

HOLY SATURDAY

OFFICE OF READINGS

INVITATORY PSALM

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

PSALM 95

A CALL TO PRAISE GOD

Encourage each other daily while it is still today (Hebrews 3:13).

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.

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

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.

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

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.

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

Today, listen to the voice of the Lord:
Do not grow stubborn, as your fathers did in the wilderness,
when at Meriba and Massah they challenged me and provoked me,
Although they had seen all of my works.

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

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."

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

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

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

HYMN

Thirty years among us dwelling,
His appointed time fulfilled,
Born for this he meets his passion,
This indeed he freely willed;
On the cross the Lamb is lifted
Where his lifeblood shall be spilled.

2. He endured the nails, the spitting,
Vinegar and spear and reed;
From that holy body broken,
Blood and water forth proceed:
Earth and stars and sky and ocean,
By that flood from stain are freed.

3. Faithful Cross! Above all others,
One and only noble tree!
None in foliage, none in blossom,
None in fruit, your peer may be;
Precious wood and precious fast'ning,
Precious weight upheld in plea.

4. Bend your boughs, O Tree of glory!
Your relaxing sinews bend;
For a while the ancient rigor,

That your birth bestowed, suspend;
And the King of heav'nly beauty
On your bosom gently tend.

5. You alone were counted worthy
This world's ransom to sustain,
That a shipwrecked race forever
Might the port of refuge gain;
With the sacred blood anointed
Of the Lamb for sinners slain.

6. Praise and honor to the Father;
Praise and honor to the Son,
Praise and honor to the Spirit,
Ever three and ever one;
Consubstantial, coeternal,
While unending ages run. Amen.

ANTIPHON 1

In peace, I will lie down and sleep.

PSALM 4

THANKSGIVING

*The resurrection of Christ was God's supreme and wholly marvelous work
(Saint Augustine).*

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

as it was in the beginning, is now, ★
and will be for ever. Amen.

ANTIPHON 2

My body shall rest in hope.

PSALM 16

GOD IS MY PORTION, MY HERITAGE

*The Father raised up Jesus from the dead and broke the bonds of death
(Acts 2:24).*

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you. †
I say to the Lord: "You are my God. ★
My happiness lies in you alone."
He has put into my heart a marvelous love ★
for the faithful ones who dwell in his land.
Those who choose other gods increase their sorrows. †
Never will I offer their offerings of blood. ★
Never will I take their name upon my lips.
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!
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.
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.
You will show me the path of life, †
the fullness of joy in your presence, ★
at your right hand happiness for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, ★
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, ★
and will be for ever. Amen.

ANTIPHON 3

Lift high the ancient portals. The King of glory enters.

PSALM 24

THE LORD'S ENTRY INTO HIS TEMPLE

Christ opened heaven for us in the humanity he assumed (Saint Irenaeus).

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.

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 so as to deceive his neighbor.

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.

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.

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.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, ★

and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, ★

and will be for ever. Amen.

℣. Take up my cause and rescue me.

℟. Be true to your word, give me life.