

*Liturgy of the Hours*  
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

NIGHT PRAYER

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December 15, 2024  
{ Third Sunday of Advent }



*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.

## PENITENTIAL RITE

*Brief moment of silence*

I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

*All strike their breast*

through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

*Presiding minister*

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

— Amen.

## HYMN

To you before the close of light,  
Creator of all things, we pray:  
Be our protector, keep us safe  
in your unfailing clemency.

Incline our hearts to dream of you,  
to sense your presence as we sleep;

as light returns, so let us sing  
your praise and glory evermore.

Grant us the grace of health and strength,  
renew our warmth and joy of life;  
and let your radiant light dispel  
the dreaded darkness of the night.

Almighty Father, grant our prayer  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who reigns with you from age to age,  
one with the Spirit, ever blest. Amen.

*Metrical hymn, melody: Herr Jesu Christ, 8 8 8 8; Pensum Sacrum Metro-  
Rhythmicum, Görlitz, 1648*

*Plainsong, mode IV, melody 80; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983\*, Text: Te lucis ante  
terminum, 5–6th c.*

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## PSALMODY

*Antiphon*

Night holds no terrors for me sleeping under God's wings.

*Psalms 91*

*Safe in God's sheltering care*

*I have given you the power to tread upon serpents and scorpions (Luke 10:19).*

He who dwélls in the shéltér of the Most High \*  
and abídes in the sháde of the Almíghty  
sáys to the Lórd: "My réfuge, \*  
my stróngthold, my Gód in whom I trúst!"

It is hé who will fréé you from the snáre \*  
of the fówler who séeks to destróy you;  
hé will concéal you with his pínions \*

and under his wings you will find refuge.

You will not fear the terror of the night \*  
nor the arrow that flies by day,  
nor the plague that prowls in the darkness \*  
nor the scourge that lays waste at noon.

A thousand may fall at your side, \*  
ten thousand fall at your right,  
you, it will never approach; \*  
his faithfulness is buckler and shield.

Your eyes have only to look \*  
to see how the wicked are repaid,  
you who have said: "Lord, my refuge!" \*  
and have made the Most High your dwelling.

Upon you no evil shall fall, \*  
no plague approach where you dwell.  
For you has he commanded his angels, \*  
to keep you in all your ways.

They shall bear you upon their hands \*  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.  
On the lion and the viper you will tread \*  
and trample the young lion and the dragon.

Since he clings to me in love, I will free him; \*  
protect him for he knows my name.  
When he calls I shall answer: "I am with you." \*  
I will save him in distress and give him glory.

With length of life I will content him; \*  
I shall let him see my saving power.

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*

Night holds no terrors for me sleeping under God's wings.

## READING

*Revelation 22:4-5*

They shall see the Lord face to face and bear his name on their foreheads. The night shall be no more. They will need no light from lamps or the sun, for the Lord God shall give them light, and they shall reign forever.

## RESPONSORY

Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.

— Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.

You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth.

— I commend my spirit.

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

— Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.

## GOSPEL CANTICLE

*Antiphon*

Protect us, Lord, as we stay awake; watch over us as we sleep, that awake, we may keep watch with Christ, and asleep, rest in his peace.

*Luke 2:29-32*

*Christ is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel*

*Make sign of cross*

Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; \*  
your word has been fulfilled:

my own eyes have seen the salvation \*  
which you have prepared in the sight of every people:

a light to reveal you to the nations \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

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*

Protect us, Lord, as we stay awake; watch over us as we sleep, that awake, we may keep watch with Christ, and asleep, rest in his peace.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Lord,  
we have celebrated today  
the mystery of the rising of Christ to new life.  
May we now rest in your peace,  
safe from all that could harm us,  
and rise again refreshed and joyful,  
to praise you throughout another day.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

— Amen.

*Blessing*

May the all-powerful Lord grant us a restful night and a peaceful death.

— Amen.

ANTIPHON OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Loving mother of the Redeemer,  
gate of heaven, star of the sea,  
assist your people who have fallen yet strive to rise again.  
To the wonderment of nature you bore your Creator,  
yet remained a virgin after as before.  
You who received Gabriel's joyful greeting,  
have pity on us poor sinners.

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