

Morning Prayer for Holy Thursday
from the Liturgy of the Hours

Leader./ God, come to my assistance.

All./ Lord, make haste to help me.

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

Hymn – Take Up Your Cross

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, let not its weight
Fill your weak spirit with alarm;
His strength shall bear you up,
Shall brace your heart and nerve your arm.

Take up your cross then in his strength,
And ev'ry danger calmly brave,
To guide you to a better home,
And vict'ry over death and grave.

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

To you, great Lord, the One in three,
All praise for evermore ascend;
O grant us here below to see
The heav'nly life that knows no end.

Psalm 80

Antiphon 1: *Look, O Lord, and see my suffering.* Come quickly to my aid.

Leader./ O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
Mary./ you who lead Joseph's flock,
 shine forth from your cherubim throne
 upon Ephraim, Benjamin, Manasseh.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help.

Joseph./ God of hosts, bring us back;
 let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

M./ Lord God of hosts, how long
 will you frown on your people's plea?
 You have fed them with tears for their bread,
 and abundance of tears for their drink.
 You have made us the taunt of our neighbors,
 our enemies laugh us to scorn.

J./ God of hosts, bring us back;
 let your face shine on us, and we shall be saved.

M./ You brought a vine out of Egypt;
 to plant it you drove out the nations.
 Before it you cleared the ground;
 it took root and spread through the land.

J./ The mountains were covered with its shadow,
 the cedars of God with its boughs.
 It stretched out its branches to the sea,
 to the Great River it stretched out its shoots.

M./ Then why have you broken down its walls?
 It is plucked by all who pass by.
 It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
 devoured by the beasts of the field.

J./ God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit the vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted.
They have burnt it with fire and destroyed it.
May they perish at the frown of your face.

M./ May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name.

J./ God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

M./ Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:

J./ as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen.

Psalm-prayer

L./ Lord God, eternal shepherd, you so tend the vineyard you planted that now it extends its branches even to the farthest coast. Look down on your Church and come to us. Help us remain in your Son as branches on the vine, that, planted firmly in your love, we may testify before the whole world to your great power working everywhere.

Antiphon 1: *Look, O Lord, and see my suffering.* Come quickly to my aid.

Canticle – Isaiah 12:1-6

Antiphon 2: *God is my savior;* I trust in him and shall not fear.

L./ I give you thanks, O Lord;
M./ though you have been angry with me,
your anger has abated, and you have consoled me.

J./ God indeed is my savior;
I am confident and unafraid.
My strength and my courage is the Lord,
and he has been my savior.
With joy you will draw water
at the fountain of salvation, and say on that day:

M./ Give thanks to the Lord, acclaim his name;
among the nations make known his deeds,
proclaim how exalted is his name.

J./ Sing praise to the Lord for his glorious achievement;
let this be known throughout all the earth.
Shout with exultation, O city of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel!

M./ Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:

J./ as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen.

Antiphon 2: *God is my savior; I trust in him and shall not fear.*

Psalm 81

Antiphon 3: *The Lord has fed us with the finest wheat; he has filled us with honey from the rock.*

L./ Ring out your joy to God our strength,
M./ shout in triumph to the God of Jacob.

J./ Raise a song and sound the timbrel,
the sweet-sounding harp and the lute;
blow the trumpet at the new moon,
when the moon is full, on our feast.

M./ For this is Israel's law,
a command of the God of Jacob.
He imposed it as a rule on Joseph,
when he went out against the land of Egypt.

J./ A voice I did not know said to me:
"I freed your shoulder from the burden;
your hands were freed from the load.
You called in distress and I saved you.

M./ I answered, concealed in the storm cloud;
at the waters of Meribah I tested you.
Listen, my people, to my warning.
O Israel, if only you would heed!

J./ Let there be no foreign god among you.
no worship of an alien god.
I am the Lord your God,
who brought you from the land of Egypt.
Open wide your mouth and I will fill it.

M./ But my people did not heed my voice
and Israel would not obey,
so I left them in their stubbornness of heart
to follow their own designs.

J./ O that my people would heed me,
that Israel would walk in my ways!
At once I would subdue their foes,
turn my hand against their enemies.

M./ The Lord's enemies would cringe at their feet
and their subjection would last for ever.
But Israel I would feed with finest wheat
and fill them with honey from the rock."

J./ Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:

M./ as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen.

Psalm-prayer

L./ Lord God, open our mouths to proclaim your glory. Help us to leave sin behind
and to rejoice in professing your name.

Antiphon 3: *The Lord has fed us with the finest wheat; he has filled us with honey
from the rock.*

Reading: Hebrews 2:9-10

We see Jesus crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, that through
God's gracious will he might taste death for the sake of all men. Indeed, it was
fitting that when bringing many sons to glory God, for whom and through whom all
things exist, should make their leader in the work of salvation perfect through
suffering.

Homily

Responsory

L./ By your own blood, Lord, you brought us back to God.

A./ By your own blood, Lord, you brought us back to God.

L./ From every tribe, and tongue, and people and nation,

A./ you brought us back to God.

L./ Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

A./ By your own blood, Lord, you brought us back to God.

Canticle of Zechariah

Antiphon: *I have longed to eat this meal with you before I suffer.*

L./ Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;

M./ 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.

- J./ 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.
- M./ 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.
- J./ 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.
- M./ 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.
- J./ Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
- M./ as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen.

Antiphon: *I have longed* to eat this meal with you before I suffer.

Intercessions

The Father anointed Christ with the Holy Spirit to proclaim forgiveness to those in bondage. Let us humbly call upon the eternal priest:

– Lord, have mercy on us.

You went up to Jerusalem to suffer and so enter into your glory,
bring your Church to the Passover feast of heaven.

– Lord, have mercy on us.

You were lifted high on the cross and pierced by the soldier's lance,
heal our wounds.

– Lord, have mercy on us.

You made the cross the tree of life,
give its fruit to those reborn in baptism.

– Lord, have mercy on us.

On the cross you forgave the repentant thief,
forgive us our sins.

– Lord, have mercy on us.

Our Father...

Concluding Prayer

O God,
who anointed your Only Begotten Son
with the Holy Spirit
and made him Christ and Lord,
graciously grant
that, being made sharers in his consecration,
we may bear witness to your Redemption in the world.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Final Blessing