

Psalms, readings and collect

Date: 13th September – Sunday XXIV/Holy Cross (Sunday 4)

Obviously on Sundays, people will use the Act of Spiritual Communion; but for those who wish to say an evening office, provision is included here.

Office

Office hymn:

The royal banners forward go,
The Cross shines forth in mystic glow,
Where He in flesh, our flesh Who made,
Our sentence bore, our ransom paid.

On whose dear arms, so widely flung,
The weight of this world's ransom hung,
The price of humankind to pay
And spoil the spoiler of his prey.

Where deep for us the spear was dyed,
Life's torrent rushing from His side,
To wash us in that precious flood,
Where mingled water flowed and blood.

O Cross, our one reliance, hail!
So may thy power with us prevail
To give new virtue to the saint,
And pardon to the penitent.

Fulfilled is all that David told
In true prophetic song of old,
The universal Lord is He,
Who reigns and triumphs from the Tree.

To Thee, eternal Three in One,
Let homage meet by all be done:
Whom by Thy Cross Thou dost restore,
Preserve and govern evermore.

O Tree of beauty, Tree of Light,
O Tree with royal purples dight,
Elect on whose triumphal breast
Those holy limbs should find their rest!

Psalm:

(66) O BE joyful in God, all ye lands : sing praises unto the honour of his Name, make his praise to be glorious.

2 Say unto God, O how wonderful art thou in thy works : through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies be found liars unto thee.

3 For all the world shall worship thee : sing of thee, and praise thy Name.

4 O come hither, and behold the works of God : how wonderful he is in his doing toward the children of men.

5 He turned the sea into dry land : so that they went through the water on foot; there did we rejoice thereof.

6 He ruleth with his power for ever; his eyes behold the people : and such as will not believe shall not be able to exalt themselves.

7 O praise our God, ye people : and make the voice of his praise to be heard;

8 Who holdeth our soul in life : and suffereth not our feet to slip.

9 For thou, O God, hast proved us : thou also hast tried us, like as silver is tried.

10 Thou broughtest us into the snare : and laidest trouble upon our loins.

11 Thou sufferedst men to ride over our heads : we went through fire and water, and thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.

12 I will go into thine house with burnt-offerings: and will pay thee my vows, which I promised with my lips, and spake with my mouth, when I was in trouble.
13 I will offer unto thee fat burnt-sacrifices, with the incense of rams : I will offer bullocks and goats.
14 O come hither, and hearken, all ye that fear God : and I will tell you what he hath done for my soul.
15 I called unto him with my mouth : and gave him praises with my tongue.
16 If I incline unto wickedness with mine heart : the Lord will not hear me.
17 But God hath heard me : and considered the voice of my prayer.
18 Praised be God, who hath not cast out my prayer : nor turned his mercy from me.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Reading:

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Behold, my servant shall prosper, he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. As many were astonished at him -- his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the sons of men -- so shall he startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which has not been told them they shall see, and that which they have not heard they shall understand. Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or comeliness that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people? And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the LORD to bruise him; he has put him to grief; when he makes himself an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand; he shall see the fruit of the travail of his soul and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous; and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out his soul to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Responsory:

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we bless Thee.

[We adore Thee, O Christ, and we bless Thee.](#)

Because by Thy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world;

[We adore Thee, O Christ, and we bless Thee.](#)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

[We adore Thee, O Christ, and we bless Thee.](#)

Magnificat antiphon:

O Cross, exceedingly blessed, which, alone wast counted worthy to bear the Lord, the King of Heaven.

Collect of the day:

Almighty God, Who in the Passion of Thy blessed Son hast made an instrument of painful death to be for us the means of life and peace: grant us so to glory in the Cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer for His sake, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the same Holy Ghost, God, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Act of Spiritual Communion**Collect:**

O God, most high, You are slow to anger and rich in compassion. Keep alive in us the memory of Your mercy, that our angers may be calmed and our resentments dispelled. May we discover the forgiveness promised to those who forgive and become a people rich in mercy; in and through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who is alive and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit; God, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

First Reading:

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Church in Rome.

None of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Psalm:

Bless the Lord, O my soul, ♦ and all that is within me bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, ♦ and forget not all his benefits;

Who forgives all your sins ♦ and heals all your infirmities;

Who redeems your life from the Pit ♦ and crowns you with faithful love and compassion;

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, ♦ slow to anger and of great kindness.

He will not always accuse us, ♦ neither will he keep his anger for ever.

He has not dealt with us according to our sins, ♦ nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, ♦ so great is his mercy upon those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west, ♦ so far has he set our sins from us.

Gospel:

A Reading from the Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Peter came up and said to Jesus, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven. "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, till he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."