

*Liturgy of the Hours*  
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

MORNING PRAYER

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December 24, 2025

{ Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Advent }



# *Invitatory*

*Stand and make sign of cross on lips with thumb*

Lord, open my lips.

— And my mouth will proclaim your praise.

*Psalm 95*

*A call to praise God*

*Encourage each other daily while it is still today (Hebrews 3:13).*

Today you will know the Lord is coming, and in the morning you will see his glory.

— Today you will know the Lord is coming, and in the morning you will see his glory.

Come, let us sing to the Lord  
and shout with joy to the Rock who saves us.  
Let us approach him with praise and thanksgiving  
and sing joyful songs to the Lord.

— Today you will know the Lord is coming, and in the morning you will see his glory.

The Lord is God, the mighty God,  
the great king over all the gods.  
He holds in his hands the depths of the earth  
and the highest mountains as well.  
He made the sea; it belongs to him,  
the dry land, too, for it was formed by his hands.

— Today you will know the Lord is coming, and in the morning you will see his glory.

Come, then, let us bow down and worship,  
bending the knee before the Lord, our maker.  
For he is our God and we are his people,  
the flock he shepherds.

— Today you will know the Lord is coming, and in the morning you will see his glory.

Today, listen to the voice of the Lord:  
Do not grow stubborn, as your fathers did  
in the wilderness,  
when at Meriba and Massah  
they challenged me and provoked me,  
Although they had seen all of my works.

— Today you will know the Lord is coming, and in the  
morning you will see his glory.

Forty years I endured that generation.  
I said, “They are a people whose hearts go astray  
and they do not know my ways.”  
So I swore in my anger,  
“They shall not enter into my rest.”

— Today you will know the Lord is coming, and in the  
morning you will see his 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.

— Today you will know the Lord is coming, and in the  
morning you will see his glory.

## *Morning Prayer*

### HYMN

With mighty voice the prophets cry  
that Christ the Lord is drawing near;  
rejoicing, they foresee the grace  
by which he saves us and redeems.

And so our morning sun shines forth,  
our hearts ablaze with radiant joy;  
we hear the faithful voice resound,  
precursor of God’s glorious gift.

At that first Advent Christ our God

came forth not to condemn the world,  
but came to cleanse our gaping wound,  
to seek and save what had been lost.

Christ's Second Coming warns us all  
that he is standing at the gates  
to give to saints their glorious crowns  
and open wide the heav'nly realm.

Eternal light is now foretold,  
the saving star is shining forth,  
its radiant splendor summons us  
and calls us to the heav'nly court.

Christ Jesus, you alone we seek  
to see you face to face as God;  
may this unending vision be  
an everlasting hymn of praise. Amen.

*Metrical hymn, melody: Winchester New, 8 8 8 8; adapted from a chorale in  
Musicalisches Hand-Buch, Hamburg, 1690*

*Plainsong, mode D, melody 127; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983\*, Text: Magnis  
prophetæ vocibus, unknown author*

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*Sit or stand*

## PSALMODY

### *Antiphon 1*

Bethlehem in Judah's land, how glorious your future! The king who  
will rule my people comes from you.

*Psalm 108*

*Praise of God and a plea for help*

*Since the Son of God has been exalted above the heavens, his glory is proclaimed*

*through all the earth (Arnobius).*

My héart is réady, O Gód; \*

I will síng, síng your práise.

Awáke, my sóul; †

awáke, lýre and hárp. \*

I will awáke the dáwn.

I will thánk you, Lórd, among the péoples, \*

among the nátions I will práise you,

for your lóve réaches to the héavens \*

and your trúth to the skíes.

O Gód, arise above the héavens; \*

may your glóry shine on éarth!

O cóme and delíver your fréinds; \*

hélp with your right hand and replý.

From his hólý place Gód has made this prómise: †

“I will tríumph and dívide the land of Shéchem; \*

I will méasure out the válley of Súccoath.

Gílead is míne and Manásseh. †

Éphraim I táke for my hélmet, \*

Júdah for my commánder's stáff.

Móab I will úse for my wáshbowl, †

on Édom I will plánt my shóe. \*

Over the Phílístines I will shóut in tríumph.”

But who will léad me to cónquer the fórtress? \*

Who will bríng me face to fáce with Édom?

Will you útterly rejéct us, O Gód, \*

and no lóngér márch with our ármies?

Give us hélp agáinst the fóe: \*

for the hélp of mán is vaín.

With Gód wé shall do brávelý \*

and hé will trámples down our fóes.

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*

Bethlehem in Judah's land, how glorious your future! The king who will rule my people comes from you.

*Antiphon 2*

Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is now at hand.

*Canticle – Isaiah 61:10—62:5*

*The prophet's joy in the vision of a new Jerusalem*

*I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, with the beauty of a bride adorned for her husband  
(Revelation 21:2).*

I rejoice heartily in the Lord, \*  
in my God is the joy of my soul;  
for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation, \*  
and wrapped me in a mantle of justice,  
like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem, \*  
like a bride bedecked with her jewels.

As the earth brings forth its plants, \*  
and a garden makes its growth spring up,  
so will the Lord God make justice and praise \*  
spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not be silent, \*  
for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,  
until her vindication shines forth like the dawn \*  
and her victory like a burning torch.

Nations shall behold your vindication, \*  
and all kings your glory;  
you shall be called by a new name \*  
pronounced by the mouth of the Lord.  
You shall be a glorious crown in the hand of the Lord, \*  
a royal diadem held by your God.

No more shall men call you "Forsaken," \*  
or your land "Desolate,"  
but you shall be called "My Delight," \*  
and your land "Espoused."  
For the Lord delights in you, \*

and makes your land his spouse.

As a young man married a virgin, \*  
your Builder shall marry you;  
and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride \*  
so shall your God rejoice in you.

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*

Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is now at hand.

*Antiphon 3*

The day has come at last when Mary will bring forth her firstborn Son.

*Psalm 146*

*Those who trust in God know what it is to be happy*

*To praise God in our lives means all we do must be for his glory (Arnobius).*

My sóul, give práise to the Lórd; †  
I will práise the Lórd all my dáys, \*  
make músic to my Gód while I líve.

Pút no trúst in prínces, \*  
in mortal mén in whóm there is no hélp.  
Take their bréath, they retúrn to cláy \*  
and their pláns that dáy come to nóthing.

He is háppy who is hélped by Jacob's Gód, \*  
whose hópe is in the Lórd his Gód,  
who alóne made héaven and éarth, \*  
the séas and áll they contáin.

It is hé who keeps fáith for éver, \*  
who is júst to thóse who are oppréssed.  
It is hé who gives bréad to the húngry, \*  
the Lórd, who sets prísoners fréed,

the Lórd who gives síght to the blínd, \*  
who ráises up thóse who are bowed dówn,  
the Lórd, who protécts the stránger \*  
and uphólds the wídow and órphan.

It is the Lórd who lóves the júst \*  
but thwárts the páth of the wícked.  
The Lórd will réign for éver, \*  
Zíon's Gód, from áge to áge.

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 day has come at last when Mary will bring forth her firstborn Son.

*Sit*

READING

*Isaiah 11:1-3a*

A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse,  
and from his roots a bud shall blossom.  
The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him:  
a spirit of wisdom and of understanding,  
A spirit of counsel and of strength,  
a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the Lord,  
and his delight shall be the fear of the Lord.

RESPONSORY

Tomorrow will be the day of your salvation, the sinfulness of earth  
will be destroyed.

— Tomorrow will be the day of your salvation, the sinfulness of  
earth will be destroyed.

The Savior of the world will be our king;

— the sinfulness of earth will be destroyed.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

— Tomorrow will be the day of your salvation, the sinfulness of earth will be destroyed.

*Stand*

## GOSPEL CANTICLE

*Antiphon*

The time has come for Mary to give birth to her firstborn Son.

*Luke 1:68-79*

*The Messiah and his forerunner*

*Make sign of cross*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*  
he has come to his people and set them free.  
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \*  
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old †  
that he would save us from our enemies, \*  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*  
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham: \*  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
free to worship him without fear, \*  
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High; \*  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
to give his people knowledge of salvation \*  
by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God \*  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \*  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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 time has come for Mary to give birth to her firstborn Son.

INTERCESSIONS

To Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, who will come again in glory with great power, let us make our humble prayer:

— Come, Lord Jesus!

Lord Jesus, you will come with great power,  
look on our lowliness and make us worthy of your gifts.

— Come, Lord Jesus!

You came to be the good news for mankind,  
may we always proclaim your saving work.

— Come, Lord Jesus!

You are worthy of praise, for you have life and rule all things,  
help us to wait in joyful hope for the coming of your glory.

— Come, Lord Jesus!

We long for the grace of your coming,  
console us with the gift of your own divine life.

— Come, Lord Jesus!

*The Lord's Prayer*

Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

*Concluding Prayer*

Come, Lord Jesus,  
do not delay;  
give new courage to your people who trust in your love.  
By your coming, raise us to the joy of your kingdom,  
where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

— Amen.

*Dismissal*

May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil and bring us to  
everlasting life.

— Amen.

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