

Liturgy of the Hours
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

DAYTIME PRAYER

December 26, 2025

{ Feast – Stephen, First Martyr }



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 mighty Ruler, God of truth,
for days and seasons setting bounds,
you clothe with splendor morning light
and midday skies with brilliant heat.

Extinguish flames of bitter strife,
all harmful passion take away,
grant health unto our mortal frame,
and on our hearts bestow true peace.

Most loving Father, hear our prayer,
and you, O Christ coequal Son,
who with the Spirit Paraclete
now reign for all eternity. Amen.

Metrical hymn, melody: A la venue de Noël, 8 8 8 8; Fleurs des Noël, Lyons, 1535

*Plainsong, mode II, melody 46; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983, Text: Rector potens,
verax Deus, unknown author, very ancient; traditionally attributed to St. Ambrose,
340-397*

*The English translation of Hymns and chants from The Liturgy of the Hours © 2023
International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation (ICEL).*

*Reproduced from The Divine Office Hymnal (hymns #39/40). Copyright © 2023
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC (USCCB). Published
and distributed exclusively by GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL. To acquire the
Pew Edition or Accompaniment Edition of the hymnal with metrical hymn tunes and
plainsong melodies, visit www.giamusic.com.*

Sit or stand

PSALMODY

Antiphon

Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

Psalm 119:161-168

XXI (Shin)

Though prínces opprèss me without cáuse *
I stand in áwe of your wórd.
I táke delight in your prómise *
like óne who finds a tréasure.

Líes I háte and detést *
but your láw is my lóve.
Séven times a dáy I práise you *
for your júst decreés.

The lóvers of your láw have great péace; *
they néver stúmbles.
I awáit your saving hélp, O Lórd, *
I fulfill your commánds.

My sóul obéys your will *
and lóves it déarly.
I obéy your précepts and your will; *
all that I dó is befóre you.

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.

Psalm 133

Joy when hearts are united in love

Let us love one another, for love is of God (1 John 4:7).

How góod and how pléasant it is, *
when bróthers líve in únity!

It is líke precious óil upon the héad *

running dówn upon the béard,
running dówn upon Áaron's béard, *
upon the cóllar of his róbes.

It is líke the dew of Hérmon which fálls *
on the héights of Zíon.

For thére the Lórd gives his bléssing, *
lífe for éver.

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.

Psalm 140:1-9, 13-14

Lord, you are my refuge

The Son of Man will be handed over to wicked men (Matthew 26:45).

Réscue me, Lórd, from evil mén; *
from the víolent kéeep me sáfe,
from thóse who plan évil in their héarts *
and stír up strífe every dáy;
who shárpen their tóngue like an ádder's, *
with the póison of víper on their líps.

Lord, guárd me from the hánds of the wicked; †
from the víolent kéeep me sáfe; *
they plán to máke me stúmbles.
The pród have hídden a tráp, †
have spréad out línes in a nét, *
set snáres acróss my páth.

I have sáid to the Lórd: "You are my Gód." *
Lord, héar the crý of my appéál!
Lord my Gód, my míghty hélp, *
you shíeld my héad in báttle.
Do not gránt the wicked their desíre *
nor lét their plóts succéed.

I know that the Lórd will avénge the póor, *
that hé will do jústice for the néedy.

Yes, the júst will práise your náme: *
the úpright shall líve in your présence.

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

Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

Sit

READING

James 1:12

Happy the man who holds out to the end through trial! Once he has been proved, he will receive the crown of life the Lord has promised to those who love him.

Verse

I have put my hope in God.

— I have no fear of man.

Stand

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Lord,
today we celebrate the entrance of Saint Stephen
into eternal glory.
He died praying for those who killed him.
Help us to imitate his goodness
and to love our enemies.

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

— Amen.

Acclamation

Let us praise the Lord.

— And give him thanks.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The English translation of Antiphons, Invitatories, Responsories, Intercessions, Psalm 95, the Canticle of the Lamb, Psalm Prayers, Non-Biblical Readings, Hagiographical Introductions from *The Liturgy of the Hours* © 1973, 1974, 1975, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation (ICEL); excerpts from the English translation of *The Roman Missal* © 2010, ICEL; the English translation of Hymns from *The Liturgy of the Hours* © 2023. All rights reserved.

English translation of *Gloria Patri*, *Te Deum Laudamus*, *Benedictus*, *Magnificat*, and *Nunc Dimittis* by the International Consultation on English Texts.

Readings and New Testament Canticles (except the Magnificat) from the *New American Bible* Copyright © 1970 by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, D.C. Used with permission. All Rights Reserved. No part of the *New American Bible* may be reproduced in any form without permission in writing from the copyright owner.

Psalm texts except Psalm 95 Copyright © 1963, The Grail (England). Used with permission of A.P. Watt Ltd. All rights reserved.

Arrangement Copyright © 2006 by eBreviary, New York.



mobile prayers



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

www.ebreviary.com