

Liturgy of the Hours
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

OFFICE OF READINGS

November 24, 2024

{ Solemnity – Christ the King }



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

Hail, Redeemer, King divine!
Priest and Lamb, the throne is thine;
King whose reign shall never cease,
Prince of everlasting peace.

Angels, saints, and nations sing:
“Praised be Jesus Christ, our King;
Lord of earth and sky and sea,
King of love on Calvary.”

Christ, thou King of truth and might,
Be to us eternal light,
Till in peace each nation rings
With thy praises, King of kings.

Angels, saints, and nations sing:
“Praised be Jesus Christ, our King;
Lord of earth and sky and sea,
King of love on Calvary.”

*Melody: King Divine 77.77 with Refrain; Music: Charles Rigby, 1901–1962; Text:
P. Brennan, C.S.S.R., alt.*

Sit or stand

PSALMODY

Antiphon 1

I have been made king upon Zion, his holy mountain, to proclaim
his teaching.

Psalm 2

The Messiah, king and conqueror

The rulers of the earth joined forces to overthrow Jesus, your anointed Son (Acts 4:27).

Why this tumult among nátions,^{*}
among peóples this úseless múrmuring?
They arise, the kíngs of the éarth,^{*}
princes plót against the Lórd and his Anóinted.
“Cóme let us bréak their fétters,^{*}
cóme, let us cást off their yóke.”

He who síts in the héavens láughs;^{*}
the Lórd is láughing them to scórn.
Thén he will spéak in his ánger,^{*}
his ráge will stríke them with térror.
“It is Í who have sét up my kíng^{*}
on Zíon, my hólý móuntain.”

I will annóunce the decreé of the Lórd: †
The Lórd said to me: “Yóu are my Són.^{*}
It is Í who have begóttén you this dáy.
Ásk and I shall bequéath you the nátions,^{*}
put the énds of the éarth in your posséssion.
With a ród of íron you will bréak them,^{*}
shátter them like a pótter’s jár.”

Nów, O kíngs, understánd,^{*}
take wárning, rúlers of the éarth;
sérve the Lórd with áwe^{*}
and trémbling, páy him your hómage
lést he be ángry and you pérish;^{*}
for súddenly his ánger will bláze.

Blessed are théy^{*}
who put their trúst in Gód.

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

I have been made king upon Zion, his holy mountain, to proclaim his teaching.

Antiphon 2

All the kings of the earth will worship him; all nations will serve him.

Psalm 72

The Messiah's royal power

*Opening their treasures, they offered him gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh
(Matthew 2:11).*

I

O Gód, give your júdgment to the kíng, *
to a kíng's son your jústice,
that he may júdge your péople in jústice *
and your póor in right júdgment.

May the móuntains bring forth péace for the péople *
and the hílls, jústice.

May he defénd the póor of the péople †
and save the chídren of the néedy *
and crúsh the oppréssor.

He shall endúre like the sún and the móon *
from áge to áge.

He shall descénd like ráin on the méadow, *
like ráindrops on the éarth.

In his dáys jústice shall flóurish *
and péace till the móon fails.

He shall rúle from séa to séa, *
from the Great Ríver to earth's bóunds.

Befóre him his énemies shall fáll, *
his fóes lick the dúst.

The kíngs of Társhish and the séa coasts *
shall páy him tríbute.

The kíngs of Shéba and Séba *

shall bring him gifts.

Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,*
all nations shall serve him.

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

All the kings of the earth will worship him; all nations will serve him.

Antiphon 3

All the tribes of the earth will be blessed in him; all nations will glorify him.

II

For he shall save the poor when they cry*
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak*
and save the lives of the poor.

From oppression he will rescue their lives,*
to him their blood is dear.
Long may he live,*
may the gold of Sheba be given him.
They shall pray for him without ceasing*
and bless him all the day.

May corn be abundant in the land †
to the peaks of the mountains.*
May its fruit rustle like Lebanon;
may men flourish in the cities*
like grass on the earth.

May his name be blessed for ever*
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,*
all nations bless his name.

Blesséd be the Lórd, God of Ísrael, †
who alóne works wónders,*
ever bléssed his glórious náme.

Let his glóry fill the éarth.*
Amén! Amén!

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

All the tribes of the earth will be blessed in him; all nations will glorify him.

VERSE

See I have made you a light to all the nations.

— You will bring my salvation to the ends of the earth.

Sit

READINGS

First reading

From the book of Revelation

1:4b-6, 10, 12-18; 2:26, 28; 3:5b, 12, 20-21

A vision of the Son of Man in his majesty

Grace and peace—from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the first-born from the dead and ruler of the kings of earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his own blood, who has made us a royal nation of priests in the service of his God and Father—to him be glory and power forever and ever! Amen.

On the Lord's day I was caught up in ecstasy, and I heard behind me a piercing voice like the sound of a trumpet, which said, "Write on a scroll what you now see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and

Laodicea.” I turned around to see whose voice it was that spoke to me. When I did so I saw seven lampstands of gold, and among the lampstands One like a Son of Man wearing an ankle-length robe, with a sash of gold about his breast. The hair of his head was as white as snow-white wool and his eyes blazed like fire. His feet gleamed like polished brass refined in a furnace, and his voice sounded like the roar of rushing waters. In his right hand he held seven stars. A sharp, two-edged sword came out of his mouth, and his face shone like the sun at its brightest.

When I caught sight of him I fell down at his feet as though dead. He touched me with his right hand and said: “There is nothing to fear. I am the First and the Last and the One who lives. Once I was dead but now I live—forever and ever. I hold the keys of death and the nether world.

“To the one who wins the victory, who keeps to my ways till the end, I will give authority over the nations—the same authority I received from my Father. And I will give him the morning star. I will never erase his name from the book of the living, but will acknowledge him in the presence of my Father and his angels.

“I will make the victor a pillar in the temple of my God and he shall never leave it. I will inscribe on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem which he will send down from heaven, and my own name which is new.

“Here I stand, knocking at the door. If anyone hears me calling and opens the door, I will enter his house and have supper with him, and he with me. I will give the victor the right to sit with me on my throne, as I myself won the victory and took my seat beside my Father on his throne.”

Responsory

Mark 13:26-27; Psalm 98:9

They will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven with great power and majesty; then he will send out the angels,

— and he will gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the farthest bounds of heaven.

He will judge the world with justice and the peoples with truth.

- And he will gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the farthest bounds of heaven.

Second reading

From a notebook On Prayer by Origen, priest

(Cap. 25: PG 11, 495-499)

Your kingdom come

The kingdom of God, in the words of our Lord and Savior, does not come for all to see; nor shall they say: Behold, here it is, or behold, there it is, but the kingdom of God is within us, for the word of God is very near, in our mouth and in our heart. Thus it is clear that he who prays for the coming of God's kingdom prays rightly to have it within himself, that there it may grow and bear fruit and become perfect. For God reigns in each of his holy ones. Anyone who is holy obeys the spiritual laws of God, who dwells in him as in a well-ordered city. The Father is present in the perfect soul, and with him Christ reigns, according to the words: We shall come to him and make our home with him.

Thus the kingdom of God within us, as we continue to make progress, will reach its highest point when the Apostle's words are fulfilled, and Christ, having subjected all his enemies to himself, will hand over his *kingdom to God the Father, that God may be all in all*. Therefore, let us pray unceasingly with that disposition of soul which the Word may make divine, saying to our Father who is in heaven: *Hallowed by thy name; thy kingdom come*.

Note this too about the kingdom of God. It is not a *sharing of justice with iniquity, nor a society of light with darkness, nor a meeting of Christ with Belial*. The kingdom of God cannot exist alongside the reign of sin.

Therefore, if we wish God to reign in us, in no way *should sin reign in our mortal body*; rather we should *mortify our members which are upon the earth* and bear fruit in the Spirit. There should be in us a kind of spiritual paradise where God may walk and be our sole ruler with his Christ. In us the Lord will sit at the right hand of that

spiritual power which we wish to receive. And he will sit there until all his enemies who are within us become *his footstool*, and every principality, power and virtue in us is cast out.

All this can happen in each one of us, and the last enemy, death, can be destroyed; then Christ will say in us: *O death, where is your sting? O hell, where is your victory?* And so, what is *corruptible* in us must be clothed in holiness and *incorruptibility*; and what is *mortal* must be clothed, now that death has been conquered, in the Father's *immortality*. Then God will reign in us, and we shall enjoy even now the blessings of rebirth and resurrection.

Responsory

Revelation 11:15; Psalm 22:28-29

The kingdom of this world belongs to our Lord and his Christ,

— and he shall reign for ever and ever.

All the families of nations shall bow down before him, for the Lord is our king.

— And he shall reign for ever and ever.

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.

Almighty and merciful God,
you break the power of evil
and make all things new
in your Son Jesus Christ, the King of the universe.
May all in heaven and earth acclaim your glory
and never cease to praise you.

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.

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