

Liturgy of the Hours
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

NIGHT PRAYER

December 20, 2025

{ Fourth Sunday of Advent }



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

O Christ, resplendent as the day,
you clear away the dark of night;
by faith we know you, Light from Light,
proclaiming light to all the blest.

O holy Lord, we humbly pray:
Watch over us throughout this night

and grant us calm and silent hours,
that we may find our rest in you.

And when our eyes are closed in sleep,
still let our hearts keep watch for you;
protect and guard by your right hand
the faithful, filled with love for you.

O strong defender, see our plight,
subdue our foes who lie in wait;
direct and guide your servants, Lord,
whom you have purchased with your blood.

To you, O Christ, most loving King,
and to the Father, glory be,
one with the Spirit Paraclete,
from age to age for evermore. Amen.

*Metrical hymn, melody: Herr Jesu Christ, 8 8 8 8; Pensum Sacrum Metro-
Rhythmicum, Görlitz, 1648*

Plainsong, mode IV, melody 80; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983, Text: Christe, qui,
splendor et dies, 5-6th c.*

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PSALMODY

Antiphon 1

Have mercy, Lord, and hear my prayer.

Psalm 4

Thanksgiving

*The resurrection of Christ was God's supreme and wholly marvelous work (Saint
Augustine).*

When I cáll, ánsWER me, O Gód of jústice; *
from ánguish you reléased me; have mércy and héar me!

O mén, how lóng will your héarts be clósed, *
will you lóve what is fútile and séek what is fálse?

It is the Lórd who grants fávors to thóse whom he lóves; *
the Lórd héars me whenéver I cáll him.

Fear him; do not sín: pónder on your béd and be stíll. *
Make jústice your sácrifice and trúst in the Lórd.

“What can bríng us háppiness?” mány sáy. *
Let the light of your fáce shíne on us, O Lórd.

You have pút into my héart a gréater jóy *
than théy have from abúndance of córn and new wíne.

I will líe down in péace and sléep comes at ónce *
for yóu alone, Lórd, make me dwéll in sáfety.

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

Have mercy, Lord, and hear my prayer.

Antiphon 2

In the silent hours of night, bless the Lord.

Psalms 134

Evening prayer in the temple

Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, small and great (Revelation 19:5).

O cóme, bléss the Lórd, *
all yóu who sérve the Lórd,
who stánd in the hóuse of the Lórd, *
in the cóurts of the hóuse of our Gód.

Lift up your hánds to the hóly pláce *
and bléss the Lórd through the níght.

May the Lórd bléss you from Zíon, *
he who máde both héaven and éarth.

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 silent hours of night, bless the Lord.

READING

Deuteronomy 6:4-7

Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone! Therefore, you shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength. Take to heart these words which I enjoin on you today. Drill them into your children. Speak of them at home and abroad, whether you are busy or at rest.

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,
be with us throughout this night.
When day comes may we rise from sleep
to rejoice in the resurrection of your Christ,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

— Amen.

Blessing

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

— Amen.

ANTIPHON OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Loving mother of the Redeemer,
gate of heaven, star of the sea,
assist your people who have fallen yet strive to rise again.
To the wonderment of nature you bore your Creator,
yet remained a virgin after as before.
You who received Gabriel's joyful greeting,
have pity on us poor sinners.

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