

Liturgy of the Hours
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

NIGHT PRAYER

August 23, 2026

{ Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time }



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.

PENITENTIAL RITE

Brief moment of silence

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

All strike their breast

through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Presiding minister

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring
us to everlasting life.

— Amen.

HYMN

To you before the close of light,
Creator of all things, we pray:
Be our protector, keep us safe
in your unfailing clemency.

Incline our hearts to dream of you,
to sense your presence as we sleep;

as light returns, so let us sing
your praise and glory evermore.

Grant us the grace of health and strength,
renew our warmth and joy of life;
and let your radiant light dispel
the dreaded darkness of the night.

Almighty Father, grant our prayer
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who reigns with you from age to age,
one with the Spirit, ever blest. Amen.

Metrical hymn, melody: Tallis' Canon, 8 8 8 8; Thomas Tallis, ca. 1505–1585

*Plainsong, mode VIII, melody 117; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983, Text: Te lucis
ante terminum, 5–6th c.*

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PSALMODY

Antiphon

Night holds no terrors for me sleeping under God's wings.

Psalms 91

Safe in God's sheltering care

I have given you the power to tread upon serpents and scorpions (Luke 10:19).

He who dwélls in the shéltér of the Most Hígh *
and abídes in the sháde of the Almíghty
sáys to the Lórd: “My réfuge, *
my stróngthold, my Gód in whom I trúst!”

It is hé who will frée you from the snáre *
of the fówler who séeks to destróy you;
hé will concéal you with his pínions *
and únder his wíngs you will find réfuge.

You will not féar the térror of the níght *
nor the árrów that flíes by dáy,
nor the plágue that prówls in the dárkness *
nor the scóurge that lays wáste at nóon.

A thóusand may fáll at your síde, *
tén thousand fáll at your right,
yóu, it will néver appróach; *
his fáithfulness is búckler and shíeld.

Your éyes have ónly to lóok *
to sée how the wícked are repáid,
yóu who have said: “Lórd, my réfuge!” *
and have máde the Most Hígh your dwélling.

Upon yóu no évil shall fáll, *
no plágue appróach where you dwéll.
For yóu has he commánded his ángels, *
to kéept you in áll your wáys.

They shall béar you upón their hánds *
lest you strike your fóot against a stóne.
On the líon and the víper you will tréad *
and trámples the young líon and the drágon.

Since he clíngs to me in lóve, I will fréed him; *
protéct him for he knóws my náme.
When he cálls I shall ánswe: “I am wíth you.” *
I will sáve him in distréss and give him glóry.

With léngth of lífe I will contént him; *
I shall lét him see my sáving pówer.

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

Night holds no terrors for me sleeping under God’s wings.

READING

Revelation 22:4-5

They shall see the Lord face to face and bear his name on their foreheads. The night shall be no more. They will need no light from lamps or the sun, for the Lord God shall give them light, and they shall reign forever.

Responsory

Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.

— Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.

You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth.

— I commend my spirit.

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

— Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Antiphon

Protect us, Lord, as we stay awake; watch over us as we sleep, that awake, we may keep watch with Christ, and asleep, rest in his peace.

Luke 2:29-32

Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel

Make sign of cross

Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; *
your word has been fulfilled:

my own eyes have seen the salvation *
which you have prepared in the sight of every people:

a light to reveal you to the nations *
and the glory of your people Israel.

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

Protect us, Lord, as we stay awake; watch over us as we sleep, that awake, we may keep watch with Christ, and asleep, rest in his peace.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Lord,
we have celebrated today
the mystery of the rising of Christ to new life.
May we now rest in your peace,
safe from all that could harm us,
and rise again refreshed and joyful,
to praise you throughout another day.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

— Amen.

Blessing

May the all-powerful Lord grant us a restful night and a peaceful death.

— Amen.

ANTIPHON OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy,
our life, our sweetness, and our hope.
To you do we cry,
poor banished children of Eve.
To you do we send up our sighs
mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.
Turn then, most gracious advocate,
your eyes of mercy toward us,
and after this exile
show us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving,
O sweet Virgin Mary.

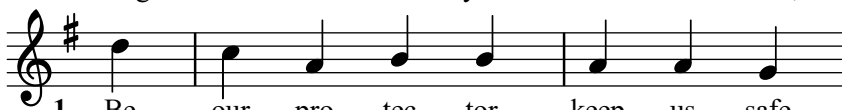
To You before the Close of Light



1. To you be - fore the close of light,
2. In - cline our hearts to dream of you,
3. Grant us the grace of health and strength,
4. Al - might - y Fa - ther, grant our prayer



1. Cre - a - tor of all things, we pray:
2. to sense your pres - ence as we sleep;
3. re - new our warmth and joy of life;
4. through Je - sus Christ your Son our Lord,



1. Be our pro - tec - tor, keep us safe
2. as light re - turns, so let us sing
3. and let your ra - diant light dis - pel
4. who reigns with you from age to age,



1. in your un - fail - ing clem - en - cy.
2. your praise and glo - ry ev - er - more.
3. the dread - ed dark - ness of the night.
4. one with the Spir - it, ev - er blest.



4. A - men.

Metrical hymn, melody: Tallis' Canon, 8 8 8 8; Thomas Tallis, ca. 1505-1585. Text: Te lucis ante terminum, 5-6th c. Hymn copyrights and acknowledgments are listed on page three.

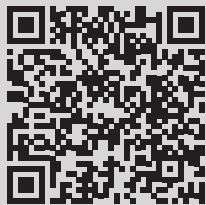
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