

Ecclesiasticus 51:1-7

¹ I will thank You, O Lord and King, and praise You, O God my Savior: I do give praise to Your name: ² For You are my defender and helper, and have preserved my body from destruction, and from the snare of the slanderous tongue, and from the lips that forge lies, and have been my helper against my adversaries: ³ And have de-livered me, according to the mul-titude of Your mercies and great-ness of Your name, from the teeth of them that were ready to devour me, and out of the hands of those who sought after my life, and from the manifold afflictions which I had; ⁴ From the choking of fire on every side, and from the midst of the fire which I kindled not; ⁵ From the depth of the belly of hell, from an unclean tongue, and from lying words. ⁶ By an accusation to the king from an unrighteous tongue my soul drew near even unto death, my life was near to the hell beneath. ⁷ They compassed me on every side, and there was no man to help me: I looked for the help of men, but there was none.

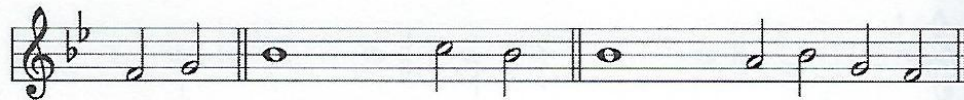
2 Corinthians 10:17—11:2

^{10:17} But “he who glories, let him glory in the LORD.” ¹⁸ For not he who commends himself is approved, but whom the Lord commends. ^{11:1} Oh, that you would bear with me in a little folly—and indeed you do bear with me. ² For I am

jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

St. Matthew 13:44-52

⁴⁴ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵ Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, ⁴⁶ who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷ Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered some of every kind, ⁴⁸ which, when it was full, they drew to shore; and they sat down and gathered the good into vessels, but threw the bad away. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just, ⁵⁰ and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.” ⁵¹ Jesus said to them, “Have you understood all these things?” They said to Him, “Yes, Lord.” ⁵² Then He said to them, “Therefore every scribe instructed concerning the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things new and old.”

DECEMBER 13—ST. LUCY, MARTYR (RED)**Introit.**

Ant. THOU LOV- || est righteousness, and hatest | *wick-ed* | ness:
therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness a- |
bove | thy | fel- | lows.

Psal. || My heart is inditing a good | mat- | ter:
I speak of the things which I have made | touch- | ing | the | king
GLO-RY BE || to the Father and to the | Son | - :
and to | the | Ho- | ly | Ghost.

AS IT || was in the beginning, is now, and ever | shall | be:
world with- | out | end. | A- | men. (*Ant. Repeated.*)

Collect.

O God, our Savior, hear us, we pray Thee, as we rejoice in the steadfast devotion Thou dost kindle and sustain in the hearts of Thy saints, through our Lord, Jesus Christ, who livest and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever One God, world without end. *Amen.*

Epistle. 2 Corinthians 10:17–18; 11:1–2**Gospel. Matthew 13:44–52****Gradual.**

|| Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest | *wick-ed* | ness:
therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness a- |
bove | thy | fel- | lows.

|| Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Grace is poured into | thy | lips:
therefore God hath blessed thee for ever. | Hal- | le- | lu- | jah.

Festival of St. Lucy
67. Rejoice, All Ye Believers

Laurentius Laurentii, 1700

Swedish Folksong

1. Re - joice, all ye be - liev - ers,
2. The watch - ers on the moun - tain
3. Ye saints, who here in pa - tience
4. Our Hope and Ex - pec - ta - tion,

And let your lights ap - pear! The eve - ning is ad -
Pro - claim the Bride - groom near; Go meet Him as He
Your cross and suf - frings bore, Shall live and reign for -
O Je - sus, now ap - pear; A - rise, Thou Sun so

vanc - ing, And dark - er night is near.
com - eth, With hal - le - lu - jahs clear.
ev - er, Where sor - row is no more.
longed for, O'er this be - night - ed sphere!

The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing,
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing,
A - round the throne of glo - ry
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed,

And soon He draw - eth nigh.
The gates wide o - pen stand;
The Lamb ye shall be - hold,
We plead, O Lord, to see

Up, watch, and pray, and wres - tle,
Up, up, ye heirs of glo - ry,
In tri - umph cast be - fore Him
The day of earth's re - demp - tion,

At mid - night comes the cry!
The Bride - groom is at hand!
Your di - a - dems of gold!
That brings us un - to Thee! A - men.