

*Liturgy of the Hours*  
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

OFFICE OF READINGS

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August 4, 2024

{ Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time }



*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

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee:  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see;  
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,  
Which were, and are, and ever more shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

*Melody: Nicaea 11.12.12.10; Music: John B. Dykes, 1823–1876; Text: Reginald  
Heber, 1783–1826*

*Sit or stand*

### PSALMODY

*Antiphon 1*

Lord, our God, in splendor and majesty you are clothed, wrapped in  
light as in a robe, alleluia.

*Psalm 104*

*Hymn to God the Creator*

*To be in Christ means being a completely new creature. Everything of the old is gone,*

*now everything is made anew (2 Corinthians 5:17).*

*I*

Bléss the Lórd, my sóul! \*  
Lord Gód, how gréat you áre,  
clóthed in májesty and glóry, \*  
wrápped in líght as in a róbe!

You strétch out the héavens like a tént. \*  
Above the ráins you buíld your dwélling.  
You máke the clóuds your cháriot, \*  
and wálk on the wings of the wínd;  
you máke the wínds your méssengers \*  
and fláshing fire your sérvants.

You fóunded the éarth on its báse, \*  
to stand firm from áge to áge.  
You wrápped it with the ócean like a clóak: \*  
the wáters stood hígher than the móuntains.

At your thréat they tóok to flíght; \*  
at the vóice of your thúnder they fléd.  
They róse over the móuntains and flowed dówn \*  
to the pláce which yóu had appóinted.  
You set the límits they míght not páss \*  
lest they retúrn to cóver the éarth.

You make spríngs gush fórth in the válleys: \*  
they flów in betwéen the hílls.  
They give drínk to all the béasts of the fíeld; \*  
the wíld-asses quénch their thírst.  
On their bánks dwell the bírds of héaven; \*  
from the bránches they síng their sóng.

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*

Lord, our God, in splendor and majesty you are clothed, wrapped in

light as in a robe, alleluia.

*Antiphon 2*

The Lord has brought forth bread from the earth, and wine to give warmth to men's hearts, alleluia.

*II*

From your dwelling you water the hills; \*  
earth drinks its fill of your gift.  
You make the grass grow for the cattle \*  
and the plants to serve man's needs,  
that he may bring forth bread from the earth \*  
and wine to cheer man's heart;  
oil, to make him glad \*  
and bread to strengthen man's heart.

The trees of the Lord drink their fill, \*  
the cedars he planted on Lebanon;  
there the birds build their nests: \*  
on the tree-top the stork has her home.  
The goats find a home on the mountains \*  
and rabbits hide in the rocks.

You made the moon to mark the months; \*  
the sun knows the time for its setting.  
When you spread the darkness it is night \*  
and all the beasts of the forest creep forth.  
The young lions roar for their prey \*  
and ask their food from God.

At the rising of the sun they steal away \*  
and go to rest in their dens.  
Man goes forth to his work, \*  
to labor till evening falls.

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*

The Lord has brought forth bread from the earth, and wine to give warmth to men's hearts, alleluia.

*Antiphon 3*

The Lord looked upon all he had made and saw that it was very good, alleluia.

*III*

How many are your works, O Lord! †  
In wisdom you have made them all. \*  
The earth is full of your riches.

There is the sea, vast and wide, †  
with its moving swarms past counting, \*  
living things great and small.  
The ships are moving there \*  
and the monsters you made to play with.

All of these look to you \*  
to give them their food in due season.  
You give it, they gather it up: \*  
you open your hand, they have their fill.

You hide your face, they are dismayed; †  
you take back your spirit, they die, \*  
returning to the dust from which they came.  
You send forth your spirit, they are created; \*  
and you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord last forever! \*  
May the Lord rejoice in his works!  
He looks on the earth and it trembles; \*  
the mountains send forth smoke at his touch.

I will sing to the Lord all my life, \*  
make music to my God while I live.  
May my thoughts be pleasing to him. \*  
I find my joy in the Lord.  
Let sinners vanish from the earth †  
and the wicked exist no more. \*

Bléss the Lórd, my sóul.

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*

The Lord looked upon all he had made and saw that it was very good, alleluia.

VERSE

Blessed are your eyes, for they see God's works.

— And your ears, for they hear his word.

*Sit*

READINGS

*First reading*

From the beginning of the book of the prophet Amos

1:1—2:3

*The Lord's judgment on the nations*

The words of Amos, a shepherd from Tekoa, which he received in vision concerning Israel, in the days of Uzziah, king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam, son of Joash, king of Israel, two years before the earthquake:

The Lord will roar from Zion,  
and from Jerusalem raise his voice:  
The pastures of the shepherds will languish,  
and the summit of Carmel wither.

Thus says the Lord:  
For three crimes of Damascus, and for four,  
I will not revoke my word;  
Because they threshed Gilead  
with sledges of iron,  
I will send fire upon the house of Hazael,  
to devour the castles of Ben-hadad.

I will break the bar of Damascus;  
I will root out those who live in the Valley of Aven,  
And the sceptered ruler of Beth-eden;  
the people of Aram shall be exiled to Kir, says the Lord.

Thus says the Lord:

For three crimes of Gaza, and for four,  
I will not revoke my word;  
Because they took captive whole groups  
to hand over to Edom,  
I will send fire upon the wall of Gaza,  
to devour her castles;  
I will root out those who live in Ashdod,  
and the sceptered ruler of Ashkelon;  
I will turn my hand against Ekron,  
and the last of the Philistines shall perish,  
says the Lord God.

Thus says the Lord:

For three crimes of Tyre, and for four,  
I will not revoke my word;  
Because they delivered whole groups captive to Edom,  
and did not remember the pact of brotherhood,  
I will send fire upon the wall of Tyre,  
to devour her castles.

Thus says the Lord:

For three crimes of Edom, and for four,  
I will not revoke my word;  
Because he pursued his brother with the sword,  
choking up all pity;  
Because he persisted in his anger  
and kept his wrath to the end,  
I will send fire upon Teman,  
and it will devour the castles of Bozrah.

Thus says the Lord:

For three crimes of the Ammonites, and for four,  
I will not revoke my word;  
Because they ripped open expectant mothers in Gilead,

while extending their territory,  
I will kindle a fire upon the wall of Rabbah,  
and it will devour her castles  
Amid clamor on the day of battle  
and stormwind in a time of tempest.  
Their king shall go into captivity,  
he and his princes with him, says the Lord.

Thus says the Lord:  
For three crimes of Moab, and for four,  
I will not revoke my word;  
Because he burned to ashes  
the bones of Edom's king,  
I will send fire upon Moab,  
to devour the castles of Kerioth;  
Moab shall meet death amid uproar  
and shouts and trumpet blasts.  
I will root out the judge from her midst,  
and her princes I will slay with him, says the Lord.

*Responsory*

*Psalm 9:8, 9; Amos 1:2*

The Lord sits enthroned for ever; he will judge the world with justice;

— he will govern the peoples fairly.

The Lord roars from Zion and raises his voice from Jerusalem.

— He will govern the peoples fairly.

*Second reading*

From the beginning of a letter attributed to Barnabas

*(Cap. 1, 1-8; 2, 1-5: Funk 1, 3-7)*

*Hope of life is the beginning and end of our faith*

Greetings, sons and daughters. In the name of the Lord who loves us, peace be to you.

Because the Lord has granted you an abundance of blessings, I rejoice immeasurably in your blessed and glorious company. You



have received abundantly that indwelling grace which is the Spirit's gift, and for this reason I hope in my own salvation and I give thanks all the more when I see the bountiful fullness of the Lord's Spirit pouring over you. I have longed so much for you that when I saw you I was overwhelmed.

I am now convinced and fully aware that I have learned much by speaking with you, for the Lord accompanied me on the road to righteousness, and so I am driven in all ways to love you more than my own life. For surely there is a great store of faith and charity within you because of your hope for life in Christ. Therefore, I have been thinking that if my concern for you inspires me to pass on to you a portion of what I have received, then I will be rewarded for ministering to souls such as yours. Consequently, I am writing you, that you may have perfect knowledge along with your faith.

The Lord has given us these three basic doctrines: hope for eternal life, the beginning and end of our faith; justice, the beginning and end of righteousness; and love, which bears cheerful and joyous witness to the works of righteousness. Now the Lord has made the past and present known to us through his prophets, and he has given us the ability to taste the fruits of the future beforehand. Thus, when we see prophecies fulfilled in their appointed order, we ought to grow more fully and deeply in awe of him. Let me suggest a few things—not as a teacher, but as one of you—which should bring you joy in the present situation.

When evil days are upon us and the worker of malice gains power, we must attend to our own souls and seek to know the ways of the Lord. In those times reverential fear and perseverance will sustain our faith, and we will find need of forbearance and self-restraint as well. Provided that we hold fast to these virtues and look to the Lord, then wisdom, understanding, knowledge and insight will make joyous company with them.

Truly, the Lord has revealed to us through the prophets that he has no need of sacrifice, burnt offerings or oblations. He says in one place: *Your endless sacrifices, what are they to me? says the Lord. I have had my fill of holocausts; I do not want the fat of your lambs, nor the blood of your bulls and goats, nor your presence in my sight. Indeed, who has*

*made these demands of you? No more will you trample my courts. Your sacrifices of fine flour are in vain; your incense is loathsome to me; I cannot bear your feasts of the new moon, nor your sabbaths.*

*Responsory*

*Galatians 2:16; Genesis 15:6*

We know that no one is justified by obedience to the law but by faith in Jesus Christ,

— and we have believed in Christ Jesus in order to be justified by faith in him.

Abraham put his faith in God, who counted it as an act of righteousness.

— And we have believed in Christ Jesus in order to be justified by faith in him.

*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 acclaims 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.

Father of everlasting goodness,  
our origin and guide,  
be close to us  
and hear the prayers of all who praise you.  
Forgive our sins and restore us to life.  
Keep us safe in your 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.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The English Translation of the Introductory Verses and Responses, the Invitatories, the Antiphons, Captions and Patristic Commentaries for the Psalms, Psalm-prayers, Responsories, Intercessions, Greeting, Blessings, and Dismissal, Non-Biblical Readings, and Hagiographical Introductions from *The Liturgy of the Hours* © 1974, 1975, 1976, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. (ICEL); the Alternative Opening Prayers and the English translation of the Opening Prayers (Prayers of the Day) from *The Roman Missal* © 1973, ICEL. All rights reserved.

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