

*Liturgy of the Hours*  
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

NIGHT PRAYER

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December 3, 2024

{ Memorial – Francis Xavier, Priest }



*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.

## PENITENTIAL RITE

*Brief moment of silence*

I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

*All strike their breast*

through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

*Presiding minister*

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

— Amen.

## HYMN

To you before the close of light,  
Creator of all things, we pray:  
Be our protector, keep us safe  
in your unfailing clemency.

Incline our hearts to dream of you,  
to sense your presence as we sleep;

as light returns, so let us sing  
your praise and glory evermore.

Grant us the grace of health and strength,  
renew our warmth and joy of life;  
and let your radiant light dispel  
the dreaded darkness of the night.

Almighty Father, grant our prayer  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who reigns with you from age to age,  
one with the Spirit, ever blest. Amen.

*Metrical hymn, melody: Herr Jesu Christ, 8 8 8 8; Pensum Sacrum Metro-  
Rhythmicum, Görlitz, 1648*

*Plainsong, mode IV, melody 80; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983\*, Text: Te lucis ante  
terminum, 5-6th c.*

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## PSALMODY

### *Antiphon*

Do not hide your face from me; in you I put my trust.

*Psalms 143:1-11*

*Prayer in distress*

*Only by faith in Jesus Christ is a man made holy in God's sight. No observance of the  
law can achieve this (Galatians 2:16).*

Lórd, listen to my práyer: †  
túrn your éar to my appéal. \*

You are fáithful, you are júst; give ánsver.

Do not cáll your sérvant to júdgment \*  
for nó one is júst in your síght.

The ényemy pursúes my sóul; \*

he has crushed my life to the ground;  
he has made me dwell in darkness \*  
like the dead, long forgotten.  
Therefore my spirit fails; \*  
my heart is numb within me.

I remember the days that are past: \*  
I ponder all your works.  
I muse on what your hand has wrought †  
and to you I stretch out my hands. \*  
Like a parched land my soul thirsts for you.

Lord, make haste and answer; \*  
for my spirit fails within me.  
Do not hide your face \*  
lest I become like those in the grave.

In the morning let me know your love \*  
for I put my trust in you.  
Make me know the way I should walk: \*  
to you I lift up my soul.

Rescue me, Lord, from my enemies; \*  
I have fled to you for refuge.  
Teach me to do your will \*  
for you, O Lord, are my God.  
Let your good spirit guide me \*  
in ways that are level and smooth.

For your name's sake, Lord, save my life; \*  
in your justice save my soul from distress.

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*

Do not hide your face from me; in you I put my trust.

## READING

*1 Peter 5:8-9a*

Stay sober and alert. Your opponent the devil is prowling like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, solid in your faith.

## RESPONSORY

Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.

— Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.

You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth.

— I commend my spirit.

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

— Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.

## GOSPEL CANTICLE

*Antiphon*

Protect us, Lord, as we stay awake; watch over us as we sleep, that awake, we may keep watch with Christ, and asleep, rest in his peace.

*Luke 2:29-32*

*Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel*

*Make sign of cross*

Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; \*  
your word has been fulfilled:

my own eyes have seen the salvation \*  
which you have prepared in the sight of every people:

a light to reveal you to the nations \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

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*

Protect us, Lord, as we stay awake; watch over us as we sleep, that awake, we may keep watch with Christ, and asleep, rest in his peace.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Lord,  
fill this night with your radiance.  
May we sleep in peace and rise with joy  
to welcome the light of a new day in your name.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

— Amen.

*Blessing*

May the all-powerful Lord grant us a restful night and a peaceful death.

— Amen.

ANTIPHON OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Loving mother of the Redeemer,  
gate of heaven, star of the sea,  
assist your people who have fallen yet strive to rise again.  
To the wonderment of nature you bore your Creator,  
yet remained a virgin after as before.  
You who received Gabriel's joyful greeting,  
have pity on us poor sinners.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The English translation of Antiphons, Invitatories, Responsories, Intercessions, Psalm 95, the Canticle of the Lamb, Psalm Prayers, Non-Biblical Readings, Hagiographical Introductions from *The Liturgy of the Hours* © 1973, 1974, 1975, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation (ICEL); excerpts from the English translation of *The Roman Missal* © 2010, ICEL; the English translation of Hymns from *The Liturgy of the Hours* © 2023. All rights reserved.

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