

# Blessing Ritual for a Sacred Object

Christopher Walker

As the sacred object is brought forward, or as the priest processes to the sacred symbol, the choir sings:

*Peacefully* (♩ = ca. 84)

*mp*

Soprano Alto

Al - le - lu - ya, al - le - lu - ya, al - le - lu - y - a,

*mp*

Tenor Bass

*mf*

al - le - lu - y - a, al - le - lu - ya, al - le - lu - ya,

*mf*

al - le - lu - y - a, al - le - lu - y - a.

Priest/Deacon/Cantor:

Blessed is the Lord our God, for ever and always, unto ages of ages. Amen.

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*mf*  
Ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y, ho - ly and im - mor - tal,

have mer - cy on us. A - men.

**Priest/Deacon/Cantor:**

Yours, Lord, are the power and the glory, yours the communion and fulfillment,  
yours the love and the unending beauty of all that is. Amen.

*f*  
Ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y, ho - ly and im - mor - tal,

have mer - cy on us. A - men.

\*The choir may hum this chord under the prayer that follows.

Priest/Deacon/Cantor:  
Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison.

*mp* *pp* *mf*  
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

*mp* *pp* *mf*

Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

*pp* *mf*

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison.

*pp* *f*  
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

*pp* *f*

The image shows a musical score for a Kyrie eleison. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line for a Priest/Deacon/Cantor and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The first system is for the Kyrie eleison, with dynamics *mp*, *pp*, and *mf*. The second system is for Chri - ste e - le - i - son, with dynamics *pp* and *mf*. The third system is for Kyrie eleison, with dynamics *pp* and *f*. A large, bold, black watermark 'SAMPLE' is oriented vertically across the center of the page, partially obscuring the musical notation.

*f*

Ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y, ho - ly and im - mor - tal,

*f*

have mer - cy on us. A - men.

**PRAYER OF BLESSING**

Priest/Deacon:

Lord, bless this \* sacred symbol of your love.  
 May it remind us that we are called to a life of faith in you.  
 Increase our faith and strengthen us to proclaim the Good News of salvation.  
 May the mystery of your life preserve us, and the mystery of your love  
 sustain us all the days of our life; until we reach to the day of  
 fulfillment in your Kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord:

*mp*

(\*\*Mm)

A - men,

*mp*

\*Insert the name of the sacred object and/or the name of the saint associated with it; include a phrase about the use of the sacred object. See Composer Notes, page 12.

\*\*Optional choir humming under the prayers.

As the symbol is blessed with incense  
or sprinkled with holy water, the choir sings:  
*p*

a - le - lu - y - a. Ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y,

ho - ly and im - mor - have mer - cy on us.

Ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y, ho - ly and im -

mor - tal, have mer - cy on us.

*mf*

Al - le - lu - ya, al - le - lu - ya, al - le - lu - y - a,

*mf*

*mf*

al - le - lu - y - a. Al - le - lu - ya, al - le - lu - ya,

*f*

al - le - lu - y - a, al - le - lu - y - a.

*f* *rall.* *pp*


**S**

# Penitential Rite

from "Blessing Ritual for a Sacred Object"

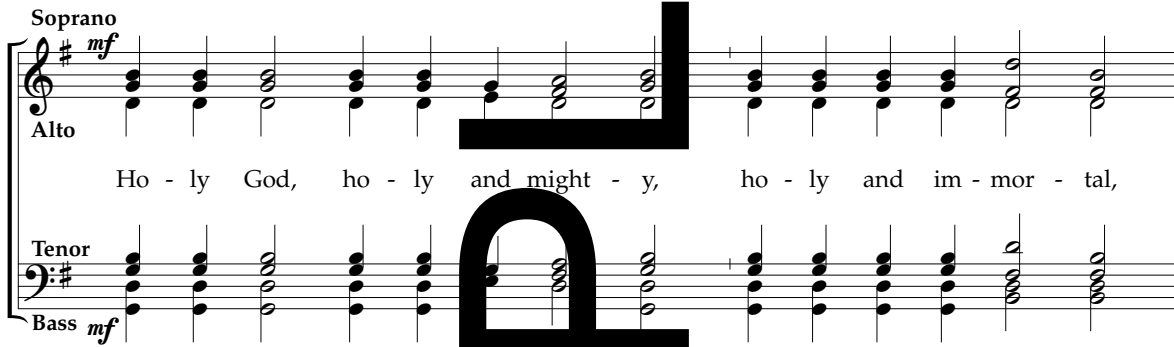
Christopher Walker

Priest/Deacon/Cantor:

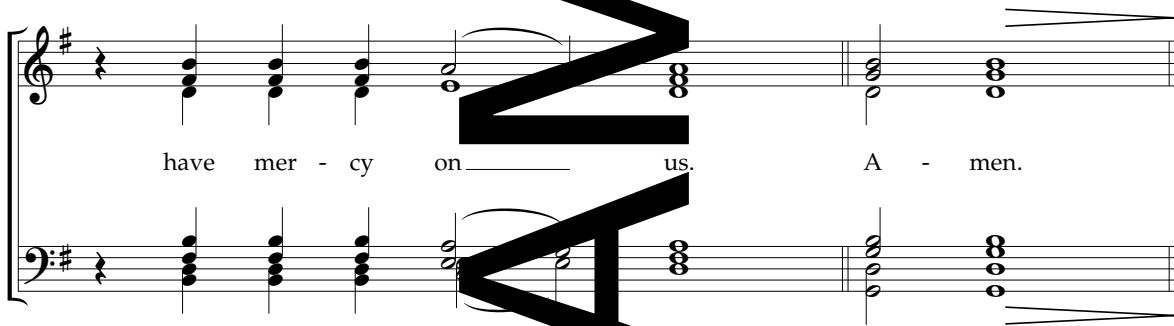


Blessed is the Lord our God, forever and always, unto ages of ages. Amen.

Soprano *mf*  
Alto  
Tenor  
Bass *mf*



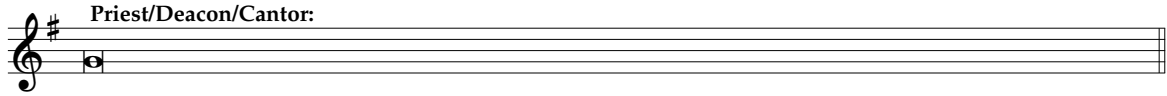
Ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y, ho - ly and im - mor - tal,



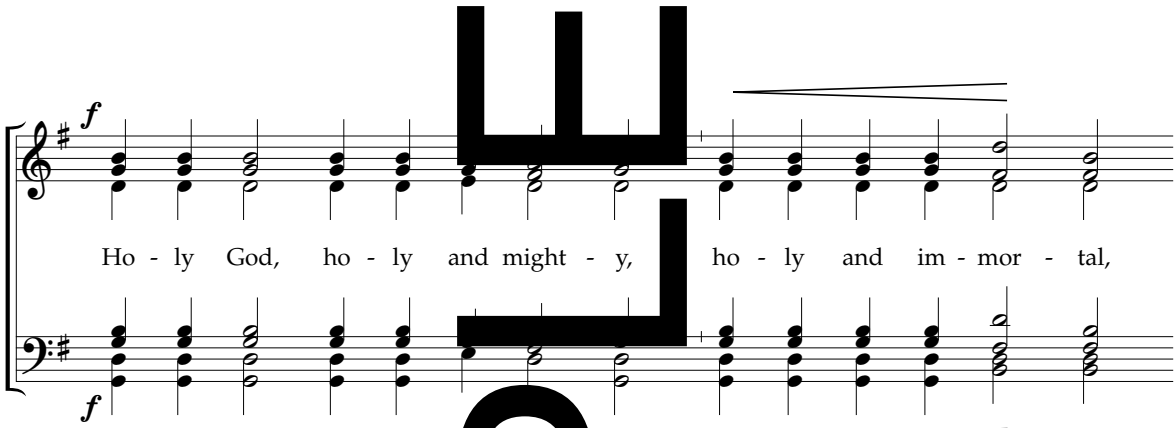
have mer - cy on us. A - men.

W  
E  
P  
R  
A  
S

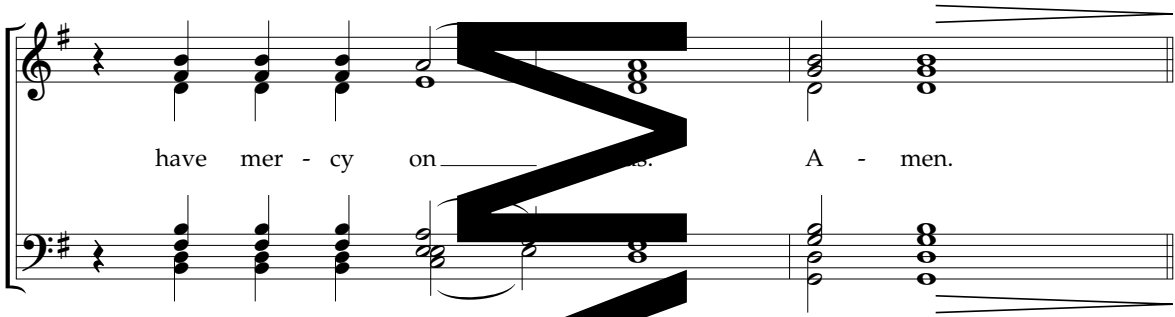
Priest/Deacon/Cantor:



Yours, Lord, are the power and the glory, yours the communion and fulfillment,  
yours the love and the unending beauty of all that is. Amen.



Ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y, ho - ly and im - mor - tal,



have mer - cy on us. A - men.

WE  
PLE  
AM  
S

Priest/Deacon/Cantor:  
Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison.

*mp* Ky - ri - e *pp* *mf* e - le - i - son.

Christe eleison, Christe eleison, Christe eleison.

*pp* Chri - ste *mf* e - le - i - son.

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison.

*pp* Ky - ri - e *f* e - le - i - son.

W  
L  
E  
M  
A  
S

May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life.

A - men.

*mp* Ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y, ho - ly and im - mor - tal,

*mp*

have mer - cy on us. A - men.

S  
A  
M  
P  
L  
E

# Trisagion

from "Blessing Ritual for a Sacred Object"

Christopher Walker

Sing three times:  
*mp - mf - f*

Soprano  
Alto

Tenor  
Bass

Ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y, ho - ly and im -

mor - tal, have me - cy on us. A - men.

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## Composer Notes

The entire ritual may be used for the blessing of a sacred symbol, statue, ikon, processional cross, altar, tabernacle, ambo, lectern, window, vessel or other item for sacred use—even a part of the blessing—of a new church or chapel.

The Prayer of Blessing (page 5) is given as an example only. Feel free to replace it with a prayer more appropriate for the sacred object being blessed.

The priest's part may be spoken or sung. If spoken, or if the priest finds it difficult to hold pitch, the choir may hum a G or G chord. Alternatively, play a low octave G on the keyboard to maintain musical continuity. Cantors may sing the priest's invocations, but not the Prayer of Blessing.

The choral parts should be sung with passionate expression. Ideally, this piece should be sung unaccompanied, but gentle accompaniment may be added to support the singing.

The Kyrie section on page 4 may be sung for the Penitential Rite during Lent, or for penitential services. Or, for a more extended form, the Penitential Rite (page 8) may be used.

—Christopher Walker