(Purple)

Ember (ash) days are a very old and holy tradition of the Church; among the Ember Days those of September are nearest to the original purpose. They are clearly a meditation on the theme of fruit and harvest as most of the lessons point out and as the communion song proclaims. Of course the deeper significance for the Church is that the clergy are the harvesters and the fruit of the season the souls of the faithful, and so there needs to be an awareness of the tradition of conveying minor orders at this time.

## **Ember Friday in September**

The Introit Psalm 105:3, 4 Psalm Vs. 1

Tone 1a



# Antiphon:

Let the hearts of those who seek the LORD <u>rej</u>oice. \* Glory in his <u>ho</u>ly Name; \*

Search for the LORD and <u>his</u> strength; \* continually <u>seek</u> his face.

### Psalm:

Give thanks to the LORD and call upon <u>his</u> Name; \* make known his deeds among <u>the</u> peoples.

#### Gloria Patri:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, \*
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever,
for all ages of ages. Amen

# Repeat Antiphon

### The Kyrie

#### The Collect

Almighty God, grant that we who devoutly keep the sacred observances year by year may be pleasing to you both in body and soul; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages. *Amen* 

#### The First Lesson: Hosea 14:1-9

Thus says the Lord God: Return, O Israel, to the LORD your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity. Take words with you and return to the LORD; say to him, "Take away all guilt; accept that which is good, and we will offer the fruit of our lips. Assyria shall not save us; we will not ride upon horses; we will say no more, 'Our God,' to the work of our hands. In you the orphan finds mercy." I will heal their disloyalty; I will love them freely, for my anger has turned from them. I will be like the dew to Israel; he shall blossom like the lily, he shall strike root like the forests of Lebanon. His shoots shall spread out; his beauty shall be like the olive tree, and his fragrance like that of Lebanon. They shall again live beneath my shadow, they shall flourish as a garden; they shall blossom like the vine, their fragrance shall be like the wine of Lebanon. O Ephraim, what have I to do with idols? It is I who answer and look after you. I am like an evergreen cypress; your faithfulness comes from me. Those who are wise understand these things; those who are discerning know them. For the ways of the LORD are right, and the upright walk in them, but transgressors stumble in them.



Return, O LORD; how long will you <u>tar</u>ry? \* be gracious to <u>your</u> servants.

Lord, you have been our <u>re</u>fuge \* from one generation to <u>an</u>other.

The Gospel: Luke 7:36-50

At that time... One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him - that she is a sinner." Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "speak." "A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?" Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus said to him, "You have judged rightly." Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her

hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little." Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

#### The Nicene Creed is not said



Bless <u>the</u> LORD, <u>O</u> my soul, \* and all that is within me, bless his <u>holy</u> Name.

He satisfies you <u>with</u> good things, \* and your youth is renewed like <u>an</u> eagle's.

## The Prayer over the Gifts:

O Lord, may the gift of our fasting be acceptable to you, and by its purifying power make us worthy of your grace and bring us to the eternal life you have promised us; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages. *Amen* 

#### The Common Preface



Turn from me shame and <u>re</u>buke, \* for I have kept <u>your</u> decrees.

For your decrees are my <u>de</u>light, \* and they are my <u>coun</u>selors.

#### The Postcommunion:

O Lord, we humbly pray, that, showing gratitude for the Holy Mysteries which we have received, we may obtain their greater benefits; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages. *Amen*