

*Liturgy of the Hours*  
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

MORNING PRAYER

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April 8, 2024

{ Solemnity – Annunciation }



# *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 Word was made flesh; come let us worship him, alleluia.

— The Word was made flesh; come let us worship him, alleluia.

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 Word was made flesh; come let us worship him, alleluia.

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 Word was made flesh; come let us worship him, alleluia.

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 Word was made flesh; come let us worship him, alleluia.

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 Word was made flesh; come let us worship him, alleluia.

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 Word was made flesh; come let us worship him, alleluia.

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 Word was made flesh; come let us worship him, alleluia.

## *Morning Prayer*

### HYMN

Hail, this festival day!  
Blest day to be hallowed for ever  
When we in Mary’s praise  
Our joyful anthem raise.

Ave Maria, the maid  
Who bore for us the Redeemer;  
Blest is she by all creation;  
Blest is she in her child.

Hail, this festival day!  
Blest day to be hallowed for ever  
When we in Mary’s praise  
Our joyful anthem raise.

Ave Maria, the Virgin Mother,  
Pray for us sinners,  
Hail Mary, full of grace,  
Mother of mercy and love.

Hail, this festival day!  
Blest day to be hallowed for ever

When we in Mary's praise  
Our joyful anthem raise.

Star of the ocean most fair,  
O lead us to Christ, our brother;  
Pray God defend us, ever guide us,  
Show us his loving care.

Hail, this festival day!  
Blest day to be hallowed for ever  
When we in Mary's praise  
Our joyful anthem raise.

Sing out her praises, ye choirs of angels,  
Sing, all ye peoples.  
Heavenly hosts, rejoice;  
Sing to her glory and praise.

Hail, this festival day!  
Blest day to be hallowed for ever  
When we in Mary's praise  
Our joyful anthem raise.

*Melody: Salve Festa Dies; Music: R. Vaughn Williams, 1872-1958; Text: John Dunn,  
1974*

*Sit or stand*

## PSALMODY

### *Antiphon 1*

The angel Gabriel was sent to the Virgin Mary, who was engaged to  
be married to Joseph, alleluia.

*Psalm 63:2-9*

*A soul thirsting for God*

*Whoever has left the darkness of sin yearns for God.*

O Gód, you are my Gód, for you I lóng; \*  
for yóu my sóul is thírsting.  
My bódy pínes for yóu \*  
like a drý, weary lánd without wáter.  
So I gáze on yóu in the sánctuary \*  
to sée your stréngth and your glóry.

For your love is better than life, \*  
my lips will speak your praise.  
So I will bless you all my life, \*  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, \*  
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you. \*  
On you I muse through the night  
for you have been my help; \*  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.  
My soul clings to you; \*  
your right hand holds me fast.

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 angel Gabriel was sent to the Virgin Mary, who was engaged to be married to Joseph, alleluia.

*Antiphon 2*

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, alleluia.

*Canticle – Daniel 3:57-88, 56*

*Let all creatures praise the Lord*

*All you servants of the Lord, sing praise to him (Revelation 19:5).*

Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord. \*  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Angels of the Lord, bless the Lord. \*  
You heavens, bless the Lord.  
All you waters above the heavens, bless the Lord. \*  
All you hosts of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Sun and moon, bless the Lord. \*  
Stars of heaven, bless the Lord.

Every shower and dew, bless the Lord. \*  
All you winds, bless the Lord.

Fire and heat, bless the Lord.\*  
Cold and chill, bless the Lord.  
Dew and rain, bless the Lord.\*  
Frost and chill, bless the Lord.  
Ice and snow, bless the Lord.\*  
Nights and days, bless the Lord.  
Light and darkness, bless the Lord.\*  
Lightnings and clouds, bless the Lord.

Let the earth bless the Lord.\*  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Mountains and hills, bless the Lord.\*  
Everything growing from the earth, bless the Lord.  
You springs, bless the Lord.\*  
Seas and rivers, bless the Lord.  
You dolphins and all water creatures, bless the Lord.\*  
All you birds of the air, bless the Lord.  
All you beasts, wild and tame, bless the Lord.\*  
You sons of men, bless the Lord.

O Israel, bless the Lord.\*  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Priests of the Lord, bless the Lord.\*  
Servants of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Spirits and souls of the just, bless the Lord.\*  
Holy men of humble heart, bless the Lord.  
Hananiah, Azariah, Mishael, bless the Lord.\*  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.

Let us bless the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.\*  
Let us praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Blessed are you, Lord, in the firmament of heaven.\*  
Praiseworthy and glorious and exalted above all forever.

*Antiphon*

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, alleluia.

*Antiphon 3*

Trusting in the Lord's promise, the Virgin Mary conceived a child,

and remaining a virgin, she gave birth to the Savior, alleluia.

*Psalm 149*

*The joy of God's holy people.*

*Let the sons of the Church, the children of the new people, rejoice in Christ, their King (Hesychius).*

Síng a new sǒng to the Lórd,\*  
his práise in the assémbly of the fáithful.  
Let Ísraél rejóice in its máker,\*  
let Zíon's sons exúlt in their kíng.  
Let them práise his náme with dáncing\*  
and make músic with tímbrel and hárp.

For the Lórd takes delíght in his péople.\*  
He crówns the póor with salvátion.  
Let the fáithful rejóice in their glóry,\*  
shout for jóy and táke their rést.  
Let the práise of Gód be on their líps\*  
and a twó-edged swórd in their hánd,  
to déál out véngeance to the nátions\*  
and púnishment on áll the péoples;  
to bínd their kíngs in cháins\*  
and their nóbles in fétters of íron;  
to cárry out the séntence pre-ordáined;\*  
this hónor is for áll his fáithful.

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*

Trusting in the Lord's promise, the Virgin Mary conceived a child,  
and remaining a virgin, she gave birth to the Savior, alleluia.

*Sit*

READING

*Philippians 2:6-7*

Though he was in the form of God,  
Jesus did not deem equality with God

something to be grasped at.  
Rather, he emptied himself  
and took the form of a slave,  
being born in the likeness of men.  
He was known to be of human estate.

### RESPONSORY

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you, alleluia, alleluia.

— Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you, alleluia,  
alleluia.

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your  
womb.

— alleluia, alleluia.

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

— Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you, alleluia,  
alleluia.

*Stand*

### GOSPEL CANTICLE

*Antiphon*

In his great love for us, God sent his Son in the likeness of our sinful  
nature, alleluia.

*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*

In his great love for us, God sent his Son in the likeness of our sinful nature, alleluia.

### INTERCESSIONS

Today we celebrate the beginning of our salvation when the coming of the Lord was announced by the angel. Let us pray with joy in our hearts, saying:

— May God's holy Mother intercede for us.

Mary received God's word with joy,  
may joy fill our hearts as we welcome our Savior.

— May God's holy Mother intercede for us.

You looked with love on your lowly servant,  
in your mercy, Father, remember us and all your children.

— May God's holy Mother intercede for us.

Mary, the new Eve, was obedient to your word,  
may we echo her loving obedience.

— May God's holy Mother intercede for us.

May God's holy Mother help all in distress, encourage the fainthearted, console the sorrowful, may she pray for your holy people, for the clergy, and for all women dedicated to your service.

— May God's holy Mother intercede for us.

*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*

God our Father,  
your Word became man and was born of the Virgin Mary.  
May we become more like Jesus Christ,  
whom we acknowledge as our redeemer, God and man.  
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who 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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