

# **EASTER VIGIL**

## **'Proper' of the Mass**

**Set to Gregorian Tones  
With Organ Accompaniment**

by

**Samuel F. Weber, O.S.B.**



2006

## Acknowledgements

The English translation of the Psalm responses, the Gospel Acclamation verses, from *The Lectionary for Mass* © 1968, 1981, 1997, ICEL ; the English translation of the Entrance and Communion Antiphons from *The Roman Missal* © 1973 ICEL, Washington, D.C. All rights reserved.

Translations of the Offertory Verse and Psalms for the Introit and Communion prepared by the editor to accord with the requirements of *Liturgiam Authenticam*. These translations are based on the *Douai-Reims version*, as well as *The Book of Psalms* © 1950 and 1995 by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, D.C., and *The Revised Standard Version*, An Ecumenical Edition © 1973 by Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America.

English tones and harmonizations by Samuel F. Weber, O.S.B.

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On the cover : MEDIEVAL CHOIR, Anonymous woodcut from *Der Spiegel des Menschlichen lebens*. Augsburg, 1479.

Contact the editor :

Rev. Samuel F. Weber, O.S.B.  
Wake Forest University  
The Divinity School  
Box 7719  
Winston-Salem, NC 27109-7719 U.S.A.  
TEL 336.758.4289  
EMAIL webersf@wfu.edu

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One copy of this project is made available to interested parties for educational purposes only, on a not-for-profit, not for publication basis, for private distribution only. It is hoped that this project will result in a permanent resource once the expected English translation of the *Missale Romanum* (2003) is promulgated.

In order to satisfy a number of requests, I have prepared this little “Sampler” of settings of the ‘Proper’ of the Mass. Those asking for these settings tell me they value:

1. Devotion to the Word of God, in particular, to the Book of Psalms as the “Prayerbook” of the Church.
2. A desire to “Sing the Mass” rather than to “Sing *at* the Mass.” The Proper parts of the Mass given in the *Roman Missal* represent the authentic piety of the Liturgy, and best nourish the spiritual needs of the faithful.
3. Sacred texts that focus on devotion to God, divine realities, the transcendent, the mysteries of the Liturgical Year, sin and repentance, and the gifts of grace.
4. Music that draws its inspiration from the traditional chant and polyphony of the Church.
5. Organ accompaniments that adorn and heighten the word of God, without being flashy or calling an inordinate attention to themselves.
6. Options that are simple enough for beginning cantors and choirs, and require a minimum of rehearsal time.
7. In addition, options that are more challenging, and call to mind the sound and atmosphere, evoke the “ethos,” of the traditional chants of the *Graduale Romanum*, while using the officially approved English texts.

To this end, I am including here some “sketches” of possibilities. If you, the recipient, have time, please assist with this project. Provide feedback as to your needs, what works and doesn’t work, what is not included here that you would like to see, and any other points of interest and concern.

A new translation of the *Missale Romanum* is expected soon. With the advent of this translation, will it be time to make available an English *Gradual* in the styles of traditional Catholic church music included herein?

I am eager to hear from you. Email works best for me.

Rev. Samuel F. Weber, O.S.B.  
Wake Forest University  
The Divinity School  
Box 7719  
Winston-Salem, NC 27109-7719

TEL 336.758.4289 EMAIL [webersf@wfu.edu](mailto:webersf@wfu.edu)

# READING I

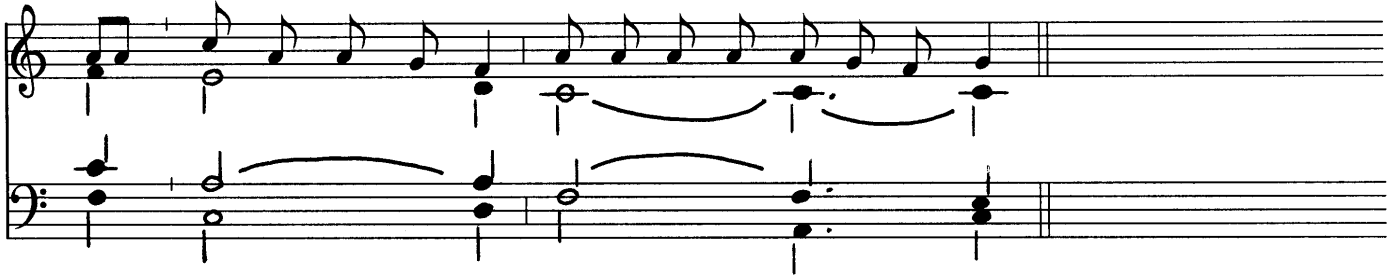
## Genesis I : I-22

— A —

Psalm 103 : I-2. 5-6. 10. 12. 13-14. 24. 35

Mode I

1. Lord, send out your Spir- it, and re- new the face of the earth.



The first musical system consists of two staves. The upper staff is a vocal line in treble clef, and the lower staff is an organ accompaniment in bass clef. The music is in a simple, homophonic style with a clear melody and harmonic support.



The second musical system also consists of two staves. The upper staff is a vocal line in treble clef, and the lower staff is an organ accompaniment in bass clef. The organ part includes a key signature change to one flat (B-flat major) and a time signature change to 3/4. A vertical line with a slash indicates a chord change in the organ part.

- | = change of chord in organ part
1. Bless the Lord, O my **soul** ! \*  
O Lord, my God, you are | *great indeed* !
  2. You are clothed with majesty and **glory**, \*  
robed in light as | *with a cloak*. **Refrain**
  3. You fixed the earth upon its foundation, \*  
not to be | *moved for ever* ;
  4. With the ocean, as with a garment, you **covered** it ;  
above the mountains the | *waters stood*. **Refrain**
  5. You send forth springs into the **watercourses** \*  
that wind a- | *mong the mountains*.
  6. Beside them the birds of heaven **dwel**l ;  
from among the branches they | *send forth their song*. **Refrain**
  7. You water the mountains from your **palace** ; \*  
the earth is replete with the fruit | *of your works*.
  8. You raise grass for the cattle, /  
and vegetation for man's **use**, \*  
producing bread | *from the earth*. **Refrain**
  9. How manifold are your works, O **Lord** ! \*  
In wisdom you have | *wrought them all*—
  10. the earth is full of your **creatures**. \*  
Bless the | Lord, *O my soul* ! **Refrain**

# READING I

Genesis I : I-22

— B —

Psalm 103 : I-2. 5-6. 10. 12. 13-14. 24. 35

After "Picardy" Mode I

1. Lord, send out your Spir- it, and re- new the face of the earth.

The musical score is presented in two systems. The first system features a vocal line on a treble clef staff and an organ accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The second system continues the vocal line and organ accompaniment. The music is in a minor key with a Picardy third ending.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Bless the Lord, <i>O my soul</i> ! *<br/>O Lord, my God, / you are great <i>indeed</i> !</p> <p>2. You are clothed with <i>majesty and glory</i>, *<br/>robed in light as with a <i>cloak</i>. <b>Refrain</b></p> <p>3. You fixed the earth upon <i>its foundation</i>, *<br/>not to be moved <i>for ever</i> ;</p> <p>4. With the ocean, as with a <i>garment</i>, you <b>covered</b> it ; *<br/>above the mountains the <i>waters stood</i>. <b>Refrain</b></p> <p>5. You send forth springs into the <i>watercourses</i> *<br/>that wind among <i>the mountains</i>.</p> <p>6. Beside them the birds of <i>heaven dwell</i> ; *<br/>from among the branches they send forth <i>their song</i>.<br/><b>Refrain</b></p> | <p>7. You water the mountains <i>from your palace</i> ; *<br/>the earth is replete with the fruit of <i>your works</i>.</p> <p>8. You raise grass for the cattle, /<br/>and vegetation <i>for man's use</i>, *<br/>producing bread from <i>the earth</i>. <b>Refrain</b></p> <p>9. How manifold are your <i>works</i>, <b>O Lord</b> ! *<br/>In wisdom you have wrought <i>them all</i>—</p> <p>10. the earth is full <i>of your creatures</i>. *<br/>Bless the Lord, <i>O my soul</i> ! <b>Refrain</b></p> |
|--|---|

# READING III

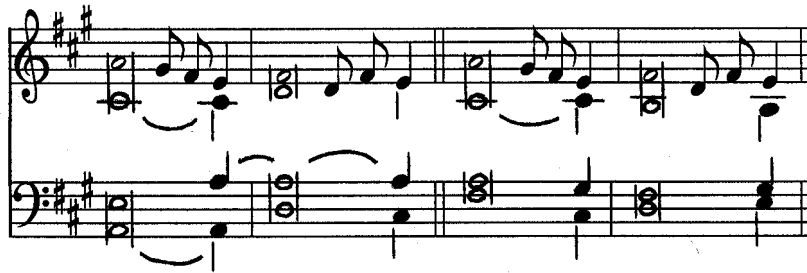
Exodus 14 : 15—15:1

— A —

Exodus 15 : 1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 17-18

Mode VIII

8. I will sing to the Lord ; he has covered him-self in glo-ry.



1. I will sing to the Lord, / for he is gloriously *triumphant* ; \*  
horse and chariot he has cast *into the sea*.
2. My strength and my courage *is the Lord*, \*  
and he has *been my savior*.
3. He is my *God*, I **praise** him ; \*  
the God of my father, / I *extol* him. **Refrain**
3. The Lord *is a warrior*, \*  
Lord *is his name* !
4. Pharaoh's chariots and army he hurled *into the sea* ; \*  
the elite of his officers were submerged *in the Red Sea*. **Refrain**
5. The flood *waters covered* them, \*  
they sank into the depths *like a stone*.
6. Your right hand, O Lord, magnificent *in power*, \*  
your right hand, O Lord, has *shattered the enemy*. **Refrain**
7. You brought in the people you *redeemed* \*  
and planted them on the mountain of *your inheritance*—
8. the place where you made your seat, O Lord, /  
the sanctuary, Lord, which your *hands established*. \*  
The Lord shall reign forever *and ever*. **Refrain**

# READING III

## Exodus 14 : 15—15:1

— B —

Exodus 15 : 1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 17-18

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