

# LENTEN COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

## 2021

### INTRODUCTORY RITES

#### HYMN

Have mercy, Lord, on us,  
For you are ever kind;  
Though we have sinned before you, Lord,  
Your mercy let us find.

Lord, wash away our guilt,  
And cleanse us from our sin;  
For we confess our wrongs, and see  
How great our guilt has been.

Blot out our many sins,  
Remove them from your view;  
Clean hearts create for us, O God;  
Our spirits now renew.

The joy your grace can give  
Let us again obtain,  
And may your Spirit's strong support  
Our contrite hearts sustain.

Text: Psalm 51; Nahum Tate, 1652-1715, and Nicholas Brady, 1659-1726, alt.  
Tune: SOUTHWELL, SM; William Daman, the Psalmes of David, 1579, alt.

Most hymn tunes marked "SM" (Short Meter) will fit with this text.

Examples include:

SWABIA (*'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here*)

FESTAL SONG (*Rise Up O Men Of God*)

#### GREETING

#### OPENING PRAYER

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Sirach 27:30 – 28:7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 90: 12-13, 14-15, 16-17

**(R.) Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy.**

LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*If the acclamation is not sung, it is omitted.*

GOSPEL

Matthew 18: 21-35

HOMILY

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

## RITE OF RECONCILIATION

GENERAL CONFESSION OF SINS

*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

**(R.) Forgive us as we forgive.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

## INVITATION TO INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

## PRAYER AND BLESSING

*Confessors process to their stations during the song.*

## HYMN

There's a wideness in God's mercy  
Like the wideness of the sea;  
There's a kindness in God's justice  
Which is more than liberty.  
There is plentiful redemption  
In the blood that has been shed;  
There is joy for all the members  
In the sorrows of the Head.

For the love of God is broader  
Than the measures of our mind;  
And the heart of the Eternal  
Is most wonderfully kind.  
If our love were but more faithful,  
We should rest upon God's word;  
And our lives would be thanksgiving  
For the goodness of our Lord.

Troubled souls, why will you scatter  
Like a crowd of frightened sheep?  
Foolish hearts, why will you wander  
From a love so true and deep?  
There is welcome for the sinner,  
And more graces for the good;  
There is mercy with the Savior;  
There is healing in His blood.

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

Text: Fredrick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt.

Tune: IN BABILONE, 8 7 8 7 D, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenlieties en Contredansen*, c.1710

## 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 but are otherwise dismissed.*

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