



The Transitus

Sunday, October 3 6:30pm Brothers, sisters and friends of St. Francis have gathered at twilight on the eve of his feast, at least since the 18th or perhaps the 17th Century, to celebrate his passage from earthly life and death to everlasting glory. This rite is known as the Transitus. The ritual is a way of celebrating our Franciscan identity by rooting ourselves in Scripture and the heritage of the early stories surrounding St. Francis. All gather in the silence of a darkened church to pray that the spirit of Francis be kindled in our community.

The Prelude

Bring Him Home Claude-Michel Schönberg

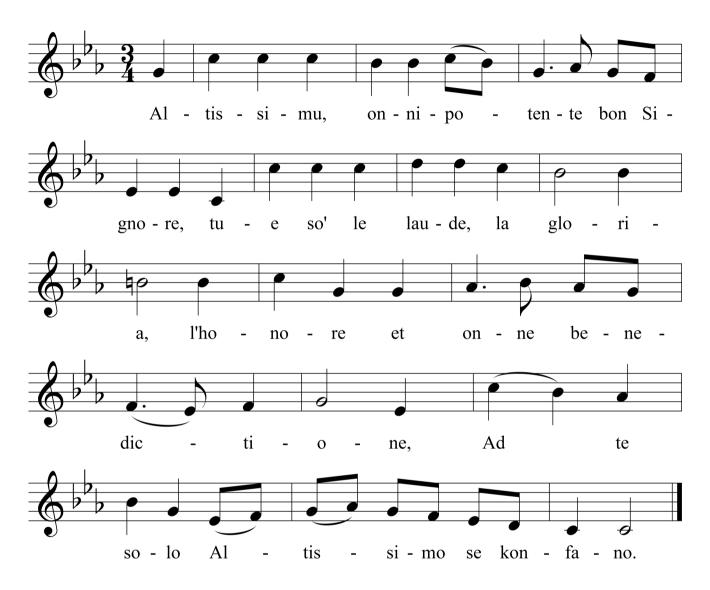
God on high, hear our prayer In our need you have always been there. He is yours, he is ours, Let him be: heaven's blessed. Bring him home, bring him home, bring him home. He's like a father to his own And God has granted us this grace. Though we must die, one by one, Too soon the years: on and on. And we will too, and soon be gone. Bring him peace. Bring him joy. He is young; he has only begun. You can take, ou can give. Let him be, let him be. When we die, let us die in your peace. Bring him home. Bring him home. Bring him home.

The Opening Prayer (please remain seated)

The Canticle of the Creatures

Il Cantico delle Creature

Robert Hutmacher, OFM



The Reading

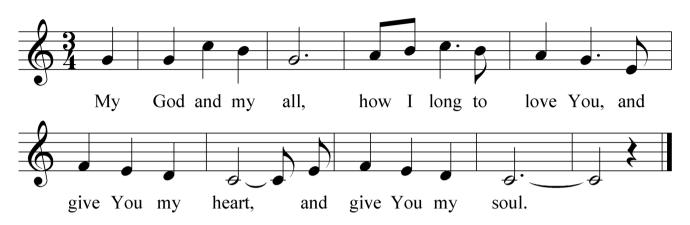
From a Letter of St. Francis to all the Faithful



The Response

Psalm 142: My God and My All

Richard Husted, OFM



I cry to you at night, Lord; hear my tale of woe. Heal my distress, My broken dreams.

You know my path, O Lord; my sacred promises. So many traps test my resolve.

Lord, be my refuge now; now that the end is near You are my help, my only hope.

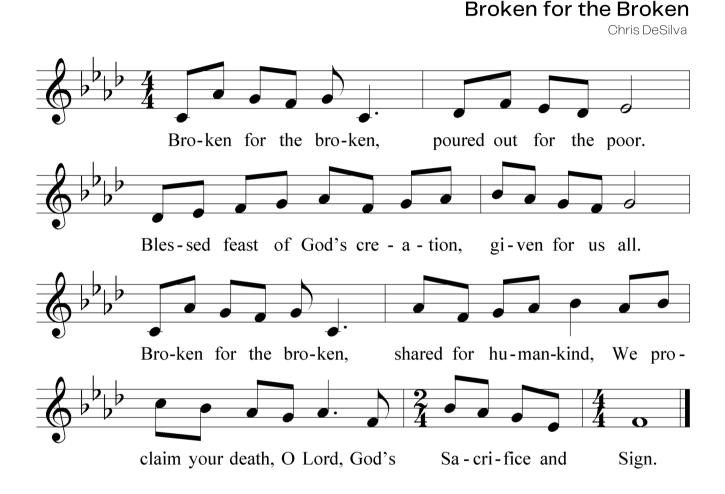
Lord, by your saving help; break down these prison bars. Lead me to life with all the just.

The Gospel Reading (please stand)

John 13: 1-16

The Distribution of Bread

As baskets of bread are passed throughout the assembly, please take a piece of bread, pass the basket to the person next to you. This bread is yours, as a reminder of our call to feed others.



The Laying on of Hands

We invite you to come before the Friars to be blessed. After you have been blessed you will receive a candle, which will be lighted after you have returned to your seat. The flame of this candle symbolizes our willingness to let some of the spirit of Francis shine in our own lives.

Music During the Laying on of Hands

Ubi Caritas Maurice Durufle

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor. Exsultemus, et in ipso jucundemur. Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum. Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero. Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Amen.

The Lord Bless You And Keep You

Peter C. Lutkin

The Lord bless you and keep you, The Lord lift his countenance upon you; And give you peace, and give you peace, The Lord make his face to shine upon you, And be gracious unto you, The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.



Meditation

Sing Me to Heaven

Daniel E. Gawthrop

In my heart's sequestered chambers Lie truths stripped of poet's gloss Words alone are vain and vacant And my heart is mute In response to aching silence Memory summons half-heard voices And my soul finds primal eloquence And wraps me in song Wraps me, in song

If you would comfort me, sing me a lullaby If you would win my heart, sing me a love song If you would mourn me and bring me to God Sing me a requiem, sing me to Heaven

> Touch in me all love and passion Pain and pleasure, touch in me Touch in me, grief and comfort Love and passion, pain and pleasure Sing me a lullaby A love song A requiem Love me, comfort me Sing me to God Sing me a love song Sing me to Heaven

The Closing Song

The Hand of God Marty Haugen

hand of God shall hold you, the peace of God en-The θ love that dreamed and formed you, still sur fold you, the The light of God be - side you, a rounds you here to - day; bove, be-neath, in light that shines to side you, the θ guide you home to the lov - ing hand of God.

May God's light shine ever upon you, may you rest in the arms of God; may you dwell forever more in communion with all the blessed.

May the angels lead you into paradise; may the martyrs come to welcome you and take you to the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem.