## Tenebrae

April 16, 2024 7:00 pm

The name Tenebrae is the Latin word for "shadows" or "darkness." This service provides an extended meditation upon, and a prelude to, the events in our Lord's life between the Last Supper and the Resurrection.

The Antiphons and Psalms are sung by a cantor.

The congregation is invited to join the Responsories as indicated in bold.

Antiphon 1 Zeal for your house has eaten me up; the scorn of those who scorn

you has fallen upon me.

Psalm 69:1-23 BCP, page 679

1 Save me, O God, \* for the waters have risen up to my neck.

- 2 I am sinking in deep mire, \* and there is no firm ground for my feet.
- 3 I have come into deep waters, \* and the torrent washes over me.
- 4 I have grown weary with my crying; my throat is inflamed; \* my eyes have failed from looking for my God.
- Those who hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of my head; my lying foes who would destroy me are mighty. \*

  Must I then give back what I never stole?
- 6 O God, you know my foolishness, \* and my faults are not hidden from you.
- 7 Let not those who hope in you be put to shame through me, Lord GOD of hosts; \* let not those who seek you be disgraced because of me, O God of Israel.
- 8 Surely, for your sake have I suffered reproach, \* and shame has covered my face.
- 9 I have become a stranger to my own kindred, \* an alien to my mother's children.
- 10 Zeal for your house has eaten me up; \* the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

- 11 I humbled myself with fasting, \* but that was turned to my reproach.
- 12 I put on sack-cloth also, \* and became a byword among them.
- 13 Those who sit at the gate murmur against me, \* and the drunkards make songs about me.
- 14 But as for me, this is my prayer to you, \* at the time you have set, O LORD:
- 15 "In your great mercy, O God, \* answer me with your unfailing help.
- 16 Save me from the mire; do not let me sink; \*
  let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep waters.
- 17 Let not the torrent of waters wash over me; neither let the deep swallow me up; \* do not let the Pit shut its mouth upon me.
- 18 Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind; \* in your great compassion, turn to me."
- 19 "Hide not your face from your servant; \* be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.
- 20 Draw near to me and redeem me; \* because of my enemies deliver me.
- 21 You know my reproach, my shame, and my dishonor; \* my adversaries are all in your sight."
- 22 Reproach has broken my heart, and it cannot be healed; \*
  I looked for sympathy, but there was none; for comforters, but I could find no one.
- 23 They gave me gall to eat, \* and when I was thirsty, they gave me vinegar to drink.
  - Antiphon 2 Let them draw back and be disgraced who take pleasure in my misfortune.

Psalm 70 BCP, page 682

- 1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; \* O LORD, make haste to help me.
- 2 Let those who seek my life be ashamed and altogether dismayed; \* let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.

- 3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back, \* because they are ashamed.
- 4 Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; \* let those who love your salvation say for ever, "Great is the LORD!"
- 5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; \* come to me speedily, O God.
- 6 You are my helper and my deliverer; \* O LORD, do not tarry.

Antiphon 3 Arise, O God, maintain my cause. Psalm 74

BCP, page 689

- O God, why have you utterly cast us off? \* why is your wrath so hot against the sheep of your pasture?
- 2 Remember your congregation that you purchased long ago, \* the tribe you redeemed to be your inheritance, and Mount Zion where you dwell.
- 3 Turn your steps toward the endless ruins; \* the enemy has laid waste everything in your sanctuary.
- 4 Your adversaries roared in your holy place; \* they set up their banners as tokens of victory.
- 5 They were like men coming up with axes to a grove of trees; \* they broke down all your carved work with hatchets and hammers.
- 6 They set fire to your holy place; \* they defiled the dwelling-place of your Name and razed it to the ground.
- 7 They said to themselves, "Let us destroy them altogether." \* They burned down all the meeting-places of God in the land.
- 8 There are no signs for us to see; there is no prophet left; \* there is not one among us who knows how long.
- 9 How long, O God, will the adversary scoff? \* will the enemy blaspheme your Name for ever?
- 10 Why do you draw back your hand? \* why is your right hand hidden in your bosom?
- 11 Yet God is my King from ancient times, \* victorious in the midst of the earth.

- 12 You divided the sea by your might \* and shattered the heads of the dragons upon the waters;
- 13 You crushed the heads of Leviathan \* and gave him to the people of the desert for food.
- 14 You split open spring and torrent; \* you dried up ever-flowing rivers.
- 15 Yours is the day, yours also the night; \* you established the moon and the sun.
- 16 You fixed all the boundaries of the earth; \* you made both summer and winter.
- 17 Remember, O Lord, how the enemy scoffed, \* how a foolish people despised your Name.
- 18 Do not hand over the life of your dove to wild beasts; \* never forget the lives of your poor.
- 19 Look upon your covenant; \* the dark places of the earth are haunts of violence.
- 20 Let not the oppressed turn away ashamed; \* let the poor and needy praise your Name.
- 21 Arise, O God, maintain your cause; \* remember how fools revile you all day long.
- 22 Forget not the clamor of your adversaries, \* the unending tumult of those who rise up against you.

Lesson One Lamentations 1:1-5

How lonely sits the city that once was full of people! How like a widow she has become, she that was great among the nations! She that was a princess among the provinces has become a vassal. She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers she has no one to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they have become her enemies. Judah has gone into exile with suffering and hard servitude; she lives now among the nations, and finds no resting place; her pursuers have all overtaken her in the midst of her distress. The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to the festivals; all her gates are desolate, her priests groan; her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter. Her foes have become the masters, her enemies prosper, because the Lord has made her suffer for the multitude of her transgressions; her children have gone away, captives before the foe.

**Responsory One** 

Officiant: On the mount of Olives Jesus prayed to the Father: **People:** Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me.

The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Officiant: Watch and pray, that you may not enter into temptation.

People: The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Lesson Two Lamentations 1:6-9

From daughter Zion has departed all her majesty. Her princes have become like stags that find no pasture; they fled without strength before the pursuer. Jerusalem remembers, in the days of her affliction and wandering, all the precious things that were hers in days of old. When her people fell into the hand of the foe, and there was no one to help her, the foe looked on mocking over her downfall. Jerusalem sinned grievously, so she has become a mockery; all who honored her despise her, for they have seen her nakedness; she herself groans, and turns her face away. Her uncleanness was in her skirts; she took no thought of her future; her downfall was appalling, with none to comfort her. "O Lord, look at my affliction, for the enemy has triumphed!"

Responsory Two

Officiant: My soul is very sorrowful, even to the point of death;

People: remain here, and watch with me.

Now you shall see the crowd who will surround me; you will flee, and I will go to be offered up for you.

Officiant: Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is

betrayed into the hands of sinners.

People: You will flee, and I will go to be offered up for you.

Lesson Three Lamentations 1:10-14

Enemies have stretched out their hands over all her precious things; she has even seen the nations invade her sanctuary, those whom you forbade to enter your congregation. All her people groan as they search for bread; they trade their treasures for food to revive their strength. Look, O Lord, and see how worthless I have become.

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow, which was brought upon me, which the Lord inflicted on the day of his fierce anger. From on high he sent fire; it went deep into my bones; he spread a net for my feet; he turned me back; he has left me stunned, faint all day long. My transgressions were bound into a yoke; by his hand they were fastened together; they weigh on my neck, sapping my strength; the Lord handed me over to those whom I cannot withstand.

## Responsory Three

Officiant: Lo, we have seen him without beauty or majesty,

People: with no looks to attract our eyes.

He bore our sins and was grieved for us, he was wounded for our transgressions, and by his scourging we are healed.

Officiant: Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows:

People: And by his scourging we are healed.

Antiphon 4 He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and he opened not his mouth.

Psalm 90:1-12 BCP, page 717

1 Lord, you have been our refuge \* from one generation to another.

- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, \* from age to age you are God.
- 3 You turn us back to the dust and say, \* "Go back, O child of earth."
- For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past \* and like a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep us away like a dream; \* we fade away suddenly like the grass.
- 6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; \* in the evening it is dried up and withered.
- 7 For we consume away in your displeasure; \* we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.
- 8 Our iniquities you have set before you, \* and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
- 9 When you are angry, all our days are gone; \* we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
- The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty; \* yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.
- 11 Who regards the power of your wrath? \* who rightly fears your indignation?

12 So teach us to number our days \* that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Antiphon 5 From the gates of hell, O Lord, deliver my soul.

## The Song of Hezekiah

(see music appendix)

Antiphon 6 O Death, I will be your death; O Grave, I will be your destruction.

Psalm 150

BCP, page 807

1 Hallelujah!

Praise God in his holy temple; \* praise him in the firmament of his power.

- 2 Praise him for his mighty acts; \* praise him for his excellent greatness.
- Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; \* praise him with lyre and harp.
- 4 Praise him with timbrel and dance; \* praise him with strings and pipe.
- 5 Praise him with resounding cymbals; \* praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.
- 6 Let everything that has breath \* praise the Lord.
  Hallelujah!

## Versicle

Officiant: My flesh also shall rest in hope:

Response: You will not let your holy One see corruption.

Antiphon 7 Now the women sitting at the tomb made lamentation,

weeping for the Lord.

Canticle 16: Benedictus Dominus Deus Israel (see music appendix)

Christus Factus Est

Officiant: Christ for us became obedient unto death, even death on a cross;

therefor God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him

the Name which is above every Name.

Psalm 51 BCP, page 656

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \* in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness \* and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, \* and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned \* and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak \* and upright in your judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \* a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \* and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \* wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, \* that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins \* and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, \* and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence \* and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again \* and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
- 14 I shall teach your ways to the wicked, \* and sinners shall return to you.
- 15 Deliver me from death, O God, \* and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.
- 16 Open my lips, O Lord, \* and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

- 17 Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice, \* but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.
- 18 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; \* a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.
- 19 Be favorable and gracious to Zion, \* and rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.
- Then you will be pleased with the appointed sacrifices, with burnt-offerings and oblations; \*
  then shall they offer young bullocks upon your altar.

Concluding Collect

Please depart in silence.







