praise him for his powerful deeds,
praise his surpassing greatness.
- II. O praise him with sound of trumpet,
praise him with lute and harp.
Praise him with timbrel and dance,
praise him with strings and pipes.

- I. O praise him with resounding cymbals,
praise him with clashing of cymbals.
Let everything that lives and that breathes
give praise to the Lord.

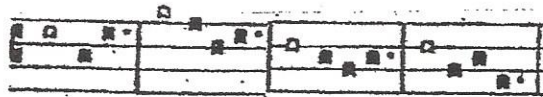
Antiphon: *I was dead, but now I live forever,
and I hold the keys of death and of hell.*

Reading – Hosea 5:15b-16:2

Responsory - *For our sake Christ was obedient, accepting even death,
death on a cross. Therefore God raise him on high and gave him the name
above all other names.*

Canticle of Zechariah

Meinrad Tone VII



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

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 the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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

Intercessions

All: Kyrie eleison.

The Lord's Prayer

Collect

Blessing and Dismissal

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: May Almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Priest: Let us bless the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

