

Liturgy of the Hours
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

OFFICE OF READINGS

September 13, 2026

{ Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time }



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

Hail, O day, of all days most glorious,
blessed day of Christ's noble victory,
day of gladness, worthy of endless joy,
first and foremost.

Light divine now shines over all the blind:
Christ the victor harrows the underworld,
conqu'ring death he reconciles us to God,
least to highest.

By the judgment of our eternal King
all were sentenced under the law of sin,
that from heaven grace for the poor and weak
might bring solace.

In his wisdom and everlasting pow'r,
God with mercy tempered his holy wrath,
though the foolish world ran on heedlessly,
all to ruin.

He is risen, free from the pow'r of hell,
great restorer of the whole human race,
on his shoulders bearing his wayward sheep
up to heaven.

Peace of angels graces the human race;
ranks of heaven grow and fill up again;
praise is fitting to our triumphant Lord,
praise eternal.

Let the Church our Mother now raise her voice

with the choirs of heaven in harmony.
Let the faithful cry out with joy this day:
Alleluia!

Death is conquered, vanquished and powerless;
with delight let all sing in victory:
Peace on earth, and let jubilation ring
in high heaven. Amen.

Metrical hymn, melody: Tothill, 10 10 10 4; ICEL, 2021

Plainsong, mode VII, melody 91; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983, Text: Salve dies,
dierum gloria, Adam of St. Victor, 12th c.*

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Sit or stand

PSALMODY

Antiphon 1

Who can climb the Lord's mountain, or stand in his holy place?

Psalms 24

The Lord's entry into his temple

Christ opened heaven for us in the manhood he assumed (Saint Irenaeus).

The Lórd's is the éarth and its fúllness,*
the wórld and áll its péoples.
It is hé who sét it on the séas;*
on the wáters he máde it firm.

Who shall clímb the móuntain of the Lórd? *
Who shall stánd in his hólý pláce?
The mán with clean hánds and pure héart, †
who desíres not wóorthless thínghs,*
who has not swórn so as to decéive his néighbor.
He shall recéive bléssings from the Lórd *

and rewárd from the Gód who sáves him.
Súch are the mén who séek him, *
seek the fáce of the Gód of Jácob.

O gátes, lift hígh your héads; †
grow hígher, áncient dóors. *
Let him énter, the kíng of glóry!

Whó is the kíng of glóry? †
The Lórd, the míghty, the váliant, *
the Lórd, the váliant in wár.

O gátes, lift hígh your héads; †
grow hígher, áncient dóors. *
Let him énter, the kíng of glóry!

Who is hé, the kíng of glóry? †
Hé, the Lórd of ármies, *
hé is the kíng of glóry.

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

Who can climb the Lord's mountain, or stand in his holy place?

Antiphon 2

Bless our God, you nations of the world; he has given us life, al-
leluia.

Psalm 66

Eucharistic hymn

The Lord is risen and all people have been brought by him to the Father (Hesychius).

I

Cry out with jóy to Gód, all the éarth, *
O síng to the glóry of his náme.
O rénder him glórious práise. *
Say to Gód: "How treméndous your déeds!

Because of the gréatness of your stréngth *
your énemies crínge befóre you.
Befóre you all the éarth shall bów; *
shall síng to you, síng to your náme!”

Come and sée the wórks of Gód, *
treméndous his déeds among mén.
He túrned the séa into dry lánd, *
they pássed through the ríver dry-shód.

Let our jóy then bé in hím; *
he rúles for éver by his míght.
His éyes keep wátch over the nátions; *
let rébels not ríse agáinst him.

O péoples, bléss our Gód, *
let the vóice of his práise resóund,
of the Gód who gave lífe to our sóuls *
and képt our féet from stúmbing.

For yóu, O Gód, have tésted us, *
you have tríed us as sílver is tríed:
you léd us, Gód, into the snáre; *
you láid a heavy búrden on our bácks.

You lét men ríde over our héads; †
we wént through fire and through wáter *
but thén you bróught us relíef.

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

Bless our God, you nations of the world; he has given us life, alleluia.

Antiphon 3

Listen to me, all you who revere God, let me tell you what great things he has done for me, alleluia.

II

Burnt offering I bring to your house; *
to you I will pay my vows,
the vows which my lips have uttered, *
which my mouth spoke in my distress.

I will offer burnt offerings of fatlings †
with the smoke of burning rams. *
I will offer bullocks and goats.

Come and hear, all who fear God. *
I will tell what he did for my soul:
to him I cried aloud, *
with high praise ready on my tongue.

If there had been evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have listened.
But truly God has listened; *
he has heeded the voice of my prayer.

Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer *
nor withhold his love from 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

Listen to me, all you who revere God, let me tell you what great things he has done for me, alleluia.

VERSE

God's word is alive; it strikes to the heart.

— It pierces more surely than a two-edged sword.

Sit

READINGS

First reading

From the beginning of the book of the prophet Ezekiel

The vision of God's glory in the land of exile

The word of the Lord came to the priest Ezekiel, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar.—There the hand of the Lord came upon me.

As I looked, a stormwind came from the North, a huge cloud with flashing fire [enveloped in brightness], from the midst of which [the midst of the fire] something gleamed like electrum. Within it were figures resembling four living creatures that looked like this: their form was human, but each had four faces and four wings, and their legs went straight down; the soles of their feet were round. They sparkled with a gleam like burnished bronze.

Their faces were like this: each of the four had the face of a man, but on the right side was the face of a lion, and on the left side the face of an ox, and finally each had the face of an eagle. Their faces [and their wings] looked out on all their four sides; they did not turn when they moved, but each went straight forward. [Each went straight forward; wherever the spirit wished to go, there they went; they did not turn when they moved.]

Human hands were under their wings, and the wings of one touched those of another. Each had two wings spread out above so that they touched one another's, while the other two wings of each covered his body. In among the living creatures something like burning coals of fire could be seen; they seemed like torches, moving to and fro among the living creatures. The fire gleamed, and from it came forth flashes of lightning.

Over the heads of the living creatures, something like a firmament could be seen, seeming like glittering crystal, stretched straight out above their heads. Beneath the firmament their wings were stretched out, one toward the other. [Each of them had two covering his body.] Then I heard the sound of their wings, like the roaring of mighty waters, like the voice of the Almighty. When they moved, the sound of the tumult was like the din of an army. [And when they stood still, they lowered their wings.]

Above the firmament over their heads something like a throne

could be seen, looking like sapphire. Upon it was seated, up above, one who had the appearance of a man. Upward from what resembled his waist I saw what gleamed like electrum; downward from what resembled his waist I saw what looked like fire; he was surrounded with splendor. Like the bow which appears in the clouds on a rainy day was the splendor that surrounded him. Such was the vision of the likeness of the glory of the Lord.

Responsory

See Ezekiel 1:26; 2:12; Revelation 5:13

I saw what looked like a throne and high upon it was seated one who had the appearance of a man; and I heard a loud rumbling cry:

— Praise to the glory of the Lord in his dwelling place.

Praise and honor, glory and power to him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb for ever and ever.

— Praise to the glory of the Lord in his dwelling place.

Second reading

From the beginning of a sermon On Pastors by Saint Augustine, bishop

(Sermo 46, 1–2: CCL 41, 529–530)

I am a Christian as well as a leader

You have often learned that all our hope is in Christ and that he is our true glory and our salvation. You are members of the flock of the Good Shepherd, who watches over Israel and nourishes his people. Yet there are shepherds who want to have the title of shepherd without wanting to fulfill a pastor's duties; let us then recall what God says to his shepherds through the prophet. You must listen attentively; I must listen with fear and trembling.

The word of the Lord came to me and said: Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel and speak to the shepherds of Israel. We just heard this reading a moment ago, my brothers, and I have decided to speak to you on this passage. The Lord will help me to speak the truth if I do not speak on my own authority. For if I speak on my own authority, I will be a shepherd nourishing myself and not the

sheep. However, if my words are the Lord's, then he is nourishing you no matter who speaks. *Thus says the Lord God: Shepherds of Israel, who have been nourishing only themselves! Should not the shepherds nourish the sheep?* In other words, true shepherds take care of their sheep, not themselves. This is the principal reason why God condemns those shepherds: they took care of themselves rather than their sheep. Who are they who nourish themselves? They are the shepherds the Apostle described when he said: *They all seek what is theirs and not what is Christ's.*

I must distinguish carefully between two aspects of the role the lord has given me, a role that demands a rigorous accountability, a role based on the Lord's greatness rather than on my own merit. The first aspect is that I am a Christian; the second, that I am a leader. I am a Christian for my own sake, whereas I am a leader for your sake; the fact that I am a Christian is to my own advantage, but I am a leader for your advantage.

Many persons come to God as Christians but not as leaders. Perhaps they travel by an easier road and are less hindered since they bear a lighter burden. In addition to the fact that I am a Christian and must give God an account of my life, I as a leader must give him an account of my stewardship as well.

Responsory

Psalm 23:1-2, 3

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

— In green pastures he gives me rest.

He guides me in the right path for his name's sake.

— In green pastures he gives me rest.

Stand

TE DEUM

You are God: we praise you;
You are the Lord: we acclaim you;
You are the eternal Father:
All creation worships you.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:
Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you.
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:
Father, of majesty unbounded,
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the King of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free
you did not spurn the Virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death,
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come, and be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
our creator and guide,
may we serve you with all our heart
and know your forgiveness in our lives.

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.

Acclamation

Let us praise the Lord.

— And give him thanks.

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