

*Liturgy of the Hours*  
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

OFFICE OF READINGS  
CANTICLES AND GOSPEL READING

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April 13, 2019  
{ Passion Sunday – Palm Sunday }



*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.

HYMN

I shall praise the Savior's glory,  
Of his flesh the mystery sing,  
And the blood, all price excelling,  
Shed by our immortal King:  
God made man for our salvation,  
Who from Virgin pure did spring.

Born for us, and for us given,  
Born a man like us below,  
Christ as man with man residing,  
Lived the seed of truth to sow,  
Suffered bitter death unflinching,  
And immortal love did show.

On the night before he suffered,  
Seated with his chosen band,  
Jesus, when they all had feasted,  
Faithful to the law's command,  
Far more precious food provided:  
Gave himself with his own hand.

Word made flesh, true bread of heaven,  
By his word made flesh to be,  
From the wine his blood is taken,  
Though our senses cannot see,  
Faith alone which is unshaken  
Shows pure hearts the mystery.

Therefore we, before him falling,  
This great sacrament revere;

Ancient forms are now departed,  
For new acts of grace are here,  
Faith our feeble senses aiding,  
Makes the Savior's presence clear.

To the everlasting Father  
And his Son who reigns on high,  
With the Holy Ghost proceeding  
Forth from each eternally,  
Be all honor, glory, blessing,  
Power and endless majesty.

*Melody: Pange, Lingua 87.87.87; Music: Mode III Vatican Plainsong; Text: Pange, Lingua, Saint Thomas Aquinas, c. 1225-1274; Translator: Edward Caswall, 1814-1878, adapted by Anthony G. Petti; © 1971 by Faber Music Ltd. Reproduced from NEW CATHOLIC HYMNAL by permission of the publishers.*

*Sit or stand*

## PSALMODY

### *Antiphon 1*

Lord, our God, in splendor and majesty you are clothed, wrapped in light as in a robe.

### *Psalm 104*

#### *Hymn to God the Creator*

*To be in Christ means being a completely new creature. Everything of the old is gone, now everything is made anew (2 Corinthians 5:17).*

## I

Bléss the Lórd, my sóul! \*  
Lord Gód, how gréat you áre,  
clóthed in májesty and glóry, \*  
wrápped in light as in a róbe!

You strétch out the héavens like a tént. \*  
Above the ráins you buíld your dwélling.  
You máke the clóuds your cháriot, \*  
and wálk on the wíngs of the wínd;  
you máke the wínds your méssengers \*  
and fláshing fire your sérvants.

You founded the éarth on its báse, \*  
to stand firm from áge to áge.  
You wrápped it with the ócean like a clóak: \*  
the wáters stood hígher than the móuntains.

At your thréat they tóok to flíght; \*  
at the vóice of your thúnder they fléd.  
They róse over the móuntains and flowed dówn \*  
to the pláce which yóu had appóinted.  
You set the límits they míght not páss \*  
lest they retúrn to cóver the éarth.

You make spríngs gush fórth in the válleys: \*  
they flów in betwéen the hílls.  
They give drínk to all the béasts of the fíeld; \*  
the wíld-asses quénch their thírst.  
On their bánkS dwell the bírds of héaven; \*  
from the bránches they síng their sóng.

Glory to the FátHer, and to the Son, \*  
and to the Holy Spírít:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, \*  
and will be for ever. Amen.

### *Antiphon*

Lord, our God, in splendor and majesty you are clothed, wrapped in light as in a robe.

### *Antiphon 2*

The Lord has brought forth bread from the earth, and wine to give warmth to men's hearts.

## *II*

From your dwélling you wáter the hílls; \*  
éarth drinks its fill of your gift.  
You máke the grass grów for the cáttle \*  
and the plántS to sérve man's néeds,  
that he may bríng forth bréad from the éarth \*  
and wíne to chéer man's héart;  
óil, to máke him glád \*

and bréad to stréngthen man's héart.

The trées of the Lórd drink their fill,\*  
the cédars he plánted on Lébanon;  
thére the bírds build their nésts: \*  
on the trée-top the stórk has her hóme.  
The góats find a hóme on the móuntains \*  
and rábbits híde in the rócks.

You made the móon to márk the mónths; \*  
the sún knows the tíme for its sétting.  
When you spréad the dárkness it is níght \*  
and all the béasts of the fórest creep fóρθ.  
The young líons róar for their préy \*  
and ásk their fóod from Gód.

At the rísing of the sún they steal awáy \*  
and gó to rést in their déns.  
Mán goes fóρθ to his wórk, \*  
to lábor till évening fálls.

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 Lord has brought forth bread from the earth, and wine to give warmth to men's hearts.

### *Antiphon 3*

The Lord looked upon all he had made and saw that it was very good.

### *III*

How mány are your wóorks, O Lórd! †  
In wísdóm you have máde them áll. \*  
The éarth is fúll of your ríches.

Thére is the séa, vast and wíde, †  
with its móving swárms past cóunting, \*

living things gréat and smáll.  
The shíps are móving thére \*  
and the mónsters you máde to pláy with.

Áll of thése look to yóu \*  
to gíve them their fóod in due séason.  
You gíve it, they gáther it úp: \*  
you ópen your hánd, they have their fill.

You híde your fáce, they are dismáyed; †  
you táke back your spírit, they díe, \*  
retúrning to the dúst from which they cáme.  
You sénd forth your spírit, they are créated; \*  
and you renéw the fáce of the éarth.

May the glóry of the Lórd last foréver! \*  
May the Lórd rejóice in his wórks!  
He lóoks on the éarth and it trémbles; \*  
the móuntains send forth smóke at his tóuch.

I will síng to the Lórd all my lífe, \*  
make músic to my Gód while I líve.  
May my thóughts be pléasing to hím. \*  
I find my jóy in the Lórd.  
Let sínners vánish from the éarth †  
and the wícked exíst no móre. \*  
Bléss the Lórd, my sóul.

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 Lord looked upon all he had made and saw that it was very good.

VERSE

When I am lifted up from the earth.

— I will draw all people to myself.

## READINGS

### *First reading*

From the letter to the Hebrews

*(10:1-18)*

*We are sanctified through the offering of Christ*

Since the law had only a shadow of the good things to come, and no real image of them, it was never able to perfect the worshipers by the same sacrifices offered continually year after year. Were matters otherwise, the priests would have stopped offering them, for the worshipers, once cleansed, would have had no sin on their conscience. But through those sacrifices there came only a yearly recalling of sins, because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take sins away. Wherefore, on coming into the world, Jesus said:

“Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,  
But a body you have prepared for me;  
Holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight in.  
Then I said, ‘As is written of me in the book.  
I have come to do your will, O God.’”

First he says,

“Sacrifices and offerings, holocausts and sin offerings,  
you neither desired nor delighted in.”

(These are offered according to the prescriptions of the law.) Then he says,

“I have come to do your will.”

In other words, he takes away the first covenant to establish the second.

By this “will,” we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. Every other priest stands ministering day by day, and offering again and again those same sacrifices which can never take away sins. But Jesus offered one sacrifice for sins and took his seat forever at the right hand of God; now he waits until his enemies are placed beneath his feet. By one

offering he has forever perfected those who are being sanctified. The Holy Spirit attests this to us, for after saying,

“This is the covenant I will make with them  
after those days, says the Lord:  
I will put my laws in their hearts  
and I will write them on their minds,”

he also says,

“Their sins and their transgressions  
I will remember no more.”

Once these have been forgiven, there is no further offering for sin.

*Responsory*

*Hebrews 10:5,6,7,4 (Psalm 40:7-8)*

Sacrifice and offerings you did not desire, but you prepared a body for me. Burnt offerings for sin could not please you. So I said:

— Here I am, Lord God, I come to do your will.

The blood of bulls and goats could never take away sins. When Christ came into the world he said:

— Here I am, Lord God, I come to do your will.

*Second reading*

From a sermon by Saint Andrew of Crete, bishop

*(Oratio 9 in ramos palmarum: PG 97, 990-994)*

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is the king of Israel.*

Let us go together to meet Christ on the Mount of Olives. Today he returns from Bethany and proceeds of his own free will toward his holy and blessed passion, to consummate the mystery of our salvation. He who came down from heaven to raise us from the depths of sin, to raise us with himself, we are told in Scripture, *above every sovereignty, authority and power, and every other name that can be named*, now comes of his own free will to make his journey to Jerusalem. He comes without pomp or ostentation. As the psalmist says: *He will not dispute or raise his voice to make it heard in the streets*. He will be meek and humble, and he will make his entry in



simplicity.

Let us run to accompany him as he hastens toward his passion, and imitate those who met him then, not by covering his path with garments, olive branches or palms, but by doing all we can to prostrate ourselves before him by being humble and by trying to live as he would wish. Then we shall be able to receive the Word at his coming, and God, whom no limits can contain, will be within us.

In his humility Christ entered the dark regions of our fallen world and he is glad that he became so humble for our sake, glad that he came and lived among us and shared in our nature in order to raise us up again to himself. And even though we are told that he has now ascended above the highest heavens – the proof, surely, of his power and godhead – his love for man will never rest until he has raised our earthbound nature from glory to glory, and made it one with his own in heaven.

So let us spread before his feet, not garments or soulless olive branches, which delight the eye for a few hours and then wither, but ourselves, clothed in his grace, or rather, clothed completely in him. We who have been baptized into Christ must ourselves be the garments that we spread before him. Now that the crimson stains of our sins have been washed away in the saving waters of baptism and we have become white as pure wool, let us present the conqueror of death, not with mere branches of palms but with the real rewards of his victory. Let our souls take the place of the welcoming branches as we join today in the children's holy song: *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is the king of Israel.*

*Responsory*

*John 12: 12, 13; Matthew 21:8, 9*

When the people heard that Jesus was entering Jerusalem, they went out to meet him. Many spread their cloaks before him, while others took branches from the trees, as they cried aloud:

— Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

The crowd that went ahead of him, and the crowd that followed

after cried out:

— Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

## *Canticles and Gospel Reading*

### CANTICLES

#### *Antiphon*

Jesus knelt and prayed: Father, if it is your will, take this cup from me; yet not my will but yours be done.

*Jeremiah 14:17-21*

*The lament of the people in war and famine*

*The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe the Good News (Mark 1:15).*

Let my eyes stream with tears \*  
day and night, without rest,  
over the great destruction which overwhelms †  
the virgin daughter of my people, \*  
over her incurable wound.

If I walk out into the field, \*  
look! those slain by the sword;  
If I enter the city, \*  
look! those consumed by hunger.  
Even the prophet and the priest \*  
forage in a land they know not.

Have you cast Judah off completely? \*  
Is Zion loathsome to you?  
Why have you struck us a blow \*  
that cannot be healed?

We wait for peace, to no avail; \*  
for a time of healing, but terror comes instead.  
We recognize, O Lord, our wickedness, †  
the guilt of our fathers; \*  
that we have sinned against you.

For your name's sake spurn us not, †

disgrace not the throne of your glory; \*  
remember your covenant with us, and break it not.

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.

*Ezekiel 36:24-28*

*The Lord will renew his people*

*They will be his own people and God himself will be with them, their own God  
(Revelation 21:3).*

I will take you away from among the nations, †  
gather you from all the foreign lands, \*  
and bring you back to your own land.

I will sprinkle clean water upon you †  
to cleanse you from all your impurities, \*  
and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

I will give you a new heart \*  
and place a new spirit within you,  
taking from your bodies your stony hearts \*  
and giving you natural hearts.

I will put my spirit within you †  
and make you live by my statutes, \*  
careful to observe my decrees.

You shall live in the land I gave your fathers; †  
you shall be my people, \*  
and I will be your God.

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.

*Lamentations 5:1-7, 15-17, 19-21*

*A prayer in time of distress*

*At every moment we carry in our bodies the death of Jesus so that in our bodies the life*

*of Jesus may also be manifested (2 Corinthians 4:10).*

Remember, O Lord, what has befallen us,<sup>\*</sup>  
look, and see our disgrace:

Our inherited lands have been turned over to strangers,<sup>\*</sup>  
our homes to foreigners.

We have become orphans, fatherless;<sup>\*</sup>  
widowed are our mothers.

The water we drink we must buy,<sup>\*</sup>  
for our own wood we must pay.

On our necks is the yoke of those who drive us;<sup>\*</sup>  
we are worn out, but allowed no rest.

To Egypt we submitted,<sup>\*</sup>  
and to Assyria, to fill our need of bread.

Our fathers, who sinned, are no more;<sup>\*</sup>  
but we bear their guilt.

The joy of our hearts has ceased,<sup>\*</sup>  
our dance has turned into mourning;

The garlands have fallen from our heads:<sup>\*</sup>  
woe to us, for we have sinned!

Over this our hearts are sick,<sup>\*</sup>  
at this our eyes grow dim:

You, O Lord, are enthroned forever;<sup>\*</sup>  
your throne stands from age to age.

Why, then, should you forget us,<sup>\*</sup>  
abandon us so long a time?

Lead us back to you, O Lord, †  
that we may be restored:<sup>\*</sup>  
give us anew such days as we had of old.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,<sup>\*</sup>  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now,<sup>\*</sup>  
and will be for ever. Amen.

*Antiphon*

Jesus knelt and prayed: Father, if it is your will, take this cup from me; yet not my will but yours be done.

*Stand*

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

*8:21-30*

*I am not of this world*

Jesus said to the Pharisees:

“I am going away. You will look for me  
but you will die in your sins.

Where I am going you cannot come.”

At this some of the Jews began to ask, “Does he mean he will kill himself when he claims, ‘Where I am going you cannot come’?”

He went on:

“You belong to what is below;

I belong to what is above.

You belong to this world—

a world which cannot hold me.

That is why I said you would die in your sins.

You will surely die in your sins

unless you come to believe that I AM.”

“Who are you, then?” they asked him. Jesus answered:

“What I have been telling you from the beginning.

I could say much about you in condemnation,

but no, I only tell the world

what I have heard from him,

the truthful One who sent me.”

They did not grasp that he was speaking to them of the Father.

Jesus continued:

“When you lift up the Son of Man,

you will come to realize that I AM  
and that I do nothing by myself.  
I say only what the Father has taught me.  
The One who sent me is with me.  
He has not deserted me  
since I always do what pleases him.”

Because he spoke this way, many came to believe in him.

### CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty, ever-living God,  
you have given the human race Jesus Christ our Savior  
as a model of humility.  
He fulfilled your will  
by becoming man and giving his life on the cross.  
help us to bear witness to you  
by following his example of suffering  
and make us worthy to share in his resurrection.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

### *Acclamation*

Let us praise the Lord.

— And give him thanks.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The English Translation of the Introductory Verses and Responses, the Invitatories, the Antiphons, Captions and Patristic Commentaries for the Psalms, Psalm-prayers, Responsories, Intercessions, Greeting, Blessings, and Dismissal, Non-Biblical Readings, and Hagiographical Introductions from *The Liturgy of the Hours* © 1974, 1975, 1976, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. (ICEL); the Alternative Opening Prayers and the English translation of the Opening Prayers (Prayers of the Day) from *The Roman Missal* © 1973, ICEL. All rights reserved.

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