

*Liturgy of the Hours*  
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

OFFICE OF READINGS

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February 1, 2025

{ Saturday of the Third Week 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**

O Author of eternal praise,  
who give to all who live by faith  
the Spirit of your sev'nfold grace,  
with kindness come to help us all.

Cast out the ills of flesh and blood,  
fend off reproach and shame of mind,  
cut off the pow'r of sin and vice,  
and put to flight all grief of heart.

Create in us a tranquil mind,  
with truth and honor crown our work,  
receive the prayers that rise to you,  
and grant us everlasting life.

Though now all circling time unfolds  
in weeks composed of seven days,  
that day shall come, the eighth and last,  
the day of judgment for the world.

At that dread hour, redeeming Lord,  
do not accuse us in your wrath,  
but keep us from your left, we pray,  
and gather us at your right hand,

That when in mercy you receive  
the prayers of those you call your own,  
we all may praise and glorify  
the Triune God for evermore. Amen.

*Metrical hymn, melody: Alfreton, 8 8 8 8; from the Supplement to the New Version of*

*the Psalms, 1708*

*Plainsong, mode IV, melody 67; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983\*, Text: Auctor  
perennis gloriæ, unknown author*

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*Sit or stand*

## PSALMODY

### *Antiphon 1*

Let us praise the Lord for his mercy and for the wonderful things he  
has done for men.

### *Psalm 107*

*Thanksgiving for deliverance*

*This is God's message to the sons of Israel; the good news of peace proclaimed through  
Jesus Christ (Acts 10:36).*

### *I*

“O give thanks to the Lórd for he is good; \*  
for his lóve endúres for éver.”

Let them sáy this, the Lórd's redéemed, \*  
whom he redéemed from the hánd of the fóe  
and gáthered from fár-off lánds, \*  
from éast and wést, north and sóuth.

Some wándered in the désert, in the wílderness, \*  
finding no wáy to a cíty they could dwéll in.  
Húngry they wére and thírsty; \*  
their sóul was fáinting wíthín them.

Then they críed to the Lórd in their néed \*  
and he rescúed thém from their distréss  
and he léd them alóng the right páth \*  
to reach a cíty théy could dwéll in.

Let them thánk the Lórd for his lóve,\*  
for the wónders he dóes for mén.  
For he sátisfies the thírsty sóul;\*  
he fills the húngry with good thínghs.

Sóme lay in dárkness and in glóom,\*  
prisoners in míserý and cháins,  
Having defíed the wórds of Gód\*  
and spúrned the cóunsels of the Most Hígh.  
He crúshed their spírít with tóil;\*  
they stúmbled; there was nó one to hélp.

Then they críed to the Lórd in their néed\*  
and he réscued thém from their dístréss.  
He led them fóρθ from dárkness and glóom\*  
and bróke their cháins to píeces.

Let them thánk the Lórd for his góodness,\*  
for the wónders he dóes for mén:  
for he búrst the gátes of brónze\*  
and shátters the íron bárs.

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

### *Antiphon*

Let us praise the Lord for his mercy and for the wonderful things he has done for men.

### *Antiphon 2*

Men have seen the works of God, the marvels he has done.

## *II*

Some were síck on accóunt of their síns\*  
and afflícted on accóunt of their guílt.  
They had a lóathing for évery fóod;\*  
they came clóse to the gátes of déath.

Then they críed to the Lórd in their néed\*

and he réscued thém from their distréss.  
He sént forth his wórd to héal them \*  
and sáved their lífe from the gráve.

Let them thánk the Lórd for his lóve, \*  
for the wónders he dóes for mén.  
Let them óffer a sácrifice of thánks \*  
and téll of his déeds with rejóicing.

Some sáiled to the séa in shíps \*  
to tráde on the míghty wáters.  
Thése men have séen the Lord's déeds, \*  
the wónders he dóes in the déep.

For he spóke; he súmmoned the gále, \*  
ráising up the wáves of the séa.  
Tóssed up to héaven, then into the déep; \*  
their sóul melted awáy in their distréss.

They stággered, réeled like drunken mén, \*  
for áll their skíll was góne.  
Then they cried to the Lórd in their néed \*  
and he réscued thém from their distréss.

He stilled the stórm to a whísper: \*  
all the wáves of the séa were húshed.  
They rejóiced becáuse of the cálm \*  
and he léd them to the háven they desíred.

Let them thánk the Lórd for his lóve, \*  
the wónders he dóes for mén.  
Let them exált him in the gáthering of the péople \*  
and práise him in the méeting of the élders.

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*

Men have seen the works of God, the marvels he has done.

*Antiphon 3*

Those who love the Lord will see and rejoice; they will understand his loving kindness.

*III*

He changes streams into a desert, \*  
springs of water into thirsty ground,  
fruitful land into a salty waste, \*  
for the wickedness of those who live there.

But he changes desert into streams, \*  
thirsty ground into springs of water.  
There he settles the hungry \*  
and they build a city to dwell in.

They sow fields and plant their vines; \*  
these yield crops for the harvest.  
He blesses them; they grow in numbers. \*  
He does not let their herds decrease.

He pours contempt upon princes, \*  
makes them wander in trackless wastes.  
They diminish, are reduced to nothing \*  
by oppression, evil and sorrow.

But he raises the needy from distress; \*  
makes families numerous as a flock.  
The upright see it and rejoice \*  
but all who do wrong are silenced.

Whoever is wise, let him heed these things \*  
and consider the love of the Lord.

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*

Those who love the Lord will see and rejoice; they will understand his loving kindness.

## VERSE

Your truth, O God, is high as the clouds.

— Lord, your goodness is deep as the ocean.

*Sit*

## READINGS

*First reading*

From the book of Deuteronomy

*32:48-52; 34:1-12*

*The death of Moses*

The Lord said to Moses, “Go up on Mount Nebo, here in the Abarim Mountains (it is in the land of Moab facing Jericho), and view the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites as their possession. Then you shall die on the mountain you have climbed, and shall be taken to your people, just as your brother Aaron died on Mount Hor and there was taken to his people; because both of you broke faith with me among the Israelites at the waters of Meribath-kadesh in the desert of Zin by failing to manifest my sanctity among the Israelites. You may indeed view the land at a distance, but you shall not enter that land which I am giving to the Israelites.”

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, the headland of Pisgah which faces Jericho, and the Lord showed him all the land—Gilead, and as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, the circuit of the Jordan with the lowlands at Jericho, city of palms, and as far as Zoar. The Lord then said to him, “This is the land which I swore to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob that I would give to their descendants. I have let you feast your eyes upon it, but you shall not cross over.”

So there, in the land of Moab, Moses, the servant of the Lord, died as the Lord had said; and he was buried in the ravine opposite Beth-peor in the land of Moab, but to this day no one knows the place of his burial. Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died, yet his eyes were undimmed and his vigor unabated. For thirty days the Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab, till they

had completed the period of grief and mourning for Moses.

Now Joshua, son of Nun, was filled with the spirit of wisdom, since Moses had laid his hands upon him; and so the Israelites gave him their obedience, thus carrying out the Lord's command to Moses.

Since then no prophet has arisen in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He had no equal in all the signs and wonders the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt against Pharaoh and all his servants and against all his land, and for the might and the terrifying power that Moses exhibited in the sight of all Israel.

*Responsory*

*John 1:14, 16, 17; Sirach 24:23*

Full of grace, full of truth, the Word lived among us, and from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law was given through Moses,

— but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Moses commanded the observance of the law as the heritage of the assemblies of Jacob.

— But grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

*Second reading*

From the pastoral constitution on the Church in the modern world of the Second Vatican Council

*(Gaudium et spes, nn. 18. 22)*

*The mystery of death*

In the face of death the enigma of human existence reaches its climax. Man is not only the victim of pain and the progressive deterioration of his body; he is also, and more deeply, tormented by the fear of final extinction. But the instinctive judgment of his heart is right when he shrinks from, and rejects, the idea of a total collapse and definitive end of his own person. He carries within him the seed of eternity, which cannot be reduced to matter alone, and so he rebels against death. All efforts of technology, however useful they may be, cannot calm his anxieties; the biological extension of his



life-span cannot satisfy the desire inescapably present in his heart for a life beyond this life.

Imagination is completely helpless when confronted with death. Yet the Church, instructed by divine revelation, affirms that man has been created by God for a destiny of happiness beyond the reach of earthly trials. Moreover, the Christian faith teaches that bodily death, to which man would not have been subjected if he had not sinned, will be conquered; the almighty and merciful Savior will restore man to the wholeness that he had lost through his own fault. God has called man, and still calls him, to be united in his whole being in perpetual communion with himself in the immortality of the divine life. This victory has been gained for us by the risen Christ, who by his own death has freed man from death.

Faith, presented with solid arguments, offers every thinking person the answer to his questionings concerning his future destiny. At the same time, it enables him to be one in Christ with his loved ones who have been taken from him by death and gives him hope that they have entered into true life with God.

Certainly, the Christian is faced with the necessity, and the duty, of fighting against evil through many trials, and of undergoing death. But by entering into the paschal mystery and being made like Christ in death, he will look forward, strong in hope, to the resurrection.

This is true not only of Christians but also of all men of good will in whose heart grace is invisibly at work. Since Christ died for all men, and the ultimate vocation of man is in fact one, that is, a divine vocation, we must hold that the Holy Spirit offers to all the possibility of being united with this paschal mystery in a way known only to God.

Such is the great mystery of man, enlightening believers through the Christian revelation. Through Christ and in Christ light is thrown on the enigma of pain and death which overwhelms us without his Gospel to teach us. Christ has risen, destroying death by his own death; he has given us the free gift of life so that as sons in the Son we may cry out in the Spirit, saying: *Abba, Father!*

*Responsory*

*Psalm 27:1; 23:4*

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear?

— The Lord is the refuge of my life; of whom should I be afraid?

Even if I walk in the dark valley, I shall fear no evil, for you are there beside me.

— The Lord is the refuge of my life; of whom should I be afraid?

*Stand*

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

All-powerful and ever-living God,  
direct your love that is within us,  
that our efforts in the name of your Son  
may bring mankind to unity and peace.

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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