

*Liturgy of the Hours*  
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

OFFICE OF READINGS

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February 22, 2025

{ Feast – Chair of Peter, Apostle }



*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

Good Shepherd, Peter,  
graciously receive the prayers  
of those who beg you,  
and unbind all chains of sin,  
who by your judgment  
close and open heaven's gate  
for ev'ry mortal  
by the power granted you.

Eternal glory  
to the blessed Trinity,  
all might and honor,  
virtue and exultant praise,  
who reign for ever,  
God, the perfect Three in One,  
before the ages,  
now, and through eternity. Amen.

*Metrical hymn, melody: ANNUE CHRISTE, 12 12 12 12; from François de La  
Feillée's Methode de plain-chant, 1782*

*Plainsong, mode IV, melody 77; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983\*, Text: Iam, bone  
pastor, Petre, clemens accipe, verses 1 and 3, 8-9th c.*

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*Sit or stand*

PSALMODY

*Antiphon 1*

Peter said: God has raised up and glorified this Jesus, whom you put to death.

*Psalm 19A*

*Praise of the Lord, Creator of all*

*The dawn from on high shall break on us . . . to guide our feet into the way of peace  
(Luke 1:78, 79).*

The héavens procláim the glóry of Gód \*  
and the firmament shows fóρθ the wórk of his hánds.  
Dáy unto dáy tákes up the stóry \*  
and níght unto níght makes knówn the méssage.

No spéech, no wórd, no vóice is héárd †  
yet their spán exténds through áll the éarth, \*  
their wórd to the útmost bóunds of the wórd.

Thére he has pláced a tént for the sún; †  
it comes fóρθ like a brídegroom cóming from his tént, \*  
rejóices like a chámption to rún its cóurse.

At the énd of the ský is the rísing of the sún; †  
to the fúrthest énd of the ský is its cóurse. \*  
There is nóthing conceáled from its búrning héat.

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*

Peter said: God has raised up and glorified this Jesus, whom you put to death.

*Antiphon 2*

The Lord has sent his angel to free me from Herod's power.

*Psalm 64*

*Prayer for help against enemies*

*This psalm commemorates most particularly our Lord's passion (Saint Augustine).*

Hear my voice, O Gód, as I compláin,\*  
guard my life from dréad of the fóe.  
Hide me from the bánd of the wicked,\*  
from the thróng of thóse who do évil.

They shárpen their tóngues like swórd; \*  
they áim bitter wórd's like árows  
to shóot at the ínnocent from ámbush, \*  
shóoting súddenly and récklessly.

They schéme their évil cóurse; \*  
they conspíre to lay sécret snáres.  
They sáy: "Whó will sée us? \*  
Whó can séarch out our crímes?"

He will séarch who séarches the mínd \*  
and knóws the dépth of the héart.  
Gód has shót them with his árow \*  
and déalt them súdden wóunds.  
Their ówn tongue has bróught them to rúin \*  
and áll who sée them móck.

Thén will áll men féar; †  
they will téll what Gód has dóne. \*  
They will únderstánd God's déeds.  
The júst will rejoyce in the Lórd †  
and flý to hím for réfuge. \*  
All the úpright héarts will glóry.

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

*Antiphon*

The Lord has sent his angel to free me from Herod's power.

*Antiphon 3*

Suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and the Father's voice was heard: This is my beloved Son.

*Psalm 97*

*The glory of the Lord in his decrees for the world*

*This psalm foretells a world-wide salvation and that peoples of all nations will believe in Christ (St. Athanasius).*

The Lord is kíng, let éarth rejóice, \*  
let áll the cóastlands be glád.  
Clóud and dárkness are his ráiment; \*  
his thróne, jústice and ríght.

A fire preparés his páth; \*  
it búrn up his fóes on every síde.  
His líghtnings líght up the wórld, \*  
the éarth trémbles at the síght.

The móuntains mélt like wáx \*  
before the Lórd of áll the éarth.  
The skíes procláim his jústice; \*  
all péoples sée his glóry.

Let thóse who serve ídols be ashámed, †  
those who bóast of their wóρθless góds. \*  
All you spíríts, wórship hím.

Zíon héars and is glád; †  
the péople of Júdah rejóice \*  
becáuse of your júdgments, O Lórd.

For yóu indéed are the Lórd, †  
most hígh above áll the éarth, \*  
exálted far abóve all spíríts.

The Lórd loves thóse who hate évil: †  
he gúards the sóuls of his sáints; \*  
he séts them frée from the wícked.

Líght shínes fórth for the júst \*  
and jóy for the úpríght of héart.

Rejóice, you júst, in the Lórd; \*  
give glóry to his hólý náme.

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*

Suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and the Father's voice was heard: This is my beloved Son.

VERSE

Lord, to whom shall we go?

— You have the words of eternal life.

*Sit*

READINGS

*First reading*

From the Acts of the Apostles

*11:1-18*

*Peter tells of the conversion of the Gentiles*

All through Judea the apostles and the brothers heard that Gentiles, too, had accepted the word of God. As a result, when Peter went up to Jerusalem some among the circumcised took issue with him, saying, "You entered the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them."

Peter then explained the whole affair to them step by step from the beginning: "I was at prayer in the city of Joppa when, in a trance, I saw a vision. An object like a big canvas came down; it was lowered down to me from the sky by its four corners. As I stared at it I could make out four-legged creatures of the earth, wild beasts and reptiles, and birds of the sky.

"I listened as a voice said to me, 'Get up, Peter! Slaughter, then eat.' I replied: 'Not for a moment, sir! Nothing unclean or impure has ever entered my mouth!' A second time the voice from the heavens

spoke out: ‘What God has purified you are not to call unclean.’ This happened three times; then the canvas with everything in it was drawn up again into the sky.

“Immediately after that, the three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea came to the house where we were staying. The Spirit instructed me to accompany them without hesitation. These six brothers came along with me, and we entered the man’s house. He informed us that he had seen an angel standing in his house and that the angel had said: ‘Send someone to Joppa and fetch Simon, known also as Peter. In the light of what he will tell you, you shall be saved, and all your household.’

“As I began to address them the Holy Spirit came upon them, just as it had upon us at the beginning. Then I remembered what the Lord had said: ‘John baptized with water but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ If God was giving them the same gift he gave us when we first believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to interfere with him?”

When they heard this they stopped objecting, and instead began to glorify God in these words: “If this be so, then God has granted life-giving repentance even to the Gentiles.”

*Responsory*

*Luke 22:32; Matthew 16:17b*

I have prayed for you, Peter, that your faith may not fail;

— and when you have turned to me, you must strengthen the faith of your brothers.

Flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.

— And when you have turned to me, you must strengthen the faith of your brothers.

*Second reading*

From a sermon by Saint Leo the Great, pope

*The Church of Christ rises on the firm foundation of Peter's faith*

Out of the whole world one man, Peter, is chosen to preside at the calling of all nations, and to be set over all the apostles and all the fathers of the Church. Though there are in God's people many shepherds, Peter is thus appointed to rule in his own person those whom Christ also rules as the original ruler. Beloved, how great and wonderful is this sharing of his power that God in his goodness has given to this man. Whatever Christ has willed to be shared in common by Peter and the other leaders of the Church, it is only through Peter that he has given to others what he has not refused to bestow on them.

The Lord now asks the apostles as a whole what men think of him. As long as they are recounting the uncertainty born of human ignorance, their reply is always the same.

But when he presses the disciples to say what they think themselves, the first to confess his faith in the Lord is the one who is first in rank among the apostles.

Peter says: *You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.* Jesus replies: *Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona, for flesh and blood has not revealed it to you, but my Father who is in heaven.* You are blessed, he means, because my Father has taught you. You have not been deceived by earthly opinion, but have been enlightened by inspiration from heaven. It was not flesh and blood that pointed me out to you, but the one whose only-begotten Son I am.

He continues: *And I say to you.* In other words, as my Father has revealed to you my godhead, so I in my turn make known to you your pre-eminence. *You are Peter:* though I am the inviolable rock, *the cornerstone that makes both one,* the foundation apart from which no one can lay any other, yet you also are a rock, for you are given solidity by my strength, so that which is my very own because of my power is common between us through your participation.

*And upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.* On this strong foundation, he says, I will build an everlasting temple. The great height of my Church, which is to



penetrate the heavens, shall rise on the firm foundation of this faith. The gates of hell shall not silence this confession of faith; the chains of death shall not bind it. Its words are the words of life. As they lift up to heaven those who profess them, so they send down to hell those who contradict them.

Blessed Peter is therefore told: *To you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth is also bound in heaven. Whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed also in heaven.*

The authority vested in this power passed also to the other apostles, and the institution established by this decree has been continued in all the leaders of the Church. But it is not without good reason that what is bestowed on all is entrusted to one. For Peter received it separately in trust because he is the prototype set before all the rulers of the Church.

### *Responsory*

Before I called you from the boat, I knew you, Simon Peter, and I have appointed you leader of my people.

— I have entrusted to you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

Whatever you bind on earth will be held bound in heaven.

Whatever you loose on earth will be held loosed in heaven.

— I have entrusted to you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

### *Stand*

## TE DEUM

You are God: we praise you;  
You are the Lord: we acclaim you;  
You are the eternal Father:  
All creation worships you.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,  
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:  
Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you.

The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.  
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

Throughout the world the holy Church acclaim you:  
Father, of majesty unbounded,  
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,  
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the King of glory,  
the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free  
you did not spurn the Virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death,  
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You are seated at God's right hand in glory.  
We believe that you will come, and be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
bought with the price of your own blood,  
and bring us with your saints  
to glory everlasting.

### CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

All-powerful Father,  
you have built your Church  
on the rock of Saint Peter's confession of faith.  
May nothing divide or weaken  
our unity in faith and love.

Grant 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.

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