

**MASS: A Theatre Piece for Singers, Players, and Dancers**  
Text from the liturgy of the Roman Mass  
Additional texts by Stephen Schwartz and Leonard Bernstein

**I. Devotions before Mass 1. Antiphon: Kyrie eleison**

*Tape One. In total darkness, pre-recorded sound is heard coming from the four speakers placed in the four corners of the house.*

**High Soprano and Bass Solo**

Kyrie eleison.

**Second Soprano and Alto Solos, Tenor and Baritone Solos**

Christe eleison.

**2. Hymn and Psalm: "A Simple Song"**

**Celebrant**

Sing God a simple song: Lauda, Laude ...

Make it up as you go along: Lauda, Laude ...

Sing like you like to sing. God loves all simple things, for God is the simplest of all.

I will sing the Lord a new song

to praise Him, to bless Him, to bless the Lord. I will sing His praises while I live  
all of my days.

Blessed is the man who loves the Lord, blessed is the man who praises Him. Lauda, Lauda, Laude,  
and walks in His ways.

I will lift up my eyes

to the hills from whence comes my help. I will lift up my voice to the Lord,  
singing Lauda, Laude.

For the Lord is my shade,

is the shade upon my right hand,

and the sun shall not smite me by day nor the moon by night.

Blessed is the man who loves the Lord, Lauda, Lauda, Laude,  
and walks in His ways.

Lauda, Lauda, Laude,

Lauda, Lauda di da di day ... all of my days.

**3. Responsory: Alleluia**

*Tape Two*

**Six Solo Voices**

Du bing, du bang, du bong, *etc.* Alleluia! Alleluia! *etc.*

**II. First Introit (Rondo) 1. Prefatory Prayers**

**Street Chorus**

Kyrie eleison!

Christe eleison!

Gloria Patri et Filio,

et Spiritui Sancto!

Sicut erat in principio

et nunc et semper,

et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

**Basses**

Introibo ad altare Dei.

**Tutti**

Ad Deum qui laeti cat juventutem meam.

**Women**

Asperges me, Domine, Hyssopo, et mundabor. Emitte lucem tuam,  
et veritatem tuam. Ostende nobis, Domine ...

**Basses**

Domine.

**Women**

Misericordiam tuam.

**Sopranos and Celebrant**

Vidi aquam egredientem de templo latere dextro.

**Rest of Street Chorus**

Alleluia!

**Sopranos and Celebrant**

Et omnes ad quos pervenit aqua ista salvi facti sunt, et dicent:

**Tutti**

Alleluia!

**Boys' Choir**

Kyrie eleison.

**Street Chorus**

Christe eleison.

**Solo Boy and Boys' Choir**

Here I go up to the altar of God. In I go, up I go

to God who made me young,

to God who made me happy,

to God who makes me happy to be young.

**Solo Boy, Boys' Choir, and Street Chorus**

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison!

**Street Chorus and Boys' Choir**

Alleluia!

**2. Thrice-Triple Canon: Dominus vobiscum****Celebrant, Boys' Choir, and Street Chorus**

Dominus vobiscum. Et cum spiritu tuo. **III. Second Introit 1. In nomine Patris**

**Celebrant** (*speaking*)

In the name of the Father, and the Son,  
and the Holy Ghost.

*Tape Three*

**Boys' Choir and Choir** (*Men*) In nomine Patris, et Filii,  
et Spiritus Sancti.

Amen.

**Celebrant** (*speaking*)

Let us rise and pray.

Almighty Father, bless this house. And bless and protect all who are  
assembled in it.

**2. Prayer for the Congregation (Chorale: "Almighty Father")****Choir**

Almighty Father, incline thine ear:

Bless us and all those who have gathered  
here.

Thine angel send us,

who shall defend us all. And fill with grace

all who dwell in this place. Amen.

**3. Epiphany***Tape Four***Celebrant** (*speaking*)

I confess to Almighty God, to blessed Mary

Ever Virgin, to blessed Michael the archangel,

to blessed John the Baptist, to the holy apostles, Peter and Paul ...

#### **IV. Confession 1. Confiteor**

##### **Choir**

Confiteor Deo omnipotenti, Beatae Mariae semper Virgini, Beato Michaeli Archangelo, Beato Joanni Baptistae, sanctis Apostolis Petro et Paulo, omnibus sanctis, et vobis, fratres:

Quia peccavi nimis cogitatione, verbo et opere: Mea culpa, mea maxima culpa.

Ideo precor,

Beatam Mariam semper Virginem,

Beatum Michaellem Archangelum,

Beatum Joannem Baptistam,

sanctos Apostolos Petrum et Paulum. omnes Sanctos,

et vos, fratres:

Orare pro me

ad Dominum Deum nostrum.

#### **2. Trope: "I Don't Know" Street Chorus (Men)**

Confiteor, confiteor ...

##### **First Rock Singer**

Lord, I could go confess

good and loud, nice and slow,

get this load off my chest,

yes, but how, Lord, I don't know. What I say I don't feel,

what I feel I don't show,

what I show isn't real,

what is real, Lord, I don't know,

no, no, no ...

I don't know.

I don't know why ev'ry time

I find a new love

I wind up destroying it.

I don't know why I'm so crazy-minded I keep on kind of enjoying it.

Why I drift off to sleep

with pledges of deep resolve again, then along comes the day

and suddenly they dissolve again.

I don't know ...

##### **First Rock Singer and Descant**

What I say I don't feel,

what I feel I don't show,

what I show isn't real,

what is real, Lord, I don't know, no, no, no ...

I don't know.

#### **3. Trope: "Easy"**

##### **First Blues Singer**

Well, I went to the holy man and I confessed, look, I can beat my breast with the best.

And I'll say almost anything that gets me blessed.

Upon request.

It's easy to shake the blame for any crime by trotting out that *mea culpa* pantomime: "Yes, yes, I'm sad.

I sinned, I'm bad."

Then go out and do it one more time.

##### **Second Rock Singer**

I don't know where to start.

There's so much I could show

but how far, Lord, but how far can I go? I don't know.

##### **Second Blues Singer**

If you ask me to join you in some real good vice  
now that might be nice  
once or twice.  
But don't look for sacraments or sacrifice, they're not worth the price.  
It's easy to have yourself a fine affair. Your body's always ready, but your soul's  
not there.  
Don't count on trust,  
come love, come lust.  
It's so easy when you just don't care.

**Third Rock Singer**

What I need I don't have,  
what I have I don't own,  
what I own I don't want,  
what I want, Lord, I don't know.

**Third Blues Singer**

If you ask me to sing you verse that's versatile,  
I'll be glad to beguile you  
for a while.  
But don't look for content beneath the  
style,  
sit back and smile.  
It's easy for you to dig my jim jam jive, and, baby, please observe how neatly I  
survive.  
And what could give  
more positive  
plain proof that living is easy when you're  
half alive.

**All Three Rock Singers**

If I could I'd confess.  
Good and loud, nice and slow, Lord.

**All Three Blues Singers**

Easy, easy.

**Choir**

Beatam Mariam semper Virginem, precor,  
Beatum Michaellem Archangelum, ideo precor  
Beatum Joannem Baptistam,  
sanctos Apostolos Petrum et Paulum. Omnes sanctos,  
et vos, fratres,  
orare pro me  
ad Dominum Deum nostrum.

**All Six Solo Singers and Descant**

What I say I don't feel,  
what I feel I don't show,  
what I show isn't real,  
what is real, Lord, I don't know, no, no, no ...  
I don't know.

**First Rock Singer**

Come on, Lord, if you're so great show me how, where to go. Show me now, I can't wait, maybe it's too late, Lord.  
I don't know.

**First Blues Singer**

Confiteor.

**Celebrant** (*speaking*) God forgive you.

**All** (*speaking*) God forgive us all.

**Celebrant** (*speaking*) God be with you.

**All** (*speaking*)

And with your spirit.

**Celebrant** (*speaking*) Let us pray.

## V. Meditation No. 1

### VI. Gloria

#### 1. Gloria tibi

##### Celebrant and Boys' Choir

Gloria tibi,  
gloria tibi,  
gloria!

Gloria Patri, gloria Filio,

et Spiritui Sancto. Laudamus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te, benedicimus te! Gloria Patri, gloria Filio,  
et Spiritui Sancto. Gloria!

##### Celebrant

Glory to God in the Highest and Peace on Earth to Men  
of Good Will!

*(He is interrupted by the "Gloria in  
excelsis".)*

#### 2. Gloria in excelsis

##### Choir

Gloria in excelsis Deo,

et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te,  
adoramus te,

benedicimus te,

glorificamus te.

Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam

gloriam tuam:

Domine Deus,

Rex caelestis,

Deus Pater omnipotens.

Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe; Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris: Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis;  
suscipe deprecationem nostram;

qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus,

tu solus Dominus,

tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe,

cum Sancto Spiritu; in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

#### 3. Trope: "Half of the People"

##### Street Chorus

Amen!

Half of the people are stoned  
and the other half are waiting for the next  
election.

Half the people are drowned  
and the other half are swimming in the  
wrong direction.\*

They call it

Glorious Living,

and, baby, where does that leave you, you and your kind?

*\*This quatrain was a Christmas present from Paul Simon. Gratias. L.B.*

##### Choir

... miserere nobis;

suscipe deprecationem nostram.

##### Street Chorus

... you and your youth and your mind? Nowhere, nowhere, nowhere.  
Half of the people are stoned  
and the other half are waiting for the next  
election ...

#### **4. Trope: "Thank You"**

##### **Soprano Solo**

There once were days so bright,  
and nights when ev'ry cricket call seemed  
right,  
And I sang Gloria,  
then I sang Gratias Deo.  
I knew a glorious feeling of thank you  
and ... thank you. ...  
The bend of a willow,  
a friend and a pillow,  
a lover whose eyes  
could mirror my cries of Gloria ...  
And now, it's strange,  
somehow, though nothing much has really  
changed,  
I miss the Gloria,  
I don't sing Gratias Deo.  
I can't say quite when it happened, but gone is the ... thank you ...

##### **Street Chorus**

Half the people are drowned  
and the other half are swimming in the  
wrong direction.

**Celebrant** (*speaking*) Let us pray.

#### **VII. Meditation No. 2**

(*on a sequence by Beethoven*)

#### **VIII. Epistle: "The Word of the Lord"**

##### **Celebrant**

Dear Brothers: This is the gospel I preach; and in its service I have suffered hardship like a criminal; yea, even unto imprisonment; but there is no imprisoning the word of God ...

##### **A Young Man**

Dearly Beloved: Do not be surprised if the world hates you. We who love our brothers have crossed over to life, but they who do not love, abide in death. Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer.

##### **Another Young Man**

Dear Mom and Dad: Do not feel badly or worry about me. Nothing will make me change. Try to understand: I am now a man.

##### **Celebrant**

You can lock up the bold men,  
go and lock up your bold men and hold  
men in tow,  
you can stifle all adventure  
for a century or so.  
Smother hope before it's risen, watch it wizen like a gourd, but you cannot imprison  
the Word of the Lord.

##### **Celebrant and Street Chorus**

No, you cannot imprison the Word of the Lord.

##### **Celebrant**

For the Word was at the birth of the beginning,  
it made the heavens and the earth and set them spinning,

and for several million years  
it's endured all our forums and fine ideas.  
It's been rough but it appears to be winning!  
There are people who doubt it and shout it out loud,  
oh they bellow and they bluster 'til they muster up a crowd.  
They can fashion a rebuttal that's as subtle as a sword,  
but they're never gonna scuttle the Word of the Lord.

**Celebrant and Street Chorus**

No, they're never gonna scuttle the Word of the Lord!

**An Older Man**

Dear Brothers: I think that God has made us apostles the most abject of mankind. We hunger and thirst, we are naked, we are roughly handled, and we have no fixed abode. They curse us and we bless. They persecute us and we suffer it. ... They treat us as the scum of the earth, the dregs of humanity, to this very day.

**A Young Girl**

Dear Folks: Jim looked very well on my first visit. With his head cleanshaven, he looked about nineteen years old. He says the prison food is very good. For the first few days he is not allowed any books except his Bible. When I hugged him he smelled so good, a smell of plain clean soap; he smelled like a child when you put him to bed.

**Celebrant**

All you big men of merit who ferret out flaws,  
you rely on our compliance with your science and your laws.  
Find a freedom to demolish while you polish some award,  
But you cannot abolish the Word of the Lord.

**Celebrant and Street Chorus**

No, you cannot abolish the Word of the Lord.

**Celebrant**

For the Word created mud and got it going, it filled our empty brains with blood and  
set it owing,

and for thousands of regimes

it's endured all our follies and fancy schemes. It's been tough, and yet it seems to be  
growing!

O you people of power, your hour is now. You may plan to rule forever, but you never  
do somehow!

So we wait in silent treason until reason is  
restored,

and we wait for the season of the Word of  
the Lord.

We await the season of the Word of the Lord. We wait, we wait for the Word of the Lord. ...

**IX. Gospel-Sermon: "God Said"**

**Preacher**

God said: "Let there be light." And there was light.

**Street Chorus**

God said: "Let there be night." And there was night.

**Preacher**

God said: "Let there be day." And there was day ...

**Street Chorus**

... day to follow the night.

**Preacher**

And it was good, brother ...

**Preacher and Street Chorus**

And it was good, brother ...

**Preacher**

And it was good, brother ...

**Preacher and Street Chorus**

And it was goddam good.

**Preacher**

God said: "Let there be storms." Storms to bring life ...

**Street Chorus**

... life in all of its forms, forms such as herds ...

**Preacher**

... herds and gaggles and swarms, swarms that have names ...

**Street Chorus**

... names and numbers and norms.

**Preacher**

And it was good, brother ...

**Preacher and Street Chorus**

And it was good, brother ...

**Preacher**

And it was good, brother ...

**Preacher and Street Chorus**

And it was goddam good.

**Preacher**

God said: "Let there be gnats." Let there be sprats ...

**Street Chorus**

... sprats to gobble the gnats so that the sprats ...

**Preacher**

... sprats may nourish the rats, making them fat ...

**Street Chorus**

... fat, fine food for the cats.

**Preacher**

And they grew fat, brother ...

**Preacher and Street Chorus**

And they grew fat, brother ...

**Preacher**

All but the gnats, brother ...

**Preacher and Street Chorus**

They all grew fearful fat.

**Preacher**

And God saw it was good.

**Street Chorus**

God made it be good ...

**Preacher**

Created it good ...

**Street Chorus**

Created the gnats ...

**Preacher**

... gnats to nourish the sprats ...

**Street Chorus**

... sprats to nourish the rats ...

**Preacher**

and all for us big fat cats.

**Street Chorus**

... us cats!

**Preacher and Street Chorus**

Yow!

**Street Chorus**

And it was good.

**First Solo and Street Chorus**

God said it's good to be poor, good men must not be secure; so if we steal from you,  
it's just to help you stay pure.

**Soloist and Street Chorus**

And it was good.

**Second Solo and Street Chorus**

God said take charge of my zoo, I made these creatures for you; so He won't mind if we wipe out a species or two.

**Soloist and Street Chorus**

And it was good.

**Third Solo and Street Chorus**

God said to spread His commands to folks in faraway lands;  
they may not want us there,  
but, man, it's out of our hands.

**Soloist and Street Chorus**

And it was good.

**Fourth Solo and Street Chorus**

God said that sex should repulse unless it leads to results;  
and so we crowd the world  
full of consenting adults.

**Soloist and Street Chorus**

And it was good.

**Fifth Solo and Street Chorus**

God said it's good to be meek, and so we are once a week;  
it may not mean a lot  
but oh, it's terribly chic.

**Soloist and Street Chorus**

And it was good.

**Preacher and Street Chorus**

God made us the boss.  
God gave us the cross.  
We turned it into a sword  
to spread the Word of the Lord. We use His holy decrees  
to do whatever we please.

**Street Chorus**

Yeah!

**Preacher and Street Chorus**

And it was good! Yeah! And it was goddam good!

**Preacher**

God said: "Let there be light." And there was light.

**Street Chorus**

God said: "Let there be night." And there was night.

**Preacher**

God said: "Let there be day." And there was day ...

**Street Chorus**

... day to follow the night.

**Preacher**

And it was good, brother ...

**Preacher and Street Chorus**

And it was good, brother ...

And it was ...

**X. Credo**

**1. Credo in unum Deum**

*Tape Five*

**Celebrant** (*declaiming*)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord ...

*(He is interrupted by the recording.)*

**Chorus**

Credo in unum Deum,  
Patrem omnipotentem,  
factorem caeli et terrae,

visibilium omnium et invisibilium.  
Et in unum Dominum Jesum Christum, Filium Dei unigenitum.  
Et ex Patre natum ante omnia saecula.  
Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine,  
Deum verum de Deo vero.  
Genitum, non factum, consubstantialem Patri: Perquem omnia facta sunt.  
Qui propter nos homines et propter  
nostram salutem descendit de caelis. Et incarnatus est de Spiritu Sancto  
ex Maria Virgine: et homo factus est.

## 2. Trope: "Non Credo"

**Male Group** (*interrupting tape*)

Et homo factus est.

**Baritone Solo**

And was made man ...

**Male Group**

And was made man.

**Baritone Solo**

And you become a man.

You, God, chose to become a man. To pay the earth a small social call. I tell you, sir, you never were a man at all.

Why?

You had the choice when to live, when

to die,

and then

become a god again.

And then a plaster god like you ...

**Male Group**

A God like you too ...

**Baritone Solo**

Has the gall to tell me what to do

to become a man,

to show my respect on my knees ...

**Male Group**

Be like a man.

**Baritone Solo**

Go genuflect, but don't expect guarantees. Oh,

just play it dumb, play it blind,

but when I go then

will I become a god again?

**Male Group**

Possibly yes, probably no ...

**Baritone Solo**

Yes, probably no.

Give me a choice,

I never had a choice.

Or I would have been a simple tree, a barnacle in a silent sea,  
anything but what I must be:

A man,

a man,

a man!

**Male Group**

Possibly yes, probably no ...

**Baritone Solo**

You knew what you had to do, you knew why you had to die.

**Male Group**

Man, man.

**Baritone Solo**

You chose to die, and then revive again. You chose, you rose alive again.

But I,

I don't know why I should live

if only to die.

Well, I'm not gonna buy it!

**Male Group**

Possibly yes, probably no ...

**Baritone Solo**

I'll never say credo.

How can anybody say credo? I want to say credo ...

*Tape Six*

**Choir**

Crucifixus etiam pro nobis sub Pontio Pilato,

passus, et sepultus est.

Et resurrexit tertia die, secundum

Scripturas.

Et ascendit in caelum:

Sedet ad dexteram Patris,

et iterum venturus est cum gloria iudicare

vivos et mortuos.

**3. Trope: "Hurry"**

**Mezzo-soprano Solo** (*interrupting tape*) You said you'd come again.

When?

When things got really rough.

So you made us all suffer

while they got a bit rougher,

tougher and tougher.

Well, things are tough enough.

So when's your next appearance on the

scene?

I'm ready.

Hurry.

Went to church for clearance and I'm clean and steady.

Hurry.

While I'm waiting I can get my bags packed, flags own,

shoes blacked,

wings sewn on.

Oh don't you worry:

I could even learn to play the harp.

You know it.

Show it.

Hurry.

Hurry and come again.

*Tape Seven*

**Choir**

Sedet ad dexteram Patris.

Et iterum venturus est cum gloria iudicare

vivos et mortuos:

Cujus regni non erit nis.

**4. Trope: "World without End"**

**Street Chorus** (*interrupting pre-recorded tape*)

Non erit finis ...

World without end ...

**Mezzo-soprano Solo**

Whispers of living, echoes of warning, phantoms of laughter on the edges of morning.  
World without end spins endlessly on, only the men who lived here are gone, gone on a permanent vacation, gone to await the next creation.  
World without end at the end of the world. Lord, don't you know it's the end of the world?  
Lord, don't you care if it all ends today? Sometimes I'd swear that you planned it this way ...  
Dark are the cities, dead is the ocean, silent and sickly are the remnants of motion.  
World without end turns mindlessly round, never a sentry, never a sound.  
No one to prophesy disaster,  
no one to help it happen faster.  
No one to expedite the fall,  
no one to soil the breeze,  
no one to oil the seas,  
no one to anything,  
no one to anything,  
no one to anything at all.

*(Recording interrupts.)*

*Tape Eight*

**Choir**

Et in Spiritum Sanctum,  
dominum et vivi cantem:  
Qui ex Patre Filioque procedit.  
Qui cum Patre, et Filio simul adoratur, et  
conglorificatur:  
Qui locutus est per Prophetas. Et unam sanctam catholicam et  
apostolicam Ecclesiam.  
Con teor unum baptismum in remissionem peccatorum.  
Et exspecto resurrectionem mortuorum. Et vitam venturi saeculi.  
Amen.

**Three Solos**

You chose ...  
Hurry and come again ...  
You rose ...  
World without end, end of the world! A man!  
Bags packed, wings sewn ...  
End of the world!  
A man!  
Wings sewn.  
Lord, don't you care?  
You chose!  
Hurry!  
Lord, don't you care?  
You rose!  
Hurry!

**5. Trope: "I Believe in God" Three Solos and Street Chorus**

Amen! Amen! Amen!

**Rock Singer**

Amen! Amen! Amen!  
I believe in God,  
but does God believe in me? I'll believe in any god  
if any god there be.  
That's a pact.  
Shake on that.

No taking back.  
I believe in one God,  
but then I believe in three.  
I'll believe in twenty gods  
if they'll believe in me.  
That's a pact.  
Shake on that.  
No taking back.  
Who created my life?  
Made me come to be?  
Who accepts this awful responsibility?  
Is there someone out there? If there is, then who?  
Are you list'ning to this song I'm singing just for you?  
I believe my singing.  
Do you believe it too?  
I believe each note I sing  
but is it getting through?  
I believe in F sharp.  
I believe in G.  
But does it mean a thing to you or should I change my key? How do you like A-flat?  
Do you believe in C?

**Choir**

Crucifixus etiam pro nobis sub ...

**Rock Singer**

Do you believe in anything that has to do with me?

**Street Chorus**

I believe in God,  
but does God believe in me? I'll believe in thirty gods  
if they'll believe in me.  
That's a pact.  
Shake on that.  
No taking back.

**Rock Singer**

I'll believe in sugar and spice,  
I'll believe in ev'rything nice;  
I'll believe in you and you and you and who ...  
Who'll believe in me?

**Celebrant** (*speaking*) Let us pray.

Let us pray!

**XI. Meditation No. 3 (De profundis, Part 1)**

*Tape Nine*

**Choir**

De profundis clamavi ad te, Domine; Domine, audi vocem meam!  
Fiant aures tuae intentae  
ad vocem obsecrationis meae.  
Si delictorum memoriam servaveris, Domine!  
Quis sustenebit?  
Sed penes te est peccatorum venia, ut cum reverentia serviatur tibi. Spero in Dominum,  
sperat anima mea in verbum eius. Spero!  
Sperat!

**Celebrant**

Memento, Domine ... Remember, O Lord, thy servants and handmaids ... (*ad lib. names of cast members*) ... and all here present, whose faith is known to Thee, and for whom we offer up this sacrifice. We beseech Thee, in the fellowship of communion, graciously to accept it and grant peace to our days.

## **XII. Offertory**

### **(De profundis, Part 2)**

#### **Boys' Choir and Choir**

Exspectat anima mea Dominum magis quam custodes auroram. Exspectet Israel Dominum,  
quia penes Dominum  
misericordia et copiosa penes eum  
redemptio:  
et ipse redimet Israel ex omnibus  
iniquitatibus eius. Gloria Patri!

## **XIII. The Lord's Prayer 1. Our Father ...**

**Celebrant** (*as if improvising*) Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against  
us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
Amen.

## **2. Trope: "I Go On"**

### **Celebrant**

When the thunder rumbles,  
now the Age of Gold is dead  
and the dreams we've clung to dying to  
stay young  
have left us parched and old instead, when my courage crumbles,  
when I feel confused and frail,  
when my spirit falters on decaying altars and my illusions fail,  
I go on right then, I go on again.  
I go on to say  
I will celebrate another day ...  
I go on ...  
If tomorrow tumbles  
and ev'rything I love is gone, I will face regret  
all my days, and yet  
I will still go on ... on ... Laude, Lauda, Laude, Lauda, Lauda di da di day.

## **XIV. Sanctus**

### **Celebrant** (*shouting*)

Holy! Holy! Holy  
is the lord God of Hosts!  
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory!

### **Boys' Choir I and II**

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus  
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.  
Pleni sunt coeli et terra Gloriam tuam. Osanna!  
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Osanna in excelsis!

### **Celebrant**

*Mi... Mi... Mi* alone is only me. But *mi* with *sol*  
me with soul,  
*mi sol*  
means a song is beginning,  
is beginning to grow,  
take wing, and rise up singing from me and my soul. Kadosh, Kadosh, Kadosh!

### **Choir**

Kadosh, Kadosh, Kadosh Adonai ts'vaot  
m'lo chol haaretz k'vodo. Singing: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts.  
All the heavens and earth are full of His glory.

**Three to Six Countertenors** (*Choir only*)

Kadosh, Kadosh, Kadosh

Adonai ts'vaot

m'lo chol haaretz k'vodo.

**Choir**

Baruch ha'ba b'shem Adonai!

**All Voices Onstage**

Sanctus! Sanctus!

## **XV. Agnus Dei**

**Soloists of Street Chorus**

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis!

Miserere nobis!

**Street Chorus**

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis!

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi; dona nobis pacem!

Pacem! Pacem!

**Celebrant** (*speaking*)

Hoc est enim Corpus Meum. Hic est enim Calix Sanguinis

**Street Chorus**

Dona ... nobis ... pacem ...

**Celebrant** (*speaking*) Hostiam puram!

**Street Chorus** (*Women*) Dona nobis pacem.

**Celebrant**

Hostiam sanctam ...

**Street Chorus** (*Women*) Dona nobis pacem.

**Celebrant**

Hostiam immaculatam ...

**Street Chorus**

Dona nobis pacem. Pacem! Pacem!

**Street Chorus and Choir**

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata Dona nobis pacem!

Dona nobis pacem!

Pacem! Pacem!

**Celebrant**

Let us pray!

**Choir**

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata Miserere nobis.

**Celebrant**

Non sum dignus, Domine.

**Choir**

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata Miserere nobis.

**Celebrant**

I am not worthy, Lord.

Mei!

**Choir**

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi! Dona nobis pacem!

**Celebrant**

Corpus!

**Choir**

Pacem!

**Celebrant**

Calix!

**Choir**

Pacem! Pacem! Dona nobis pacem!

**Celebrant**

Panem!

**Choir**

Dona nobis pacem!

Dona nobis, nobis pacem, pacem dona.

**Tenor Solo**

We're not down on our knees, we're not praying,

we're not asking you please, we're just saying:

Give us peace now and peace to hold on to.

And, God, give us some reason to want to! Dona nobis,  
dona nobis.

**Tutti Male Solos**

You worked six days and rested on Sunday.

We can tear the whole mess down in one day.

Give us peace now, and we don't mean later,

don't forget you were once our Creator! Dona nobis,  
dona nobis.

mundi;

mundi ...

mundi ...

**Solos**

We've got quarrels and qualms and such questions,

give us answers, not psalms and suggestions,

give us peace that we don't keep on breaking,

give us something or we'll just start taking! Dona nobis,  
dona nobis.

**Street Chorus** (*Tutti*)

We're fed up with your heavenly silence, and we only get action with violence,

so if we can't have the world we desire, Lord, we'll have to set this one on fire! Dona nobis,  
dona nobis.

*Tape Ten*

**Celebrant**

Pa ... cem!

**XVI. Fraction: "Things Get Broken"**

**Celebrant**

Pacem! Pa ... cem! Look ...

Isn't that ...

... odd ...

Red wine ... isn't red ... at all ...

It's sort of ... brown ... brown and blue ... I never noticed that.

What are you staring at?

Haven't you ever seen an accident before? Look ...

Isn't that ...

... odd ...

Glass shines ... brighter ...

When it's ... broken ...

I never noticed that.

How easily things get broken.

Glass ... and brown wine ...

Thick ... like blood ...

Rich ... like honey and blood ...

Hey ... don't you find that funny?

I mean, it's *supposed* to be blood ...

I mean, it *is* blood ...

His ...

It was ...  
How easily things get broken ...  
What are you staring at?  
Haven't you ever seen an accident before? Come on, come on, admit it,  
confess it was fun.  
Wasn't it?  
You know it was exciting  
to see what I've done.  
Come on, you know you loved it,  
you're dying for more.  
Wasn't it smashing  
to see it all come crashing  
right down to the floor?  
Right!  
You were right, little brothers,  
you were right all along.  
Little brothers and sisters,  
it was I who was wrong.  
So earnest, so solemn,  
as stiff as a column,  
"Lauda, Lauda, Laude."  
Little brothers and sisters,  
you were right all along!  
It's got to be exciting,  
it's got to be strong.  
Come on!  
Come on and join me,  
come join in the fun:  
Shatter and splatter,  
pitcher and platter,  
what do we care?  
We won't be there!  
What does it matter?  
What does it ... matter ...  
Our Father, who art in Heaven,  
haven't you ever seen an accident before? Listen ...  
Isn't that ...  
... odd ...  
We can ... be ... so still ...  
So still and ... numb ...  
How easily things get quiet ...  
... quiet ...  
God is very ill ...  
We must ... all be very still ...  
His voice ... has grown so small, almost ... not there at all ... Don't you cry ...  
Lullaby ...  
Sleep ...  
Sleep ...  
Shh ...  
Shh ...  
Pray, pray ...  
You sons of men ...  
Don't let ... Him die again ... Stay, oh stay ...  
DOMINE ...  
Stay ...  
Why are you waiting?  
Just go on without me.

Stop waiting.  
What is there about me  
that you've been respecting and what have you all been expecting to see?  
Take a look, there is nothing but me under this,  
there is nothing you'll miss!  
Put it on, and you'll see  
anyone of you can be  
anyone of me!  
What?  
Are you still waiting?  
Still waiting for me,  
me alone,  
to sing you into heaven?  
Well, you're on your own.  
Come on, say it,  
what has happened to  
all of your vocal powers?  
Sing it, pray it,  
where's that mumbo and jumbo I've heard for hours?  
Praying and pouting,  
braying and shouting litanies, chanting epistles,  
bouncing your missals  
on your knees ...  
Go on whining,  
pining, moaning, intoning, groaning obscenities!  
Why have you stopped praying?  
Stopped your Kyrieving?  
Where is your crying and complaining? Where is your lying and profaning? Where is your agony?  
Where is your malady?  
Where is your parody  
of God ... said ...  
Let there be and there was ...  
God said: Let there  
Beatam Mariam semper Virginem, Beatam miss the Gloria,  
I don't sing  
gratias agimus tibi  
propter magnam  
gloriam tuamen ...  
Amen.  
Amen.  
I'm in a hurry  
and come again.  
When?  
You said you'd come ...  
Come love, come lust ...  
It's so easy if you just don't care,  
Lord, don't you care ...  
... if it all ends today ...  
... profundis clamavi,  
clamavi ad te, Domine, ad Dominum, ad  
Dom ...  
Adonai ...  
... don't know,  
I don't nobis ...  
Miserere nobis ...  
Mise ... mi ...  
*Mi* alone is only me ...

but *mi* with *so* ...  
me with *s* ...  
... *mi* ...  
Oh, I suddenly feel ev'ry step I've ever  
taken,  
and my legs are lead.  
And I suddenly see ev'ry hand I've ever  
shaken,  
and my arms are dead.  
I feel ev'ry psalm that I've ever sung turn to wormwood, wormwood on my  
tongue. And I wonder, oh, I wonder,  
was I ever really young?  
It's odd how all my body trembles, like all this mass  
of glass on the floor.  
How fine it would be to rest my head, and lay me down,  
down in the wine,  
which never was really red ...  
... but sort of ...  
... brown ...  
and let not ... another word ...  
be spoken ...  
oh ...  
how easily things get broken.

#### **XVII. Pax: Communion (“Secret Songs”)**

##### **Solo Boy Soprano**

Sing God a secret song: Lauda, Laude ...  
Lauda, Lauda, Laude. Lauda, Lauda, Laudate. Laude, Deum,  
Laudate Eum.

##### **Bass Solo**

Lauda, Laude, Lauda, Laude, Laude Deum, Laude Eum.

##### **Boy Solo and Bass Solo**

Lauda, Lauda, Laudate ...

##### **Soprano Solo**

Lauda, Laude, Lauda, Lauda, Laudate Deum, Lauda, Lauda, Laudate Eum.

##### **Tenor Solo**

Lauda, Laude, Lauda, Lauda, Laudate Deum, Lauda, Lauda, Laudate Eum.

##### **Soprano Solo Two and Tenor Solo Two**

Lauda, Lauda, Lauda, Laude ...

##### **Street Chorus**

Lauda, Lauda, Lauda, Laude ...

##### **Tutti Voices**

Pax tecum.

##### **Solo Boy Soprano**

Lauda, Lauda, Lauda, Laude ...

##### **Celebrant**

Lauda, Lauda, Lauda, Laude ...

##### **Entire Company**

Almighty Father, incline thine ear:  
Bless us and all those who have gathered here.  
Thine angel send us,  
who shall defend us all; and fill with grace  
all who dwell in this place. Amen.

##### **Voice**

The Mass is ended; go in peace.