Liturgy of the Hours

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Evening Prayer I

December 24, 2026

{ Solemnity – Christmas }



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

He comes in splendor, the King who is our peace; the whole world longs to see him.

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 mísery 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

He comes in splendor, the King who is our peace; the whole world longs to see him.

Antiphon 2

He sends forth his word to the earth, and his command spreads swiftly through the land.

Psalm 147:12-20

The restoration of Jerusalem

Come, I will show you the bride of the Lamb (Revelation 21:9).

O práise the Lórd, Jerúsalem! *
Zíon, práise your Gód!

He has stréngthened the bárs of your gátes, *
he has bléssed the chíldren withín you.
He estáblished péace on your bórders, *
he féeds you with fínest whéat.

He sénds out his wórd to the éarth *
and swíftly rúns his commánd.
He shówers down snów white as wóol, *
he scátters hóar-frost like áshes.

He húrls down háilstones like crúmbs. *
The wáters are frózen at his tóuch;
he sénds forth his wórd and it mélts them: *
at the bréath of his móuth the waters flów.

He mákes his wórd known to Jácob, *
to Ísrael his láws and decrées.
He has not déalt thus with óther nátions; *
he has not táught them hís decrées.

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

He sends forth his word to the earth, and his command spreads swiftly through the land.

Antiphon 3

The eternal Word, born of the Father before time began, today emptied himself for our sake and became man.

Canticle – Philippians 2:6-11

Christ, God's holy servant

Though he was in the form of God, †
Jesus did not deem equality with God *
something to be grasped at.

Rather, he emptied himself †
and took the form of a slave, *
being born in the likeness of men.

He was known to be of human estate, *
and it was thus that he humbled himself,
obediently accepting even death, *
death on a cross!

Because of this, *
God highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name *
above every other name,

So that at Jesus' name *
every knee must bend
in the heavens, on the earth, *

and under the earth,
and every tongue proclaim †
to the glory of God the Father: *
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!

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 eternal Word, born of the Father before time began, today emptied himself for our sake and became man.

Sit

Reading

Galatians 4:4-5

When the designated time had come, God sent forth his Son born of a woman, born under the law, to deliver from the law those who were subjected to it, so that we might receive our status as adopted sons.

Responsory

Today you will know the Lord is coming.

— Today you will know the Lord is coming.

And in the morning you will see his glory.

— The Lord is coming.

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

— Today you will know the Lord is coming.

Stand

Gospel Canticle

Antiphon

When the sun rises in the morning sky, you will see the King of kings coming forth from the Father like a radiant bridegroom from the bridal chamber.

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

When the sun rises in the morning sky, you will see the King of kings coming forth from the Father like a radiant bridegroom from the bridal chamber.

Intercessions

Christ Jesus emptied himself and took the form of a slave. He was tested like us in all things and did not sin. Now let us worship him

and pray to him with deep faith:

— By the power of your birth, comfort those who are saved.

You came into the world heralding the new age foretold by the prophets,
give your holy people the gift of renewal in every generation.

— By the power of your birth, comfort those who are saved.

You once took on the weakness of our human condition,
be light now for those who do not see, strength for the wavering and comfort for the troubled of heart.

— By the power of your birth, comfort those who are saved.

You were born into poverty and lowliness,
look with favor on the poor and comfort them.

— By the power of your birth, comfort those who are saved.

By your birth bring joy to all peoples with the promise of unending life,
give joy to the dying through the hope of heavenly birth.

— By the power of your birth, comfort those who are saved.

You came to earth to lead everyone into the kingdom,
share your life of glory with those who have died.

— By the power of your birth, comfort those who are saved.

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 our Father,
every year we rejoice
as we look forward to this feast of our salvation.
May we welcome Christ as our Redeemer,
and meet him with confidence when he comes to be our judge,
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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