

Gather

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Wis II: 24, 27



I You are mer - ci - ful to all, O Lord,
for you are the Lord our God.

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First Reading - 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the LORD's temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem.

Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the LORD against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy. Their enemies burnt the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all its palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects. Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants of the king of the Chaldeans and his sons until the kingdom of the Persians came to power. All this was to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah: "Until the land has retrieved its lost sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled."

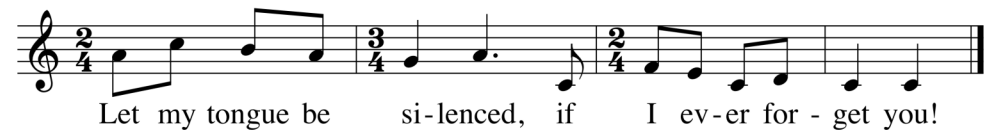
In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD inspired King Cyrus of Persia to issue this proclamation throughout his kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing: "Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD, the God of heaven, has given

to me, and he has also charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever, therefore, among you belongs to any part of his people, let him go up, and may his God be with him!"



Psalm

RESPONSORIAL PSALM



Let my tongue be si-lenced, if I ev-er for - get you!

Second Reading - Ephesians 2:4-10

Brothers and sisters: God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ — by grace you have been saved —, raised us up with him, and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast. For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them



Gospel - John 3:14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

Preparation of Gifts and Altar

Instrumental

AGNUS DEI

Cantor: *All:*

A-gnus De - i, qui tol-lis pec-cá-ta mun-di: mi-se-ré-re no - bis.

A-gnus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - cá - ta mun-di: mi-se-ré-re no - bis.

A - gnus De - i, qui tol-lis pec-cá-ta mun-di: do-na no-bis pa-cem.

Music: Vatican Edition XVIII; acc. by Robert J. Batastini

Communion



An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

Communion

Merciful God

Refrain



Ash Wednesday: Sign us with ash - es, mer - ci - ful God,
Lent Gathering: Gath - er your peo - ple, mer - ci - ful God,
Lent Communion: Feed us and guide us, mer - ci - ful God:



Chil - dren of dust, as to dust we re - turn. Sign us with
Gath - er the long - ing, the lost, and un - sure. Gath - er your
Light, when the shad - ows of life cloud our view. Feed us and



ash - es, mer - ci - ful God; Mark us and make us your
peo - ple, mer - ci - ful God, Name us and claim us as
guide us, mer - ci - ful God, Peo - ple who hun - ger for



own. own, mark us and make us your own.
yours. yours, name us and claim us as yours.
you. you, peo - ple who hun - ger for you.

LENT

WALKING WITH CHRIST

St. Michael the Archangel Prayer

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly hosts,
by the power of God, cast into hell Satan,
and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world
seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

Sending Forth

Remember Your Love

Refrain



Re - mem - ber your love and your



faith - ful - ness, O Lord. Re - mem - ber your



peo - ple and have mer - cy on us, Lord.

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Lent Prayer

"Receive, Lord, my entire freedom. Accept the whole of my memory, my intellect, and my will. Whatever I have or possess, it was You who gave it to me; I restore it to You in full, and I surrender it completely to the guidance of Your will. Give me only love of You together with Your grace, and I am rich enough and ask for nothing more. Amen." (Saint Ignatius of Loyola)