

Liturgy of the Hours
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

MORNING PRAYER

September 21, 2026

{ Feast – Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist }



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).

Come, let us worship the Lord, the King of apostles.

— Come, let us worship the Lord, the King of apostles.

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.

— Come, let us worship the Lord, the King of apostles.

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.

— Come, let us worship the Lord, the King of apostles.

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.

— Come, let us worship the Lord, the King of apostles.

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.

— Come, let us worship the Lord, the King of apostles.

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.”

— Come, let us worship the Lord, the King of apostles.

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.

— Come, let us worship the Lord, the King of apostles.

Morning Prayer

HYMN

O Levi, blest with great renown,
the glory that surrounds you now
is praise of God’s most faithful love
and mercy leading us to hope.

For as you sat with anxious care
and counted money at your post,
Christ called: O Matthew, follow me.
What riches he prepared for you!

Your heart is seized with burning love,
you greet the Master as your guest;
by making known his gracious words,
you rise a prince in heaven’s realm.

You gather all the words of life
and deeds of David’s glorious Son;
and leave the world rich, heav’nly food
of writings framed in words of gold.

Proclaiming Christ through all the earth,

you seal your witness with your blood,
and so you honor him and give
the highest pledge of zealous love.

O Matthew, Martyr ever blest,
Apostle, great Evangelist,
may we with you through ev'ry age
sing glory to the name of Christ. Amen.

*Metrical hymn, melody: DEO GRACIAS (AGINCOURT), 8 8 8 8; English ballad
melody, Trinity College MS., 15th c.*

Plainsong, mode IV, melody 83; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983, Text: Præclara qua
tu gloria, Anselmo Lentini, O.S.B., 1901-1989*

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Sit or stand

PSALMODY

Antiphon 1

My commandment is this: love one another as I have loved you.

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 lóve is bétter than life, *
my líps will spéak your práise.
So I will bléss you áll my life, *

in your náme I will líft up my hánds.
My sóul shall be filled as with a bánquet, *
my móuth shall práise you with jóy.

On my béd I remémber yóu. *
On yóu I múse through the níght
for yóu have béen my hélp; *
in the sháadow of your wíngs I rejóice.
My sóul clíngs to yóu; *
your ríght hand hólds me fást.

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

My commandment is this: love one another as I have loved you.

Antiphon 2

There is no greater love than to lay down your life for your friends.

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

There is no greater love than to lay down your life for your friends.

Antiphon 3

You are my friends, says the Lord, if you do what I command you.

Psalms 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 sǫng to the Lórd, *
his práise in the assémbly of the fáithful.
Let Ísrael rejóice in its máker, *
let Zíon's sons exúlt in their kíng.
Let them práise his náme with dáncing *
and make músic with tímbrél 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 déal out véngeance to the nátions *
and púnishment on áll the péoples;
to bínđ 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

You are my friends, says the Lord, if you do what I command you.

Sit

READING

Ephesians 2:19-22

You are strangers and aliens no longer. No, you are fellow citizens of the saints and members of the household of God. You form a building which rises on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the capstone. Through him the whole structure is fitted together and takes shape as a holy temple in the Lord; in him you are being built into this temple, to become

a dwelling place for God in the Spirit.

Responsory

You have made them rulers over all the earth.

— You have made them rulers over all the earth.

They will always remember your name, O Lord,

— over all the earth.

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

— You have made them rulers over all the earth.

Stand

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Antiphon

The Lord saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's office and said to him: Follow me. Matthew got up and followed him.

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

The Lord saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's office and said to him: Follow me. Matthew got up and followed him.

INTERCESSIONS

Beloved friends, we have inherited heaven along with the apostles.
Let us give thanks to the Father for all his gifts:

— The company of apostles praises you, O Lord.

Praise be to you, Lord, for the banquet of Christ's body and blood
given us through the apostles,
which refreshes us and gives us life.

— The company of apostles praises you, O Lord.

Praise be to you, Lord, for the feast of your word prepared for us by
the apostles,
giving us light and joy.

— The company of apostles praises you, O Lord.

Praise be to you, Lord, for your holy Church, founded on the
apostles,
where we are gathered together into your community.

— The company of apostles praises you, O Lord.

Praise be to you, Lord, for the cleansing power of baptism and pen-

ance that you have entrusted to your apostles,
through which we are cleansed of our sins.

— The company of apostles praises you, 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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