

*Liturgy of the Hours*  
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

DAYTIME PRAYER

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December 28, 2024

{ Feast – Holy Innocents, Martyrs }



*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*

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*Sit or stand*

PSALMODY

*Antiphon*

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

*Psalm 119:169-176*

*XXII (Tau)*

Lórd, let my crý come befóre you: \*  
téach me by your wórd.  
Let my pléading cóme befóre you; \*  
sáve me by your prómise.

Let my líps procláim your práise \*  
because you téach me your commánds.  
Let my tóngue síng your prómise \*  
for your commánds are júst.

Let your hánd be réady to hélp me, \*  
since I have chósén your précepts.  
Lord, I lóng for your sáving hélp \*  
and your lów is my delíght.

Give lífe to my sóul that I may práise you. \*  
Let your decreés give me hélp.  
I am lóst like a shéep; seek your sérvant \*  
for I reméber your commánds.

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

*Psalm 45*

*The marriage of the king*

*The Bridegroom is here; go out and welcome him (Matthew 25:6).*

*I*

My héart overflóws with nóble wórds. †  
To the kíng I must spéak the sóng I have máde; \*

my tóngue as nímble as the pén of a scribe.

Yóu are the fáirest of the children of mén †  
and gráciousness is póured upón your líps: \*  
because Gód has bléssed you for évermóre.

O míghty one, gírd your swórd upon your thígh; †  
in spléndor and státe, ríde on in tríumph \*  
for the cáuse of trúth and góodness and ríght.

Take áim with your bów in your dréad ríght hánd. †  
Your árrows are shárp: péoples fall benéath you. \*  
The fóes of the kíng fall dówn and lose héart.

Your thróne, O Gód, shall endúre for éver. †  
A scépter of jústice is the scépter of your kíngdom. \*  
Your lóve is for jústice; your hátréd for évil.

Therefore Gód, your Gód, has anóinted yóu †  
with the óil of gládness abóve other kíngs: \*  
your róbes are frágrant with áloes and mýrrh.

From the ívory pálace you are gréeted with músic. †  
The dáughters of kíngs are amóng your lóved ones. \*  
On your ríght stands the quéen in góld of Óphir.

Glory to the Fátter, and to the Son, \*  
and to the Holy Spírít:  
as it was in the begínning, is now, \*  
and will be for éver. Amen.

## II

Lísten, O dáughter, give éar to my wórds: \*  
forgét your own péople and your fáther's hóuse.  
Só will the kíng desíre your béauty: \*  
hé is your lórd, pay hómage to hím.

And the péople of Týre shall cóme with gífts, \*  
the ríchest of the péople shall séek your fávor.  
The dáughter of the kíng is clóthed with spléndor, \*  
her róbes embróidered with péarls set in góld.

She is léd to the kíng with her máiden compánions. †

They are escorted amid gladness and joy; \*  
they pass within the palace of the king.

Sons shall be yours in place of your fathers: \*  
you will make them princes over all the earth.  
May this song make your name for ever remembered. \*  
May the peoples praise you from age to age.

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

*Lamentations 2:11*

Worn out from weeping are my eyes,  
within me all is in ferment,  
As child and infant faint away  
in the open spaces of the town.

*Verse*

The just will live for ever.  
— To live in God is their reward.

*Stand*

#### CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Father,  
the Holy Innocents offered you praise  
by the death they suffered for Christ.  
May our lives bear witness  
to the faith we profess with our lips.

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.

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