

LENTEN COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

2018

INTRODUCTORY RITES



HYMN

Take up your cross, the Savior said,
If you would my disciple be;
Deny yourself, the world forsake,
And humbly follow after me.

Take up your cross, be not ashamed!
Let not disgrace your spirit fill!
For God himself endured to die
Upon a cross, on Calv'ry's hill.

Take up your cross, which gives you strength,
Which makes your trembling spirit brave:
'Twill guide you to a better home,
And lead to victory o'er the grave.

Take up your cross and follow Christ,
Nor think till death to lay it down,
For only they who bear the cross
May hope to wear the glorious crown.

Text: Charles W. Everest, 1814-1877, alt.

Suggested LM Tunes:

ERHALT UNS HERR (*Take Up Your Cross, Again We Keep This Solemn Fast*)
WINCHESTER NEW (*On Jordan's Bank*)
OLD HUNDREDTH (*All People That on Earth Do Dwell*)
DUKE STREET (*I Know That My Redeemer Lives*)

GREETING

After the song the presider greets the people:

Presider:

Grace, mercy and peace
from God the Father
and from Jesus Christ his Son
be with you in truth and love.

All: Amen

Then the presider or another minister speaks briefly about the importance and purpose of the celebration and the order of the service.

The faithful are briefly reminded that they are linked with each other in sin and in repentance so that each should take their calling to conversion as an occasion of grace for the whole community.

OPENING PRAYER

Presider:

Almighty and merciful Father,
send your Holy Spirit
to inspire and strengthen us,
so that by always carrying
the death of Jesus in our bodies
we may also show forth the power of his risen life.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The following reading is found in the weekday Lectionary, Year II at [220], Thursday after Ash Wednesday.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 30: 15-20

Behold, I set before you the blessing and the curse. (Deut. 11:26)

Reader: A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people:

"Today I have set before you
life and prosperity, death and doom.
If you obey the commandments of the LORD, your God,
which I enjoin on you today,
loving him, and walking in his ways,
and keeping his commandments, statutes and decrees,
you will live and grow numerous,
and the LORD, your God,
will bless you in the land you are entering to occupy.
If, however, you turn away your hearts and will not listen,
but are led astray and adore and serve other gods,
I tell you now that you will certainly perish;
you will not have a long life
on the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and occupy.
I call heaven and earth today to witness against you:
I have set before you life and death,
the blessing and the curse.
Choose life, then,
that you and your descendants may live, by loving the LORD, your God,
heeding his voice, and holding fast to him.
For that will mean life for you,
a long life for you to live on the land that the LORD swore
he would give to your fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob."

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

*The psalm should be sung.
The following suggested psalm is the proper psalm for the Sixth Sunday of Ordinary
Time, cycle "C".*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 1: 1-2, 3, 4 and 6

R. Blessed are they who hope in the Lord. (40:5a)

Blessed the man who follows not
the counsel of the wicked
Nor walks in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the company of the insolent,
But delights in the law of the LORD
and meditates on his law day and night.

R. Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.

He is like a tree
planted near running water,
That yields its fruit in due season,
and whose leaves never fade.
Whatever he does, prospers.

R. Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.

Not so the wicked, not so;
they are like chaff which the wind drives away.
For the LORD watches over the way of the just,
but the way of the wicked vanishes.

R. Blessed are they who hope in the Lord

LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

If the acclamation is not sung, it is omitted.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Repent, says the Lord;
the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

The following reading is found in the weekday lectionary, Year II at [220], Thursday after Ash Wednesday.

GOSPEL

Luke 9: 22-25

Whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.

Deacon: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Deacon: + A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples:

"The Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised."

Then he said to all,

"If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.

What profit is there for one to gain the whole world yet lose or forfeit himself?"

Deacon: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

The assembly is now invited to make an examination of conscience.

This may be done in silence or by using the examination of conscience below.

One reader alone may read the questions or two readers might alternate.

Allow a brief period of silence between each one.

Reader(s):

- Do I look for opportunities to share the Good News of Christ in my daily life, especially with my family in friends?
- Do I look for good in others, or am I quick to find fault? Do I rejoice in the success of others?
- Do I love all people freely? Do I work to overcome my own prejudices, and encourage others to do the same?
- Do I respect the reputations and property of others? Do I treat others fairly, the way that I would like to be treated?
- Am I honest and just in business dealings? Do I keep my word?
- Do I actively promote the respect of all human life, from conception to natural death?
- Do I actively promote the rights of those rejected by society, especially the poor and the lonely?
- Do I use my time, talent, and treasure for the good of others, especially those in need?
- Do I truly forgive others, and work to reconcile relationships that have been wounded?
- Am I willing to give up hate, and pray for my enemies, especially those who seem to make my life more difficult?
- Do I use my free time constructively? Do I use it to strengthen relationships with God and others? Do I use it to build God's kingdom on earth?

If read aloud, this Examination of Conscience should conclude with a period of silence so that each person may personally examine his or her conscience.

RITE OF RECONCILIATION

GENERAL CONFESSION OF SINS

Presider:

Directing the assembly:

Please kneel.

Christ our Lord bore our sins upon the cross
and by his suffering has brought us healing,
so that we live for God and are dead to sin.
Let us pray with humility and trust.

After a brief period of silence, all say together:

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done
and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

LITANY OF REPENTANCE

Presider:

Directing the assembly:

Please stand.

Christ our Savior is our advocate with the Father:
with humble hearts let us ask him to forgive us our sins
and cleanse us from every stain.

Reader: Our response: *Lord, have mercy.*

All: Lord, have mercy.

- You gave yourself up for our sins to save us from this evil world.
- You destroyed death and gave light to life.
- You became the source of salvation for all who obey you.
- You gave your apostles the keys to the kingdom of heaven, the power to bind and to loose.
- You died that those who believe in you may not perish but have eternal life.
- You were sent by the Father, not to judge the world but to save it
- You invite all who labor and are burdened to come to you and be refreshed.

Presider:

Now, in obedience to Christ himself,
let us join in prayer to the Father,
asking him to forgive us as we forgive others.

All say or sing together:

Our Father...

The presider concludes:

Presider:

Deliver us, Father, from every evil
as we unite ourselves
through penance with the saving passion of your Son.
Grant us a share
in the joy of the resurrection of Jesus
who is Lord for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son +
and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Confessors process to their stations during the song.

HYMN

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

To Christ, who won for sinners grace
By bitter grief and anguish sore,
Be praise from all the ransomed race
Forever and forevermore.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Suggested LM Tunes: ROCKINGHAM (*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*)
 WINCHESTER NEW (*On Jordan's Bank*)
 OLD HUNDREDTH (*All People That on Earth Do Dwell*)
 DUKE STREET (*I Know That My Redeemer Lives*)

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Then the penitents go to the priests designated for individual confession, and confess their sins. Each one receives and accepts a fitting act of satisfaction and is absolved. After hearing the confession and offering suitable counsel, the priest extends his hands over the penitent's head (or at least extends his right hand) and gives him or her absolution. Everything else which is customary in individual confession is omitted.

After receiving absolution the penitents may return to the main body of the church and spend some time in private prayer.

Soft, unobtrusive instrumental music may be played for a time during the transition to individual confession.