

Liturgy of the Hours
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

MORNING PRAYER

December 27, 2025

{ Feast – John, Apostle and Evangelist }



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).

Come, let us worship the Lord, the King of apostles.

— Come, let us worship the Lord, the King of apostles.

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.

— Come, let us worship the Lord, the King of apostles.

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.

— Come, let us worship the Lord, the King of apostles.

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.

— Come, let us worship the Lord, the King of apostles.

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.

— Come, let us worship the Lord, the King of apostles.

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.”

— Come, let us worship the Lord, the King of apostles.

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.

— Come, let us worship the Lord, the King of apostles.

Morning Prayer

HYMN

Let blessed hosts of Seraphim
praise him whom Jesus dearly loved,
and let our chorus strive with theirs
as we ring out our hymns of praise.

He learned, then lovingly disclosed
the source from which the Word proceeds:
that he who fills his Mother’s womb,
still in his Father’s bosom dwells.

O happy John! with loving care
the Master chose you to behold
the clear and brilliant Tabor light
and in the garden, agony.

Caught up aloft to heights above,
you gazed on secrets hid in heav’n:
you saw the myst’ries of the Lamb
and of the Church, his perfect Bride.

O justly called the Virgin’s son,

the blessed heir to that high name,
now lay our heads upon Christ's heart,
as Mary's children joined to you.

All glory be to Christ the Lord,
whom we believe is Word made flesh,
who with the Father ever reigns
with loving Spirit, ever one. Amen.

*Metrical hymn, melody: Deo Gracias (Agincourt), 8 8 8 8; English ballad melody,
Trinity College MS., 15th c.*

Plainsong, mode IV, melody 83; Liber Hymnarius, Solesmes, 1983, Text: Cohors beata
Seraphim, Charles Rose, 18th c.*

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Sit or stand

PSALMODY

Antiphon 1

John, the apostle and evangelist, a virgin chosen by the Lord, was
loved by the Lord above the others.

Psalm 63:2-9

A soul thirsting for God

Whoever has left the darkness of sin yearns for God.

O Gód, you are my Gód, for you I lóng; *
for yóu my sóul is thírsting.
My bódy pínes for yóu *
like a drý, weary lánd without wáter.
So I gáze on yóu in the sánctuary *
to sée your stréngth and your glóry.
For your lóve is bétter than lífe, *
my líps will spéak your práise.

So I will bléss you áll my lífe, *
in your náme I will líft up my hánds.
My sóul shall be fílléd as with a bándquet, *
my móuth shall práise you with jóy.

On my béd I remémber yóu. *
On yóu I múse through the níght
for yóu have béen my hélp; *
in the shádw of your wíngs I rejóice.
My sóul clíngs to yóu; *
your ríght hand hólds me fást.

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

John, the apostle and evangelist, a virgin chosen by the Lord, was
loved by the Lord above the others.

Antiphon 2

To the virgin John, Christ, dying on the cross, entrusted his virgin
mother.

Canticle – Daniel 3:57-88, 56

Let all creatures praise the Lord

All you servants of the Lord, sing praise to him (Revelation 19:5).

Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord. *
Praise and exalt him above all forever.
Angels of the Lord, bless the Lord. *
You heavens, bless the Lord.
All you waters above the heavens, bless the Lord. *
All you hosts of the Lord, bless the Lord.
Sun and moon, bless the Lord. *
Stars of heaven, bless the Lord.

Every shower and dew, bless the Lord. *
All you winds, bless the Lord.
Fire and heat, bless the Lord. *

Cold and chill, bless the Lord.
Dew and rain, bless the Lord. *
Frost and chill, bless the Lord.
Ice and snow, bless the Lord. *
Nights and days, bless the Lord.
Light and darkness, bless the Lord. *
Lightnings and clouds, bless the Lord.

Let the earth bless the Lord. *
Praise and exalt him above all forever.
Mountains and hills, bless the Lord. *
Everything growing from the earth, bless the Lord.
You springs, bless the Lord. *
Seas and rivers, bless the Lord.
You dolphins and all water creatures, bless the Lord. *
All you birds of the air, bless the Lord.
All you beasts, wild and tame, bless the Lord. *
You sons of men, bless the Lord.

O Israel, bless the Lord. *
Praise and exalt him above all forever.
Priests of the Lord, bless the Lord. *
Servants of the Lord, bless the Lord.
Spirits and souls of the just, bless the Lord. *
Holy men of humble heart, bless the Lord.
Hananiah, Azariah, Mishael, bless the Lord. *
Praise and exalt him above all forever.

Let us bless the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. *
Let us praise and exalt him above all forever.
Blessed are you, Lord, in the firmament of heaven. *
Praiseworthy and glorious and exalted above all forever.

Antiphon

To the virgin John, Christ, dying on the cross, entrusted his virgin mother.

Antiphon 3

The disciple whom Jesus loved cried out: It is the Lord, alleluia.

Psalm 149

The joy of God's holy people.

*Let the sons of the Church, the children of the new people, rejoice in Christ, their King
(Hesychius).*

Síng a new sǫng to the Lórd,*
his práise in the assémbly of the fáithful.

Let Ísraël rejóice in its máker,*
let Zíon's sons exúlt in their kíng.
Let them práise his náme with dǎncing*
and make músic with tímbrel and hárp.

For the Lórd takes delíght in his péople.*

He crówns the póor with salvátion.

Let the fáithful rejóice in their glóry,*
shout for jóy and táke their rést.

Let the práise of Gód be on their líps*
and a twó-edged swórd in their hánd,

to déal out véngeance to the nátions*
and púnishment on áll the péoples;

to bínd their kíngs in cháins*
and their nóbles in fétters of íron;

to cárry out the séntence pre-ordáined;*
this hónor is for áll his fáithful.

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 disciple whom Jesus loved cried out: It is the Lord, alleluia.

Sit

READING

Acts 4:19-20

Peter and John answered, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight for us to obey you rather than God. Surely we cannot

help speaking of what we have heard and seen.”

RESPONSORY

You have made them rulers over all the earth.

— You have made them rulers over all the earth.

They will always remember your name, O Lord,

— over all the earth.

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

— You have made them rulers over all the earth.

Stand

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Antiphon

The Word was made flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory.

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 Word was made flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory.

INTERCESSIONS

My brothers, we build on the foundation of the apostles. Let us pray to our almighty Father for his holy people and say:

— Be mindful of your Church, O Lord.

Father, you wanted your Son to be seen first by the apostles after the resurrection from the dead,
we ask you to make us his witnesses to the farthest corners of the world.

— Be mindful of your Church, O Lord.

You sent your Son to preach the good news to the poor,
help us to preach this Gospel to every creature.

— Be mindful of your Church, O Lord.

You sent your Son to sow the seed of unending life,
grant that we who work at sowing the seed may share the joy of the harvest.

— Be mindful of your Church, O Lord.

You sent your Son to reconcile all men to you through his blood,
help us all to work toward achieving this reconciliation.

— Be mindful of your Church, O Lord.

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

God our Father,
you have revealed the mysteries of your Word
through John the apostle.
By prayer and reflection
may we come to understand the wisdom he taught.
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.

Dismissal

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

— Amen.

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