

Liturgy of the Hours
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

MORNING PRAYER

December 17, 2025

{ Wednesday of the Third Week of Advent }



Invitatory

Stand and make sign of cross on lips with thumb

Lord, open my lips.

— And my mouth will proclaim your praise.

Psalm 95

A call to praise God

Encourage each other daily while it is still today (Hebrews 3:13).

The Lord is close at hand; come, let us worship him.

— The Lord is close at hand; come, let us worship him.

Come, let us sing to the Lord
and shout with joy to the Rock who saves us.
Let us approach him with praise and thanksgiving
and sing joyful songs to the Lord.

— The Lord is close at hand; come, let us worship him.

The Lord is God, the mighty God,
the great king over all the gods.
He holds in his hands the depths of the earth
and the highest mountains as well.
He made the sea; it belongs to him,
the dry land, too, for it was formed by his hands.

— The Lord is close at hand; come, let us worship him.

Come, then, let us bow down and worship,
bending the knee before the Lord, our maker.
For he is our God and we are his people,
the flock he shepherds.

— The Lord is close at hand; come, let us worship him.

Today, listen to the voice of the Lord:
Do not grow stubborn, as your fathers did
in the wilderness,
when at Meriba and Massah
they challenged me and provoked me,

Although they had seen all of my works.

— The Lord is close at hand; come, let us worship him.

Forty years I endured that generation.

I said, “They are a people whose hearts go astray
and they do not know my ways.”

So I swore in my anger,

“They shall not enter into my rest.”

— The Lord is close at hand; come, let us worship him.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

— The Lord is close at hand; come, let us worship him.

Morning Prayer

HYMN

With mighty voice the prophets cry
that Christ the Lord is drawing near;
rejoicing, they foresee the grace
by which he saves us and redeems.

And so our morning sun shines forth,
our hearts ablaze with radiant joy;
we hear the faithful voice resound,
precursor of God’s glorious gift.

At that first Advent Christ our God
came forth not to condemn the world,
but came to cleanse our gaping wound,
to seek and save what had been lost.

Christ’s Second Coming warns us all
that he is standing at the gates
to give to saints their glorious crowns
and open wide the heav’nly realm.

Eternal light is now foretold,

the saving star is shining forth,
its radiant splendor summons us
and calls us to the heav'nly court.

Christ Jesus, you alone we seek
to see you face to face as God;
may this unending vision be
an everlasting hymn of praise. Amen.

*Metrical hymn, melody: Winchester New, 8 8 8 8; adapted from a chorale in
Musicalisches Hand-Buch, Hamburg, 1690*

Plainsong, mode D, melody 127; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983, Text: Magnis
prophetæ vocibus, unknown author*

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Sit or stand

PSALMODY

Antiphon 1

The Lord, the mighty God, will come forth from Zion to set his
people free.

Psalm 86

The prayer of the poor man in distress

Blessed be God who comforts us in all our trials (2 Corinthians 1:3, 4).

Turn your éar, O Lórd, and give ánswe^r*
for Í am póor and néedy.
Preserve my life, for Í am fáithful: *
save the sérvant who trústs in yóu.

You are my Gód, have mércy on me, Lórd, *
for I crý to you áll the day lóng.
Give jóy to your sérvant, O Lórd, *
for to yóu I líft up my sóul.

O Lórd, you are góod and forgíving, *
full of lóve to áll who cáll.

Give héed, O Lórd, to my práyer *
and atténd to the sóund of my vóice.

In the dáy of distréss I will cáll *
and súrely yóu will réply.

Among the góds there is nóne like you, O Lórd; *
nor wórk to compáre with yóurs.

All the nátions shall cóme to adóre you *
and glórfify your náme, O Lórd:
for you are gréat and do márvellous déeds, *
yóu who alóne are Gód.

Shów me, Lórd, your wáy †
so that Í may wálk in your trúth. *
Guide my héart to féar your náme.

I will práise you, Lord my Gód, with all my héart *
and glórfify your náme for éver;
for your lóve to mé has been gréat: *
you have sáved me from the dépths of the gráve.

The próud have rísen agáinst me; †
rúthless men séek my life: *
to yóu they páy no héed.

But yóu, God of mércy and compásson, *
slów to ánger, O Lórd,
abóunding in lóve and trúth, *
túrn and take píty on mé.

O gíve your stréngth to your sérvant *
and sáve your hándmaid's són.
Shów me a sígn of your fávor †
that my fóes may sée to their sháme *
that you consóle me and gíve me your hélp.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, *

and will be for ever. Amen.

Antiphon

The Lord, the mighty God, will come forth from Zion to set his people free.

Antiphon 2

I shall not cease to plead with God for Zion until he sends his Holy One in all his radiant beauty.

Canticle – Isaiah 33:13-16

God's flawless judgment

What God has promised is for you, for your children, and for those still far away (Acts 2:39).

Hear, you who are far off,*
what I have done;
you who are near,*
acknowledge my might.

On Zion sinners are in dread,*
trembling grips the impious;
“Who of us can live with the consuming fire? *
Who of us can live with the everlasting flames?”

He who practices virtue and speaks honestly,*
who spurns what is gained by oppression,
brushing his hands*
free of contact with a bribe,
stopping his ears lest he hear of bloodshed,*
closing his eyes lest he look on evil.

He shall dwell on the heights,*
his stronghold shall be the rocky fastness,
his food and drink*
in steady supply.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,*
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,*
and will be for ever. Amen.

Antiphon

I shall not cease to plead with God for Zion until he sends his Holy One in all his radiant beauty.

Antiphon 3

The Spirit of the Lord rests upon me; he has sent me to preach his joyful message to the poor.

Psalm 98

The Lord triumphs in his judgment

This psalm tells of the Lord's first coming and that people of all nations will believe in him (Saint Athanasius).

Síng a new sóng to the Lórd *
for hé has worked wónders.
His ríght hand and his hóly árm *
have bróught salvátion.

The Lórd has made knówn his salvátion; *
has shown his jústice to the nátions.
He has remébered his trúth and lóve *
for the hóuse of Ísrael.

All the énds of the éarth have séen *
the salvátion of our Gód.
Shóut to the Lórd, all the éarth, *
ríng out your jóy.

Síng psálms to the Lórd with the hárp *
with the sóund of músic.
With trúmpets and the sóund of the hórn *
acclaim the Kíng, the Lórd.

Let the séa and all withín it thúnder; *
the wórlđ, and all its péoples.
Let the rívers cláp their hánds *
and the hílls ríng out their jóy.

Rejóice at the présence of the Lórd, *
for he comes to rúle the éarth.
He will rúle the wórlđ with jústice *

and the peoples with fairness.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, *
and will be for ever. Amen.

Antiphon

The Spirit of the Lord rests upon me; he has sent me to preach his joyful message to the poor.

Sit

READING

Isaiah 11:1-3a

A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse,
and from his roots a bud shall blossom.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him:
a spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
A spirit of counsel and of strength,
a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the Lord,
and his delight shall be the fear of the lord.

RESPONSORY

Your light will come, Jerusalem; the Lord will dawn on you in radiant beauty.

— Your light will come, Jerusalem; the Lord will dawn on you in radiant beauty.

You will see his glory within you;

— the Lord will dawn on you in radiant beauty.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

— Your light will come, Jerusalem; the Lord will dawn on you in radiant beauty.

Stand

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Antiphon

Believe me, the kingdom of God is at hand; I tell you solemnly, your Savior will not delay his coming.

Luke 1:68-79

The Messiah and his forerunner

Make sign of cross

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old †
that he would save us from our enemies, *
from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham: *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship him without fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High; *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
to give his people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God *
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, *
and will be for ever. Amen.

Antiphon

Believe me, the kingdom of God is at hand; I tell you solemnly, your Savior will not delay his coming.

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray to God our Father, who from of old has called his people to salvation:

— Lord, protect your people.

You promised to plant the seed of justice among your people, protect the holiness of your Church.

— Lord, protect your people.

Lord, teach all men and women to listen to your word, and help believers to persevere in holiness.

— Lord, protect your people.

Keep us in the love of your Spirit, that we may know the mercy of your Son who is to come.

— Lord, protect your people.

Father most merciful, strengthen us to the last, until the day of the coming of Jesus Christ our Lord.

— Lord, protect your people.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Concluding Prayer

Father,

creator and redeemer of mankind,
you decreed, and your Word became man,
born of the Virgin Mary.

May we come to share the divinity of Christ,
who humbled himself to share our human nature,
for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

— Amen.

Dismissal

May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil and bring us to
everlasting life.

— Amen.

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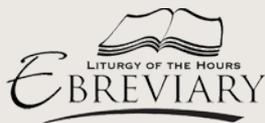
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