

Liturgy of the Hours
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

EVENING PRAYER

September 21, 2026

{ Feast – Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist }



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

Let heav'n exult with highest praise,
let earth with joy and gladness ring:
this sacred hour extols in song
the Apostles' glory on this feast.

O righteous judges of the age,
true lights sent forth to all the world,
we raise our hearts in fervent prayer;
with kindness hear our humble plea.

By word you bar the gate of heav'n,
by word you draw and loose the bolt;
by your command, we beg of you:
Release us from the pow'r of sin.

The health and weakness of us all
is subject to your gracious care;
restore our virtue and our strength
and heal the sick in mind and heart,

That when the end of time has come
and Christ our Lord shall sit as Judge,
he may bestow on us a share
in joy that lasts for evermore.

All praise and glory be to God,
who grants us through your gracious aid
to learn the Gospel's sacred truths
and seek the heav'nly things above. Amen.

Metrical hymn, melody: DEO GRACIAS (AGINCOURT), 8 8 8 8; English ballad

melody, Trinity College MS., 15th c.

*Plainsong, mode I, melody 20; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983, Text: Exsultet cælum
laudibus, ca. 10th c.*

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Sit or stand

PSALMODY

Antiphon 1

You are the men who have stood by me in my time of trial.

Psalm 116:10-19

Thanksgiving in the Temple

Through Christ let us offer God a continual sacrifice of praise (Hebrews 13:15).

I trústed, éven when I síad: *

“I am sórely afflicted,”

and whén I síad in my alárm: *

“No mán can be trústed.”

How cán I repáy the Lórd *

for his góodness to mé?

The cúp of salvátion I will ráise; *

I will cáll on the Lórd’s name.

My vóws to the Lórd I will fulfill *

befóre all his péople.

O précious in the éyes of the Lórd *

is the déath of his fáithful.

Your sérvant, Lord, your sérvant am Í; *

you have lóosened my bónds.

A thánksgiving sácrifice I máke: *

I will cáll on the Lórd’s name.

My vóws to the Lórd I will fulfill *

before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lórd,*
in your midst, O Jerúsalem.

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

You are the men who have stood by me in my time of trial.

Antiphon 2

I have lived among you as one who ministers to others.

Psalm 126

Joyful hope in God

Just as you share in sufferings so you will share in the divine glory (2 Corinthians 1:7).

When the Lórd delivered Zíon from bódage,*
it seemed like a dréam.
Thén was our móuth filled with láughter,*
on our líps there were sóngs.

The héathens themsélves said: "What márvels*
the Lórd worked for thém!"
What márvels the Lórd worked for ús!*
Indéed we were glád.

Delíver us, O Lórd, from our bódage*
as stréams in dry lánd.
Thóse who are sówing in téars*
will síng when they réap.

They go óut, they go óut, full of téars,*
cárrying séed for the sówing:
they come báck, they come báck, full of sóng,*
cárrying their shéaves.

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 have lived among you as one who ministers to others.

Antiphon 3

I no longer call you servants, but my friends, for I have shared with you everything I have heard from my Father.

Canticle – Ephesians 1:3-10

God our Savior

Praised be the God and Father *
of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has bestowed on us in Christ *
every spiritual blessing in the heavens.

God chose us in him *
before the world began
to be holy *
and blameless in his sight.

He predestined us *
to be his adopted sons through Jesus Christ,
such was his will and pleasure, †
that all might praise the glorious favor *
he has bestowed on us in his beloved.

In him and through his blood, we have been redeemed, *
and our sins forgiven,
so immeasurably generous *
is God's favor to us.

God has given us the wisdom *
to understand fully the mystery,
the plan he was pleased *
to decree in Christ.

A plan to be carried out *
in Christ, in the fulness of time,
to bring all things into one in him, *
in the heavens and on earth.

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 no longer call you servants, but my friends, for I have shared with you everything I have heard from my Father.

Sit

READING

Ephesians 4:11-13

Christ gave apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers in roles of service for the faithful to build up the body of Christ, till we become one in faith and in the knowledge of God's Son, and form that perfect man who is Christ come to full stature.

Responsory

Tell all the nations how glorious God is.

— Tell all the nations how glorious God is.

Make known his wonders to every people.

— How glorious God is.

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

— Tell all the nations how glorious God is.

Stand

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Antiphon

I desire mercy and not sacrifice. I did not come to call the virtuous but sinners.

Luke 1:46-55

The soul rejoices in the Lord

Make sign of cross

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,*

my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. *

From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me, *
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

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 desire mercy and not sacrifice. I did not come to call the virtuous
but sinners.

INTERCESSIONS

My brothers, we build on the foundation of the apostles. Let us
pray to our almighty Father for his holy people and say:

— Be mindful of your Church, O Lord.

Father, you wanted your Son to be seen first by the apostles after
the resurrection from the dead,
we ask you to make us his witnesses to the farthest corners of the
world.

— Be mindful of your Church, O Lord.

You sent your Son to preach the good news to the poor,
help us to preach this Gospel to every creature.

— Be mindful of your Church, O Lord.

You sent your Son to sow the seed of unending life,
grant that we who work at sowing the seed may share the joy of the
harvest.

— Be mindful of your Church, O Lord.

You sent your Son to reconcile all men to you through his blood,
help us all to work toward achieving this reconciliation.

— Be mindful of your Church, O Lord.

Your Son sits at your right hand in heaven,
let the dead enter your kingdom of joy.

— Be mindful of your Church, O Lord.

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 of mercy,
you chose a tax collector, Saint Matthew,
to share the dignity of the apostles.
By his example and prayers
help us to follow Christ
and remain faithful in your service.
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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