

*Liturgy of the Hours*  
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

OFFICE OF READINGS

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May 3, 2025

{ Feast – Philip and James, Apostles }



*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 Philip, shining with renown,  
once from Bethsaida you were called  
with Peter, shepherd, prince of all,  
to treasure Christ with heart and soul.

And so he gives you in return  
the pledges of his deepest love  
by showing you the highest truths  
that bind the Father's life with his.

O James, the charity of Christ  
embraces you with equal love:  
his kinsman in renown and name,  
you stand a pillar of the Church.

The first to rule his noble flock  
at home on Zion's cherished height,  
with prudence you instruct us still  
by teaching us the saving word.

O blessed ones, your noble hearts  
confessed Christ Jesus by your blood;  
grant us to run in faith and hope  
till we have reached our heav'nly home.

That when at last we shall abide  
in dwellings of the Father's house,  
together we may ever sing:  
All glory to the Three in One. Amen.

*Metrical hymn, melody: ST VENANTIUS, 8 8 8 8; Rouen church melody, 1728*

*Plainsong, mode III, melody 54; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983\*, Text: Philippe, summæ honoribus, Anselmo Lentini, O.S.B., 1901–1989*

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*Sit or stand*

## PSALMODY

### *Antiphon 1*

Their voice has gone out to the limits of the earth, their words to the ends of the world, alleluia.

### *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 wórк 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 wórds to the útmost bóunds of the wórld.

Thére he has pláced a tént for the sún; †  
it comes fóρθ like a brídegroom cóming from his tént,\*  
rejóices like a chámpion 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 concéaled 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*

Their voice has gone out to the limits of the earth, their words to the ends of the world, alleluia.

*Antiphon 2*

They proclaimed what God has done for us; they grasped the meaning of his deeds, alleluia.

*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.  
Híde me from the bánd of the wícked,\*  
from the thróng of thóse who do évil.

They shárpen their tóngues like swórds;\*  
they áim bitter wórds like árrows  
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 árrow\*  
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 dóné.\*  
They will únderstánd God's déeds.  
The júst will rejóice in the Lórd †  
and flý to hím for réfuge.\*

All the upright hearts will glory.

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*

They proclaimed what God has done for us; they grasped the meaning of his deeds, alleluia.

*Antiphon 3*

God's holiness was revealed by them; all nations saw God's glory, alleluia.

*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 king, let earth rejoice, \*  
let all the coastlands be glad.  
Cloud and darkness are his raiment; \*  
his throne, justice and right.

A fire prepares his path; \*  
it burns up his foes on every side.  
His lightnings light up the world, \*  
the earth trembles at the sight.

The mountains melt like wax \*  
before the Lord of all the earth.  
The skies proclaim his justice; \*  
all peoples see his glory.

Let those who serve idols be ashamed, †  
those who boast of their worthless gods. \*  
All you spirits, worship him.

Zion hears and is glad; †  
the people of Judah rejoice \*  
because of your judgments, O Lord.

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

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

Líght shines fóρθ for the júst \*  
and jóy for the úpright 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*

God's holiness was revealed by them; all nations saw God's glory,  
alleluia.

VERSE

They proclaimed the Lord's praises, told of his power to save, alleluia.

— And of the wonders he had worked, alleluia.

*Sit*

READINGS

*First reading*

From the Acts of the Apostles

*5:12-32*

*The apostles in the primitive Church*

Through the hands of the apostles, many signs and wonders occurred among the people. By mutual agreement they used to meet in Solomon's Portico. No one else dared to join them, despite the fact that the people held them in great esteem. Nevertheless more and more believers, men and women in great numbers, were continually added to the Lord. The people carried the sick into the streets and

laid them on cots and mattresses, so that when Peter passed by at least his shadow might fall on one or another of them. Crowds from the towns around Jerusalem would gather, too, bringing their sick and those who were troubled by unclean spirits, all of whom were cured.

The high priest and all his supporters (that is, the party of the Sadducees), filled with jealousy, arrested the apostles and threw them into the public jail. During the night, however, an angel of the Lord opened the gates of the jail, led them forth, and said, "Go out now and take your place in the temple precincts and preach to the people all about this new life." Accordingly they went into the temple at dawn and resumed their teaching.

When the high priest and his supporters arrived they convoked the Sanhedrin, the full council of the elders of Israel. They sent word to the jail that the prisoners were to be brought in. But when the temple guard got to the jail they could not find them, and hurried back with the report, "We found the jail securely locked and the guards at their posts outside the gates, but when we opened it we found no one inside."

On hearing this report, the captain of the temple guard and the high priests did not know what to make of the affair. Someone then came up to them, pointing out, "Look, there! Those men you put in jail are standing over there in the temple, teaching the people." At that, the captain went off with the guard and brought them in, but without any show of force, for fear of being stoned by the crowd. When they had led them in and made them stand before the Sanhedrin, the high priest began the interrogation in this way: "We gave you strict orders not to teach about that name, yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us responsible for that man's blood." To this, Peter and the apostles replied: "Better for us to obey God than men! The God of our fathers has raised up Jesus whom you put to death, hanging him on a tree. He whom God has exalted at his right hand as ruler and savior is to bring repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. We testify to this. So too does the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those that obey him."

*Responsory*

*Acts 4:33, 31*

With great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of Jesus;

— all of them were held in great favor, alleluia.

They were filled with the Holy Spirit, and spoke God's word with boldness.

— All of them were held in great favor, alleluia.

*Second reading*

From the treatise *On the Prescription of Heretics* by Tertullian, priest

*(Cap. 20, 1-9; 21, 3; 22, 8-10: CCL 1, 201-204)*

*The preaching of the apostles*

Our Lord Jesus Christ himself declared what he was, what he had been, how he was carrying out his Father's will, what obligations he demanded of men. This he did during his earthly life, either publicly to the crowds or privately to his disciples. Twelve of these he picked out to be his special companions, appointed to teach the nations.

One of them fell from his place. The remaining eleven were commanded by Christ, as he was leaving the earth to return to the Father after his resurrection, to go and teach the nations and to baptize them into the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

The apostles cast lots and added Matthias to their number, in place of Judas, as the twelfth apostle. The authority for this action is to be found in a prophetic psalm of David. After receiving the power of the Holy Spirit which had been promised to them, so that they could work miracles and proclaim the truth, they first bore witness to their faith in Jesus Christ and established churches throughout Judea. They then went out into the whole world and proclaimed to the nations the same doctrinal faith.

They set up churches in every city. Other churches received from them a living transplant of faith and the seed of doctrine, and through this daily process of transplanting they became churches.



They therefore qualify as apostolic churches by being the offspring of churches that are apostolic.

Every family has to be traced back to its origins. That is why we can say that all these great churches constitute that one original Church of the apostles; for it is from them that they all come. They are all primitive, all apostolic, because they are all one. They bear witness to this unity by the peace in which they all live, the brotherhood which is their name, the fellowship to which they are pledged. The principle on which these associations are based is common tradition by which they share the same sacramental bond.

The only way in which we can prove what the apostles taught—that is to say, what Christ revealed to them—is through those same churches. They were founded by the apostles themselves, who first preached to them by what is called the living voice and later by means of letters.

The Lord had said clearly in former times: *I have many more things to tell you, but you cannot endure them now.* But he went on to say: *When the Spirit of truth comes, he will lead you into the whole truth.* Thus Christ shows us that the apostles had full knowledge of the truth, for he had promised that they would receive the whole truth through the Spirit of truth. His promise was certainly fulfilled, since the Acts of the Apostles prove that the Holy Spirit came down on them.

*Responsory*

*John 12:21-22; Romans 9:26*

Some Greeks approached Philip with this request: Sir, we wish to see Jesus.

— Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip then went to inform Jesus, alleluia.

In the very place where it was said to them: You are not my people, they will be called sons of the living God.

— Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip then went to inform Jesus, alleluia.

*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.  
God our Father,

every year you give us joy  
on the festival of the apostles Philip and James.  
By the help of their prayers  
may we share in the suffering, death, and resurrection  
of your only Son  
and come to the eternal vision of your glory.

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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