Liturgy of the Hours

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Evening Prayer

December 28, 2026

{ Feast – Holy Innocents, Martyrs }



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

O Christ, Redeemer of us all,
the Father's Sole begotten Son,
in myst'ry born alone from him,
so wondrously before all time,

The Father's splendor and true Light,
O everlasting hope for all,
bend low to hear your servants' prayers
poured forth to you throughout the earth.

O Author of all saving grace,
recall that once you took our flesh
and from the Virgin pure and chaste
assumed by birth our human form.

This feast today now testifies,
within the cycle of the year,
that you as Savior of the world
alone came from the Father's throne.

The sky above, the earth, the sea,
and all creation held therein
extol with joyous hymns of praise
the Author of your advent here.

We also, whom you came to save
and by your holy blood redeem,
all sing a new and joyful hymn
to celebrate your day of birth.

To you, Lord Jesus, glory be,

the Virgin Mother's newborn Son,
with God the Father, ever blest,
and loving Spirit, ever one. Amen.

Metrical hymn, melody: Puer nobis nascitur, 8 8 8 8; adapted by Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621, in Musae Sionae, VI, 1809

Plainsong, mode I, melody 7; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983, Text: Christe, redemptor omnium, ex Patre, Patris Unice, 6th c.*

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Sit or stand

Psalmody

Antiphon 1

You have been endowed from your birth with princely gifts; in eternal splendor, before the dawn of light on earth, I have begotten you.

Psalm 110:1–5, 7

The Messiah, king and priest

Christ's reign will last until all his enemies are made subject to him (1 Corinthians 15:25).

The Lórd's revelátion to my Máster: †
"Sít on my ríght: *
your fóes I will pút beneath your féet."

The Lórd will wíeld from Zíon †
your scépter of pówer: *
rúle in the mídst of all your fóes.

A prínce from the dáy of your bírth †
on the hóly móuntains; *
from the wómb before the dáwn I begót you.

The Lórd has sworn an óath he will not chánge. †

"You are a príest for éver, *
a príest like Melchízedek of óld."

The Máster stánding at your ríght hand *
will shatter kíngs in the dáy of his wráth.

He shall drínk from the stréam by the wáyside *
and thérefore he shall líft up his héad.

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 have been endowed from your birth with princely gifts; in eternal splendor, before the dawn of light on earth, I have begotten you.

Antiphon 2

With the Lord is unfailing love; great is his power to save.

Psalm 130

A cry from the depths

He himself will save his people from their sins (Matthew 1:21).

Out of the dépths I crý to you, O Lórd, *
Lórd, hear my vóice!
O lét your éars be atténtive *
to the vóice of my pléading.

If you, O Lórd, should márk our guílt, *
Lórd, who would survíve?
But with yóu is fóund forgíveness: *
for thís we revére you.

My sóul is wáiting for the Lórd, *
I cóunt on his wórd.
My sóul is lónging for the Lórd *
more than wátchman for dáybreak.
Let the wátchman cóunt on dáybreak *
and Ísrael on the Lórd.

Becáuse with the Lórd there is mércy *
and fúllness of redémption,
Ísrael indéed he will redéem *
from áll its iníquity.

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

With the Lord is unfailing love; great is his power to save.

Antiphon 3

In the beginning, before time began, the Word was God; today he is born, the Savior of the world.

Canticle – Colossians 1:12-20

Christ the first-born of all creation and the first-born from the dead

Let us give thanks to the Father *
for having made you worthy
to share the lot of the saints *
in light.

He rescued us *
from the power of darkness
and brought us *
into the kingdom of his beloved Son.
Through him we have redemption, *
the forgiveness of our sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, *
the first-born of all creatures.
In him everything in heaven and on earth was created, *
things visible and invisible.

All were created through him; *
all were created for him.
He is before all else that is. *
In him everything continues in being.

It is he who is head of the body, the church! *
he who is the beginning,
the first-born of the dead, *
so that primacy may be his in everything.

It pleased God to make absolute fulness reside in him *
and, by means of him, to reconcile everything in his person,
both on earth and in the heavens, *
making peace through the blood of his cross.

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

In the beginning, before time began, the Word was God; today he is born, the Savior of the world.

Sit

Reading

Ephesians 2:3b–5

By nature we deserved God's wrath like the rest. But God is rich in mercy; because of his great love for us he brought us to life with Christ when we were dead in sin. By this favor you were saved.

Responsory

The Word was made man, alleluia, alleluia.

— The Word was made man, alleluia, alleluia.

He lived among us.

— Alleluia, alleluia.

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

— The Word was made man, alleluia, alleluia.

Stand

Gospel Canticle

Antiphon

The holy Virgin gave birth to God who became for us the frail, tender baby she nursed at her breast. Let us worship the Lord who comes to save us.

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

The holy Virgin gave birth to God who became for us the frail, tender baby she nursed at her breast. Let us worship the Lord who comes to save us.

Intercessions

God sent his Son, fashioned from a woman, made subject to the law, to redeem those under the law. Trusting in this hope, let us pray with confidence:

— May the favor of your Son be with us, O Lord.

God of love and peace, renew the faith of all Christians in the incarnation of your Son,
that they may give thanks at all times.

— May the favor of your Son be with us, O Lord.

Increase the hope of the weak, the poor and the aged,
give relief to the oppressed, confidence to those who despair, consolation to those who mourn.

— May the favor of your Son be with us, O Lord.

Be mindful of all those in prison,
and of those driven from their homeland.

— May the favor of your Son be with us, O Lord.

You let the angels be heard praising you at the birth of your Son,
let the departed praise you for ever with this heavenly host.

— May the favor of your Son be with us, 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

Lord God,
we praise you for creating man,
and still more for restoring him in Christ.
Your Son shared our weakness:
may we share his glory,
for he 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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