

Liturgy of the Hours
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

EVENING PRAYER I

June 23, 2026

{ Solemnity – Birth of John the Baptist }



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

John, great and holy, help your faithful servants
sing of your wonders with resounding voices;
set free from error lips by guilt corrupted,
that they may praise you.

From highest heaven came the angelic herald
telling your father of your birth and greatness,
giving in order both your name and mission,
your life's unfolding.

Doubting the promise brought to him from heaven,
his tongue was silenced, nothing could he utter;
but once a newborn, you restored his powers
that had been taken.

You, lying hidden in the womb's dark cradle,
sensed kingly presence in the nuptial chamber;
thus the sons' merits help each parent utter
long hidden wonders.

God, One and Triune, citizens of heaven
honor and praise you with their joyful singing;
while we beseech you, grant us your forgiveness,
pardon the ransomed. Amen.

*Metrical hymn, melody: CHRISTE SANCTORUM, 11 11 11 5; from François de
La Feillée's Methode de plain-chant, 1782*

*Plainsong, mode II, melody 35; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983, Text: Ut queant
laxis resonare fibris, attributed to Paul the Deacon, ca. 720-799*

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Sit or stand

PSALMODY

Antiphon 1

Elizabeth, the wife of Zechariah, gave birth to a great man, John the Baptist, who prepared the way for the Lord.

Psalm 113

Praise the name of the Lord

He has cast down the mighty and has lifted up the lowly (Luke 1:52).

Práise, O sérvants of the Lórd, *
práise the náme of the Lórd!
May the náme of the Lórd be bléssed *
both nów and for évermóre!
From the rísing of the sún to its sétting *
práised be the náme of the Lórd!
Hígh above all nátions is the Lórd, *
abóve the héavens his glóry.
Whó is like the Lórd, our Gód, *
who has rísen on hígh to his thróne
yet stóops from the héights to look dówn, *
to look dówn upon héaven and éarth?
From the dúst he lífts up the lówly, *
from his míserý he ráises the póor
to sét him in the cómpany of prínces, *
yés, with the prínces of his péople.
To the chíldless wífe he gives a hóme *
and gláddens her héart with chíldren.
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

Elizabeth, the wife of Zechariah, gave birth to a great man, John the Baptist, who prepared the way for the Lord.

Antiphon 2

John, the forerunner of the Lord, was born of an old and childless couple.

Psalm 146

Those who trust in God know what it is to be happy

To praise God in our lives means all we do must be for his glory (Arnobius).

My sóul, give práise to the Lórd; †
I will práise the Lórd all my dáys,^{*}
make músic to my Gód while I líve.

Pút no trúst in prínces,^{*}
in mortal mén in whóm there is no hélp.
Take their bréath, they retúrn to cláy^{*}
and their pláns that dáy come to nóthing.

He is háppy who is hélped by Jacob's Gód,^{*}
whose hópe is in the Lórd his Gód,
who alóne made héaven and éarth,^{*}
the séas and áll they contém.

It is hé who keeps fáith for éver,^{*}
who is júst to thóse who are opprésed.
It is hé who gives bréad to the húngry,^{*}
the Lórd, who sets prísoners frée,
the Lórd who gives síght to the blínd,^{*}
who ráises up thóse who are bowed dówn,
the Lórd, who protécts the stránger^{*}
and uphólds the wídow and órphan.

It is the Lórd who lóves the júst^{*}
but thwárt the páth of the wícked.
The Lórd will réign for éver,^{*}

Zion's Gód, from áge to áge.

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

John, the forerunner of the Lord, was born of an old and childless couple.

Antiphon 3

There is no man born of women greater than John the Baptist.

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

There is no man born of women greater than John the Baptist.

Sit

READING

Acts 13:23-25

According to his promise, God has brought forth from David's descendants Jesus, a savior for Israel. John heralded the coming of Jesus by proclaiming a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. As John's career was coming to an end, he would say, "What you suppose me to be I am not. Rather, look for the one who comes after me. I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals on his feet."

Responsory

Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight his paths.

— Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight his paths.

He who is to come after me existed before me.

— Make straight his paths.

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

— Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight his paths.

Stand

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Antiphon

Zechariah entered the temple of the Lord, and the angel Gabriel appeared to him, standing on the right of the altar of incense.

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

Zechariah entered the temple of the Lord, and the angel Gabriel
appeared to him, standing on the right of the altar of incense.

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray joyfully to God our Father who called John the Baptist
to proclaim the coming of the kingdom of Christ:

— O Lord, guide our feet into the way of peace.

You called John the Baptist from his mother's womb to prepare the way of your Son,
help us to follow in that path which the Baptist opened before the Lord Jesus.

— O Lord, guide our feet into the way of peace.

May your Church, in imitation of the Baptist, fearlessly point out the Lamb of God,
so that people in every age may acknowledge that the Lord comes to them.

— O Lord, guide our feet into the way of peace.

John the Baptist did not exalt himself but acknowledged his role as forerunner of the Christ,
teach us to acknowledge that you are the giver of all our good gifts and that we must use them in your service.

— O Lord, guide our feet into the way of peace.

You called John the Baptist to give testimony to you by his life and even by his death,
help us to imitate his unceasing witness to your truth.

— O Lord, guide our feet into the way of peace.

Remember those who have died,
give them a place of light, happiness and peace.

— O Lord, guide our feet into the way of peace.

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

All-powerful God,
help your people to walk the path to salvation.
By following the teaching of John the Baptist,
may we come to your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
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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