

*Liturgy of the Hours*  
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

OFFICE OF READINGS

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June 28, 2025

{ Memorial – Immaculate Heart of Mary }



*Stand and make sign of cross*

God, come to my assistance.

— Lord, make haste to help me.

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. Alleluia.

### HYMN

The God whom earth and sea and sky  
adore, acclaim, and glorify,  
the ruler of this threefold world  
is borne in Mary's cloistered womb.

The sun and moon, all things on earth  
obey his will in ev'ry age;  
through grace poured forth from heav'n on high  
a maiden bears him in her womb.

How blest the Mother in this gift,  
for her Creator from on high,  
whose palm can hold the universe,  
dwelt in her womb as in the Ark.

Blest by the angel's heav'nly word,  
made fruitful by the Spirit's grace,  
from this pure womb a child was born:  
the One for whom the nations longed.

To you, Lord Jesus, glory be,  
who are the Virgin Mary's Son,  
with God the Father, ever blest,  
and loving Spirit, ever one. Amen.

*Metrical hymn, melody: HEREFORD, 8 8 8 8; Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1810-1876*

*Plainsong, mode VIII, melody 109; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983\*, Text: Quem  
terra, pontus, æthera, Venantius Fortunatus, ca. 530-600*

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*Sit or stand*

## PSALMODY

### *Antiphon 1*

The Lord summons heaven and earth to witness his judgment on his people.

### *Psalm 50*

#### *Genuine love of God*

*I have come not to abolish the law but to bring it to perfection (see Matthew 5:17).*

### *I*

The Gód of góds, the Lórd, †  
has spóken and súmmoned the éarth, \*  
from the rísing of the sún to its sétting.  
Out of Zíon's perfect béauty he shínes. \*  
Our God cómes, he keeps sílence no lónger.

Befóre him fíre devóurs, \*  
aróund him témpet ráges.  
He cálls on the héavens and the éarth \*  
to wítness his júdgment of his péople.

“Súmmon befóre me my péople \*  
who made cóvenant with mé by sácrifice.”  
The héavens procláim his jústice, \*  
for Gód himsélf is the júdge.

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 summons heaven and earth to witness his judgment on his

people.

*Antiphon 2*

Come to me in your distress, and I will save you.

*II*

“Listen, my péople, I will spéak; \*

Ísrael, I will téstify agáinst you,

for Í am Gód your Gód. \*

I accúse you, láy the charge befóre you.

I fínd no fáult with your sácrifices, \*

your ófferings are álways befóre me.

I do not ásk more búllocks from your fárms, \*

nor góats from amóng your hérds.

For I ówn all the béasts of the fórest, \*

béasts in their thóusands on my hílls.

I knów all the bírds in the ský, \*

all that móves in the fíeld belongs to mé.

Were I húngrý, Í wóuld not téll you, \*

for I ówn the wórld and all it hólds.

Do you thínk I eat the flésh of búlls, \*

or drínk the blóod of góats?

Pay your sácrifice of thánksgiving to Gód \*

and rénder him your vótive ófferings.

Call on mé in the dáy of distréss. \*

I will frée you and yóu shall hónor me.”

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*

Come to me in your distress, and I will save you.

*Antiphon 3*

A sacrifice of praise will give me glory.

### III

But Gód sáys to the wicked: †  
“But hów can you recíte my commándments \*  
and táke my cóvenant on your líps,  
yóu who despíse my láu \*  
and thrów my wórds to the wínds,  
you who sée a thíef and go with him; \*  
who thrów in your lót with adúlterers,  
who unbridle your móuth for évil \*  
and whose tóngue is plóttíng críme,  
you who sít and malígn your bróther \*  
and slándér your ówn mother’s són.  
You do thís, and should Í keep sílence? \*  
Do you thínk that Í am like yóu?  
Mark thís, you who néver think of Gód, \*  
lest I séize you and you cánnót escápe;  
a sácrífice of thanksgíving hónors me \*  
and I will shów God’s salvátion to the úpríght.”  
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*

A sacrifice of praise will give me glory.

#### VERSE

We are always praying earnestly for you.

— That you may have a deep knowledge of God’s will.

#### *Sit*

#### READINGS

##### *First reading*

From the first book of Samuel

*David shows his generosity in forgiving Saul*

David himself went to the place where Saul was encamped and examined the spot where Saul and Abner, son of Ner, the general, had their sleeping quarters. Saul's were within the barricade, and all his soldiers were camped around him. David asked Ahimelech the Hittite, and Abishai, son of Zeruiah and brother of Joab, "Who will go down into the camp with me to Saul?" Abishai replied, "I will." So David and Abishai went among Saul's soldiers by night and found Saul lying asleep within the barricade, with his spear thrust into the ground at his head and Abner and his men sleeping around him.

Abishai whispered to David: "God has delivered your enemy into your grasp this day. Let me nail him to the ground with one thrust of the spear; I will not need a second thrust!" But David said to Abishai, "Do not harm him, for who can lay hands on the Lord's anointed and remain unpunished?"

"As the Lord lives," David continued, "it must be the Lord himself who will strike him, whether the time comes for him to die, or he goes out and perishes in battle. But the Lord forbid that I touch his anointed! Now take the spear which is at his head and the water jug, and let us be on our way." So David took the spear and the water jug from their place at Saul's head, and they got away without anyone's seeing or knowing or awakening. All remained asleep, because the Lord had put them into a deep slumber.

Going across to an opposite slope, David stood on a remote hilltop at a great distance from Abner, son of Ner, and the troops. He then shouted, "Will you not answer, Abner?" And Abner answered, "Who is it that calls me?" David said to Abner: "Are you not a man whose like does not exist in Israel? Why, then, have you not guarded your Lord the king when one of his subjects went to kill the king, your lord? This is no creditable service you have performed. As the Lord lives, you people deserve death because you have not guarded your lord, the Lord's anointed. Go, look: where are the king's spear and the water jug that was at his head?"

Saul recognized David's voice and asked, "Is that your voice, my son David?" David answered, "Yes, my Lord the king." He continued: "Why does my Lord pursue his servant? What have I done? What evil do I plan? Please, now, let my Lord the king listen to the words of his servant. If the Lord has incited you against me, let an offering appease him; but if men, may they be cursed before the Lord, because they have exiled me so that this day I have no share in the Lord's inheritance, but am told: 'Go serve other gods!' Do not let my blood flow to the ground far from the presence of the Lord. For the king of Israel has come out to seek a single flea as if he were hunting partridge in the mountains." Then Saul said: "I have done wrong. Come back, my son David, I will not harm you again, because you have held my life precious today. Indeed, I have been a fool and have made a serious mistake." But David answered: "Here is the king's spear. Let an attendant come over to get it. The Lord will reward each man for his justice and faithfulness. Today, though the Lord delivered you into my grasp, I would not harm the Lord's anointed. As I valued your life highly today, so may the Lord value my life highly and deliver me from all difficulties."

Then Saul said to David: "Blessed are you, my son David! You shall certainly succeed in whatever you undertake." David went his way, and Saul returned to his home.

### *Responsory*

*Psalm 54:5, 3, 8, 4*

Arrogant men have risen up against me, and brutal men seek my life.  
Save me, O God, by your name,

— and with your strength defend my cause.

Willingly I shall offer sacrifice to you; O God, hear my prayer.

— And with your strength defend my cause.

### *Second reading*

From a sermon by Saint Lawrence Justinian, bishop

*Mary stored up all these things in her heart*

While Mary contemplated all she had come to know through reading, listening and observing, she grew in faith, increased in merits, and was more illuminated by wisdom and more consumed by the fire of charity. The heavenly mysteries were opened to her, and she was filled with joy; she became fruitful by the Spirit, was being directed toward God, and watched over protectively while on earth. So remarkable are the divine graces that they elevate one from the lowest depths to the highest summit, and transform one to a greater holiness. How entirely blessed was the mind of the Virgin which, through the indwelling and guidance of the Spirit, was always and in every way open to the power of the Word of God. She was not led by her own senses, nor by her own will; thus she accomplished outwardly through her body what wisdom from within gave to her faith. It was fitting for divine Wisdom, which created itself a home in the Church, to use the intervention of the most blessed Mary in guarding the law, purifying the mind, giving an example of humility and providing a spiritual sacrifice.

Imitate her, O faithful soul. Enter into the deep recesses of your heart so that you may be purified spiritually and cleansed from your sins. God places more value on good will in all we do than on the works themselves. Therefore, whether we give ourselves to God in the work of contemplation or whether we serve the needs of our neighbor by good works, we accomplish these things because the love of Christ urges us on. The acceptable offering of the spiritual purification is accomplished not in a man-made temple but in the recesses of the heart where the Lord Jesus freely enters.

*Responsory*

O pure and holy virgin, how can I find words to praise your beauty?

— The highest heavens cannot contain God whom you carried in your womb.

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



- The highest heavens cannot contain God whom you carried in your womb.

*Stand*

### CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Father,  
you prepared the heart of the Virgin Mary  
to be a fitting home for your Holy Spirit.  
By her prayers  
may we become a more worthy temple of your glory.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

- Amen.

*Acclamation*

Let us praise the Lord.

- And give him thanks.

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