

# VOTIVE OFFICE OF ONE CRYING OUT IN THE DESERT



***Italics: Presider***

**Underlined Text and Hymns: All**

**Psalms and Canticles Prayed in choir**

**+: Sign of the Cross (Sign of the Cross done on lips for the Invitatory)**

## PROPERS OF OUR FATHER, SAINT ELIJAH PROPHET

### LAUDS WITH INVITATORY

#### INVITATORY ANTIPHON

**Ant.** *Come let us adore the living God, who speaks to us through the prophets.*

#### HYMN

Come, blest companions, let our joy resounding  
Extol to Heaven the Leader of our line.  
'Tis meet the memory of his deeds abounding  
Should waken ceaseless canticles divine.

He knows the gentle breathing of the Spirit  
Clothed in the whistling murmur of the air,  
By God's command the chastisements they merit  
Proud Jezebel and Ahab justly share.

The caverns green of Carmel form his dwelling,  
With leathern tunic is he rudely clad,  
To impious Ahaziah his foretelling  
Gives portent of a dissolution sad.

Twice at his prayer the fire from Heaven descending  
Consumeth trembling soldiers in its flame,  
The flowing waters mit with his mantle rending,  
Dry shod he passeth safely through the same.

O Father, let thy help and thy protection  
Be o'er thy children as they humbly plead,  
Entreat the Spirit, by His sweet election,  
To multiply His graces in their need.

O unbegotten Father, we adore Thee,  
O Son begotten, reverence be to Thee,  
O glorious Spirit, bow we low before Thee,  
Thou simple undivided Trinity.

### **PSLAM ANTIPHONS**

**Ant.** *The Lord lives; in whose presence I stand.*

**Ant. 2** *Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is passing by.*

**Ant. 3** *I have been zealous for the Lord, the God of Hosts.*

### **READING: 2 Peter 1:19-21**

*We possess the prophetic message as something altogether reliable. Keep your attention closely fixed on it, as you would on a lamp shining in a dark place until the first streaks of dawn appear and the morning star rises in your hearts. First you must understand this: there is no prophecy contained in Scripture which is a personal interpretation. Prophecy has never been put forward by man's willing it. It is rather that men impelled by the Holy Spirit have spoken under God's influence.*

### **RESPONSORY**

*I shall be content, Lord, when your glory appears.*

— I shall be content, Lord, when your glory appears.

*And in righteousness I shall see your face,*

— When your glory appears.

(Bow)

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

— I shall be content, Lord, when your glory appears.

### **CANTICLE ANTIPHON**

**Ant.** *Lord God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, give proof this day that you are the God of Israel, and that I am your servant, and that all I have said is at your command.*

### **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

*Let us pray,*

(Bow)

*Almighty, ever-living God, your prophet Elijah, our Father, lived always in your presence and was zealous for the honor due to your name. May we, your servants, always seek your face and bear witness to your love. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.*  
— Amen.

## SEXT

### PSLAM ANTIPHONS

**Ant.** *Elijah, full of zeal for the law, was taken up to heaven.*

### READING: Hebrews 4:12

*God's word is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword. It penetrates and divides soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the reflections and thoughts of the heart.*

*I have hidden your sayings in my heart, Lord,  
So as never to sin against you.*

### CONCLUDING PRAYER

*Let us pray,*

(Bow)

*Almighty, ever-living God, your prophet Elijah, our Father, lived always in your presence and was zealous for the honor due to your name. May we, your servants, always seek your face and bear witness to your love. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.*  
— Amen.

## VESPERS

### HYMN

The lofty peaks of Carmel  
With tuneful praises ring,  
The anthems of Elias  
'Tis our delight to sing.

The glory of our Order,  
Our leader, prop, and stay,  
From east to west his offspring

Increaseth day by day.

When sorely pressed with famine,  
A raven served him bread,  
With meal and cruse unfailing,  
The widowed hearth was fed.

The boy from death delivered  
Is to his home restored,  
And light so much desired,  
In radiant flood is poured.

Behold the Heaven closeth,  
To open at his voice,  
And copious welcome showers  
The thirsty lands rejoice.

To Father, Son, and Spirit,  
Be equal power and praise,  
All glory and dominion  
Henceforth for endless days. Amen.

## **PSLAM ANTIPHONS**

**Ant.** *Elijah arose like a fire, and his word flamed like a torch.*

**Ant. 2** *If the Lord is God, follow him.*

**Ant. 3** *The Lord rewards his prophets.*

## **READING: James 5:16a-18**

*The fervent petition of a holy man is powerful indeed. Elijah was only a man like us, yet he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and no rain fell on the land for three years and six months. When he prayed again, the sky burst forth with rain and the land produced its crop.*

## **RESPONSORY**

*Blessed are those who have seen you.*

— Blessed are those who have seen you.

*And have been adorned with your love.*

— Who have seen you.

(Bow)

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

— Blessed are those who have seen you.

### **CANTICLE ANTIPHON**

*Ant. God spoke in times past to our fathers through the prophets; now he has spoken to us through his Son, whom he has made heir to all things.*

### **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

*Let us pray,*

*(Bow)*

*Almighty, ever-living God, your prophet Elijah, our Father, lived always in your presence and was zealous for the honor due to your name. May we, your servants, always seek your face and bear witness to your love. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.*

— Amen.

## **PROPER OF OUR FATHER, SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST FORERUNNER**

### **LAUDS WITH INVITATORY**

#### **INVITATORY ANTIPHON**

*Ant. Come, let us worship the Lord, the Lamb of God, proclaimed by John.*

#### **HYMN**

Greatest of prophets, dwelling in the desert,  
noblest of martyrs, gaining highest merit,  
you kept your virtue spotless and unsullied,  
blest beyond measure.

John, mighty patron, by your glorious merits,  
drive cold indiff'ence from our hardened spirits:  
level rough places, straighten crooked pathways,  
guide and direct us,

That the Creator and the world's Redeemer  
may at his coming, through his loving mercy,

trace holy footsteps in our hearts made righteous,  
cleansed of all blemish.

God, One and Triune, citizens of heaven  
honor and praise you with their joyful singing;  
while we beseech you, grant us your forgiveness,  
pardon the ransomed. Amen.

### **PSLAM ANTIPHONS**

**Ant.** *You shall name the child John, and many will rejoice at his birth.*

**Ant. 2** *In the spirit and power of Elijah, he will go before the Lord to prepare a people worthy of him.*

**Ant. 3** *You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way.*

### **READING: Malachi 3:23-24**

*Lo, I will send you Elijah, the prophet,  
Before the day of the Lord comes, the great and terrible day,  
To turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the  
children to their fathers,  
Lest I come and strike the land with doom.*

### **RESPONSORY**

*He will be great in the eyes of the Lord and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit.*

— He will be great in the eyes of the Lord and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit.

*He will go before the Lord to prepare a people worthy of him*

— And he will be filled with the Holy Spirit.

(Bow)

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

— He will be great in the eyes of the Lord and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit.

### **CANTICLE ANTIPHON**

**Ant.** *The mouth of Zechariah was opened, and he spoke this prophecy:  
Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel.*

### **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

*Let us pray,*

(Bow)

*God our Father, you raised up John the Baptist to prepare a perfect people for Christ the Lord.*

*Give your Church joy in spirit and guide those who believe in you into the way of salvation 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.

## SEXT

### PSLAM ANTIPHONS

**Ant.** *When your greeting sounded in my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy.*

### READING: Isaiah 49:5-6

*For now the Lord has spoken who formed me as his servant from the womb,*

*I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.*

*The Lord called me from birth.*

*From my mother's womb he named me.*

### CONCLUDING PRAYER

*Let us pray,*

(Bow)

*God our Father, you raised up John the Baptist to prepare a perfect people for Christ the Lord.*

*Give your Church joy in spirit and guide those who believe in you into the way of salvation 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.*

## VESPERS

### HYMN

John, great and holy, help your faithful servants  
sing of your wonders with resounding voices;  
set free from error lips by guilt corrupted,



that they may praise you.

From highest heaven came the angelic herald  
telling your father of your birth and greatness,  
giving in order both your name and mission,  
your life's unfolding.

Doubting the promise brought to him by heaven,  
his tongue was silenced, nothing could he utter;  
but once a newborn, you restored his powers  
that had been taken.

You, lying hidden in the womb's dark cradle,  
sensed kingly presence in the nuptial chamber;  
thus the sons' merits help each parent utter  
long-hidden wonders.

God, One and Triune, citizens of heaven  
honor and praise you with their joyful singing;  
while we beseech you, grant us your forgiveness,  
pardon the ransomed. Amen.

## **PSLAM ANTIPHONS**

**Ant.** *There was a man sent by God whose name was John.*

**Ant. 2** *He came to bear witness to the truth.*

**Ant. 3** *John was like a brilliantly shining light.*

## **READING: Acts 13:23-25**

*According to his promise, God has brought forth from David's descendants Jesus, a savior for Israel. John heralded the coming of Jesus by proclaiming a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. As John's career was coming to an end, he would say, "What you suppose me to be I am not. Rather, look for one who comes after me. I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet."*

## **RESPONSORY**

*Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight his paths.*

— Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight his paths.

*He who is to come after me existed before me.*

— Make straight his paths.

(Bow)

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

— Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight his paths.

### **CANTICLE ANTIPHON**

**Ant.** *This prophet, born to us, is greater than any prophet; the Savior said of him: There is no man born of woman greater than John the Baptist.*

### **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

*Let us pray,*

(Bow)

*God our Father, you raised up John the Baptist to prepare a perfect people for Christ the Lord.*

*Give your Church joy in spirit and guide those who believe in you into the way of salvation 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.*

## **PROPERS OF OUR FATHER, SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI SECOND ELIJAH**

### **LAUDS WITH INVITATORY**

#### **INVITATORY ANTIPHON**

**Ant.** *Alleluia! Christ exalts the humble and meek. O come, let us worship. Alleluia!*

#### **HYMN**

With radiant glory Francis shines  
in heaven's blessed company,  
and favored by a wondrous sign,  
he bears the wounds of Christ the Lord.

He gathered brothers to his side,  
a poor and apostolic band,  
and in himself renewed the Cross,  
the sign of cov'nant with the Lord.

This Saint, a martyr by desire,  
once bore the weight of Jesus' Cross;  
now Christ in heaven gives him rank  
within the martyrs' company.

Since Francis bore without reprieve  
the Cross of Christ through abstinence,  
he also gained a blessed place  
amid confessors' glorious ranks.

Adorned with fervent chastity,  
he followed Christ, his suff'ring Lord,  
and now he wears a shining crown,  
rejoicing with the virgins' choir.

May Father, Son, and Spirit blest,  
through holy wounds that Francis bore,  
grant us the fullness of their light,  
bestowing gifts that never end. Amen.

## **PSLAM ANTIPHONS**

**Ant.** *Then, filled with wonder and joy, he began devoutly to chant praises unto the Lord, purposing from this to rise ever unto greater heights.*

**Ant. 2** *Our sisters the birds are praising their Creator, let us too go among them and sing unto the Lord praises.*

**Ant. 3** *Praise and bless and give thanks to my Lord, and serve him with great humility.*

## **READING: Luke 12:22-34**

*He said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life and what you will eat, or about your body and what you will wear. For life is more than food and the body more than clothing. Notice the ravens: they do not sow or reap; they have neither storehouse nor barn, yet God feeds them. How much more important are you than birds! Can any of you by worrying add a moment to your life-span? If even the smallest things are beyond your control, why are you anxious about the rest? Notice how the flowers grow. They do not toil or spin. But I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of them. If God so clothes the grass in the field that grows today and is thrown into the oven tomorrow, will he not much more provide for you, O you of little faith? As*

*for you, do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not worry anymore. All the nations of the world seek for these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek his kingdom, and these other things will be given you besides. Do not be afraid any longer, little flock, for your Father is pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your belongings and give alms. Provide money bags for yourselves that do not wear out, an inexhaustible treasure in heaven that no thief can reach nor moth destroy. For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.*

## **RESPONSORY**

*The Master says, By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples.*

— The Master says, “By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples”.

*Love is thus the distinguishing feature of all true disciples of Christ.*

— Everyone will know that you are my disciples.

(Bow)

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

— The Master says, “By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples”.

## **CANTICLE ANTIPHON**

**Ant.** *Francis left this earth a poor and lowly man; he enters heaven rich in God's favor, greeted with songs of rejoicing.*

## **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

*Let us pray,*

(Bow)

*O Friend of the forsaken and Lover of the unloved, make us bearers of your presence to all.*

*Teach us to walk in the poverty of your Son and to be among your people as those who serve; in the name of him who for our sakes became poor, Jesus Christ our Lord, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.*

— Amen.

# **SEXT**

## **PSLAM ANTIPHONS**

**Ant.** *And Francis said unto each one singly: "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee".*

**READING: Matthew 5:3-4,6**

*Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours.*

*Blessed are those of gentle spirit; they shall inherit the land.*

*Blessed are you who hunger now; you shall be satisfied.*

*Blessed are those of gentle spirit; they shall inherit the land.*

**CONCLUDING PRAYER**

*Let us pray,*

*(Bow)*

*O Friend of the forsaken and Lover of the unloved, make us bearers of your presence to all.*

*Teach us to walk in the poverty of your Son and to be among your people as those who serve; in the name of him who for our sakes became poor, Jesus Christ our Lord, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.*

— Amen.

## **VESPERS**

### **HYMN**

St. Francis shines in glorious light  
among the heav'nly college bright,  
for by a grace of special kind  
Christ's marks are on St. Francis signed.  
He lived with friends in poverty,  
an apostolic company,  
and bears the cross that signals peace,  
the covenant that shall not cease.

A martyr by desire, he bears  
the cross of Christ, whose sign he wears,  
so in the heav'ns Christ makes him be  
one with the martyr's company.

He always bore the cross of Christ.  
Through abstinence he sacrificed.  
So with confessors now he reigns  
and with them their reward he gains.

In gleaming robes as white as snow  
he follows where Christ's footsteps go,  
and joys in chastity's great prize  
in angel choirs above the skies.

O Father, Son, and Spirit, by  
The wounds of Francis purify  
Your servants who these gifts implore  
Forever and forevermore.

### **PSLAM ANTIPHONS**

**Ant.** *Francis, descended from the mountain, bearing with him the likeness of the Crucified, engraven, not on tables of stone or of wood, but written on his members of flesh by the finger of the Living God.*

**Ant. 2** *Their very destitution of possessions seemed unto them overflowing wealth.*

**Ant. 3** *We must verily believe that He opened the eyes of those simple men at the prayers of Francis, that they might see the mighty deeds of God.*

### **READING: Matthew 11:25-30**

*At that time Jesus exclaimed, "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to little ones. Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him.*

*"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for your selves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."*

### **RESPONSORY**

*You have sealed, O Lord, your servant Francis, with the signs of our redemption.*

— You have sealed, O Lord, your servant Francis, with the signs of our redemption.

*Lord Jesus Christ, who when the world was growing cold, by the fire of your love raised up blessed Francis.*

— With the signs of our redemption.

(Bow)

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

— You have sealed, O Lord, your servant Francis, with the signs of our redemption.

## **CANTICLE ANTIPHON**

**Ant.** *God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, for I bear the marks of Jesus on my body.*

## **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

*Let us pray,*

(Bow)

*O Friend of the forsaken and Lover of the unloved, make us bearers of your presence to all.*

*Teach us to walk in the poverty of your Son and to be among your people as those who serve; in the name of him who for our sakes became poor, Jesus Christ our Lord, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.*

— Amen.

# **THE ORDINARY OF THE VOTIVE OFFICE OF ONE CRYING OUT IN THE DESERT**

## **LAUDS WITH INVITATORY**

*Lord, + open my lips.*

— And my mouth will proclaim your praise.

**Ant.** [Proper]

## **Psalm 95**

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.

**Ant.** [Proper]

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.

**Ant.** [Proper]

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.

**Ant.** [Proper]

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.

**Ant.** [Proper]

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."

**Ant.** [Proper]

(Bow)

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.



**Ant.** [Proper]

## **HYMN**

[Proper]

**Ant.** [Proper]

### **Psalm 63:2-9**

O God, you are my God, for you I long; \*  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you \*  
like a dry, weary land without water.  
So I gaze on you in the sanctuary \*  
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life, \*  
my lips will speak your praise.  
So I will bless you all my life, \*  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, \*  
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you. \*  
On you I muse through the night  
for you have been my help; \*  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.  
My soul clings to you; \*  
your right hand holds me fast.

(Bow)

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.

### **Psalm-Prayer**

Father, creator of unfailing light, give that same light to those who call to you. As the light of a new day breaks through the darkness of night, we pray that your grace breaks through the darkness of our fallen world to inaugurate a new age of light.

**Ant.** [Proper]

**Ant. 2** [Proper]

**Canticle: Daniel 3:57-88, 56**

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, Mishaël, bless the Lord. \*  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.

(Bow)

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.

**Ant. 2** [Proper]

**Ant. 3** [Proper]

### **Psalm 149**

Sing a new song to the Lord, \*  
his praise in the assembly of the faithful.  
Let Israel rejoice in its maker, \*  
let Zion's sons exult in their king.  
Let them praise his name with dancing \*  
and make music with timbrel and harp.

For the Lord takes delight in his people. \*  
He crowns the poor with salvation.  
Let the faithful rejoice in their glory, \*  
shout for joy and take their rest.  
Let the praise of God be on their lips \*  
and a two-edged sword in their hand,

to deal out vengeance to the nations \*  
and punishment on all the peoples;  
to bind their kings in chains \*  
and their nobles in fetters of iron;  
to carry out the sentence pre-ordained; \*  
this honor is for all his faithful.

(Bow)

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.

### **Psalm-Prayer**

Your prophets and mystics praised you without ceasing for the wonders you performed in their lives and in the lives of others. We put our trust in your faithfulness and praise your wonderful works. May your loving kindness embrace us and, through your grace, may we be an instrument of that kindness in the lives of our brothers and sisters.

**Ant. 3** [Proper]

## READING

[Proper]

## RESPONSORY

[Proper]

**Canticle Ant.** [Proper]

### **CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH: Luke 1:68-79**

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.

(Bow)

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.

**Canticle Ant.** [Proper]

## INTERCESSIONS

*Let us give joyful praise to the living and true God, who chose Elijah  
John and Francis to proclaim a New Age of love, justice and mercy;  
let us pray:*

— Dawn from on high, break upon us.

*God our Father spoke in former days through the prophets, but today he  
speaks to us in his Son.*

*May you continue to send new heralds to proclaim your Word throughout  
the world.*

— Dawn from on high, break upon us.

*Lord, you revealed yourself to your prophet and mystics in mountains  
and wilderness;*

*help us to see you in the solitude and quiet hardships of our lives, so that  
encountering you we may be filled with the grace needed to proclaim  
your law.*

— Dawn from on high, break upon us.

*Lord, your holy prophets and mystics faced persecution, hardship and  
rejection because of the fire of your love that burned in their heart.*

*May we too burn with the fire of your love and be unafraid to proclaim  
that love to the whole world.*

— Dawn from on high, break upon us.

*Through the life and preaching of Elijah, John and Francis, you showed  
us the way to repentance;  
turn our hearts to follow the commandments of your kingdom.*

— Dawn from on high, break upon us.

*You willed that your coming among us be prophesied by Elijah,  
announced by John, and your Church renewed by Francis;  
make us heralds of your Word through being witnesses of your love in  
our fallen world.*

— Dawn from on high, break upon us.

## **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**

[Proper]

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

— Amen.

## **SEXT**

*God, + come to my assistance.*

— Lord, make haste to help me.

(Bow)

*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**

Almighty Ruler, God of Truth,  
Who guide and master all,  
The rays with which you gild the dawn  
With noonday heat now fall.

O quench the fires of hatred, Lord,  
Of anger and of strife,  
Bring health to every mind and heart  
That peace may enter life.

Most holy Father, grant our prayer  
Through Christ your only Son  
That in your Spirit we may live  
And praise you ever one.

**Ant.** [Proper]

## **Psalm 118**

**I**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, \*  
for his love endures for ever.

Let the sons of Israel say: \*

“His love endures for ever.”

Let the sons of Aaron say: \*

“His love endures for ever.”

Let those who fear the Lord say: \*

“His love endures for ever.”

I called to the Lord in my distress; \*

he answered and freed me.

The Lord is at my side; I do not fear. \*

What can man do against me?

The Lord is at my side as my helper: \*

I shall look down on my foes.

It is better to take refuge in the Lord \*

than to trust in men:

it is better to take refuge in the Lord \*

than to trust in princes.

(Bow)

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.

## II

The nations all encompassed me; \*  
in the Lord's name I crushed them.  
They compassed me, compassed me about; \*  
in the Lord's name I crushed them.  
They compassed me about like bees; †  
they blazed like a fire among thorns. \*  
In the Lord's name I crushed them.

I was hard-pressed and was falling \*  
but the Lord came to help me.  
The Lord is my strength and my song; \*  
he is my savior.  
There are shouts of joy and victory \*  
in the tents of the just.

The Lord's right hand has triumphed; \*  
his right hand raised me.  
The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
I shall not die, I shall live \*  
and recount his deeds.  
I was punished, I was punished by the Lord, \*  
but not doomed to die.

(Bow)

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.

## III

Open to me the gates of holiness: \*  
I will enter and give thanks.  
This is the Lord's own gate \*  
where the just may enter.  
I will thank you for you have answered \*  
and you are my savior.

The stone which the builders rejected \*



has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord, \*  
a marvel in our eyes.  
This day was made by the Lord; \*  
we rejoice and are glad.

O Lord, grant us salvation; \*  
O Lord, grant success.  
Blessed in the name of the Lord \*  
is he who comes.  
We bless you from the house of the Lord; \*  
the Lord God is our light.

Go forward in procession with branches \*  
even to the altar.  
You are my God, I thank you. \*  
My God, I praise you.  
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; \*  
for his love endures for ever.

(Bow)

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.

### **Psalm Prayer**

Lord God, you have given us the great day of rejoicing: Jesus Christ, the stone rejected by the builders, has become the cornerstone of the Church, our spiritual home. Shed upon your Church the rays of your glory; that it may be inhabited by Prophets who, confident in the victory of God, joyfully herald the New World to come.

**Ant.** [Proper]

### **READING**

[Proper]

### **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

[Proper]

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

## VESPERS

*God, + come to my assistance.*  
— Lord, make haste to help me.

(Bow)

*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

[Proper]

**Ant.** [Proper]

### Psalm 15

Lord, who shall be admitted to your tent \*  
and dwell on your holy mountain?

He who walks without fault; \*  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart; \*  
he who does not slander with his tongue;

he who do no wrong to his brother, \*  
who casts no slur on his neighbor,  
who holds the godless in disdain, \*  
but honors those who fear the Lord;

he who keeps his pledge, come what may; \*  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the innocent. \*  
Such a man will stand firm for ever.

(Bow)

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.

### **Psalm-Prayer**

Your prophets and mystics retreated to holy mountains and wilderness for repentance and fasting. Through their struggle, you revealed yourself. Help us to do what is right and to speak what is true, that you may reveal yourself in our lives through our daily toil and struggle.

**Ant.** [Proper]

**Ant. 2** [Proper]

### **Psalm 112**

Happy the man who fears the Lord, \*  
who takes delight in all his commands.  
His sons will be powerful on earth; \*  
the children of the upright are blessed.

Wealth and riches are in his house; \*  
his justice stands firm for ever.  
He is a light in the darkness for the upright: \*  
he is generous, merciful and just.

The good man takes pity and lends, \*  
he conducts his affairs with honor.  
The just man will never waver: \*  
he will be remembered for ever.

He has no fear of evil news; \*  
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord.  
With a steadfast heart he will not fear; \*  
he will see the downfall of his foes.

Openhanded, he gives to the poor; †  
his justice stands firm for ever. \*  
His head will be raised in glory.

The wicked man sees and is angry, †  
grinds his teeth and fades away; \*  
the desire of the wicked leads to doom.

(Bow)

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.

### **Psalm-Prayer**

Lord God, you are the eternal light which illumines the hearts of good people. Help us to love you and to love our sisters and brothers made in your divine image. May we come to see the light of your loving countenance.

**Ant. 2** [Proper]

**Ant. 3** [Proper]

### **Canticle: Revelation 15:3-4**

Mighty and wonderful are your works, \*  
Lord God Almighty!  
Righteous and true are your ways, \*  
O King of the nations!

Who would dare refuse you honor, \*  
or the glory due your name, O Lord?

Since you alone are holy, \*  
all nations shall come  
and worship in your presence. \*  
Your mighty deeds are clearly seen.

(Bow)

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.

**Ant. 3** [Proper]

### **READING**

[Proper]

### **RESPONSORY**

[Proper]

**Ant.** [Proper]

**CANTICLE OF MARY: Luke 1:46-55**

My + soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, †  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: †  
the Almighty has done great things for me, \*  
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
the promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

(Bow)

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.

**Ant.** [Proper]

**INTERCESSIONS**

*Let us pray joyfully to God our Father who called Elijah, John and Francis to proclaim the coming of the kingdom of Christ, a kingdom of peace:*

— O Lord, guide our feet into the way of peace.

*Lord, you accepted the sacrifice of Elijah on the altar, martyrdom of John and the sufferings of Francis;  
accept our evening sacrifice which we offer for the good of the Church and good of the whole world.*

— O Lord, guide our feet into the way of peace.

*When Elijah, John and Francis prayed on the mountains and in the wilderness, you send your grace to save, enlighten and inspire;  
fill us who have been called to Carmel, Jordan and La Verna with a spirit of prayer, so that we may draw a shower of grace to the world.*

— O Lord, guide our feet into the way of peace.

*You gave to the prophets and mystics the ministry of proclaiming a New Age of true peace;  
make us workers for peace, so that the peace of Christ may reign in the world.*

— O Lord, guide our feet into the way of peace.

*May your Church, in imitation of the prophets and mystics, fearlessly point out the Lamb of God,  
so that people in every age may acknowledge that the love and justice that comes from God.*

— O Lord, guide our feet into the way of peace.

*Elijah, John and Francis did not exalt themselves but acknowledged their role as heralds of the Christ,  
teach us to acknowledge that you are the giver of all our good gifts and that we must use them in your service and in the service of our brothers and sisters.*

— O Lord, guide our feet into the way of peace.

*Remember those who have fallen, especially those who died defending peace and justice;  
give them a place of light, happiness, and eternal peace.*

— O Lord, guide our feet into the way of peace.

## **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

[Proper]

## COMPLINE

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

*God, + come to my assistance.*  
— Lord, make haste to help me.

(Bow)

*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.

## EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

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;  
(Striking 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.

## HYMN

Holy God, we praise thy name;  
Lord of all, we bow before thee!  
All on earth thy sceptre claim,  
All in heav'n above adore thee;  
Infinite, thy vast domain,  
Everlasting is thy reign.  
Infinite, thy vast domain,  
Everlasting is thy reign.

Hark! the loud celestial hymn  
Angel choirs above are raising;  
Cherubim and Seraphim,  
In unceasing chorus praising;  
Fill the heav'ns with sweet accord:  
"Holy, holy, holy Lord!"  
Fill the heav'ns with sweet accord:  
"Holy, holy, holy Lord!"

Holy Father, Holy Son,  
Holy Spirit, Three we name thee;  
While in essence only One,  
Undivided God we claim thee;  
And adoring, bend the knee,  
While we own the mystery.  
And adoring, bend the knee,  
While we own the mystery.

**Ant. 1** *Have mercy, Lord, and hear my prayer.*

#### **Psalm 4**

When I call, answer me, O God of justice; \*  
from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me!

O men, how long will your hearts be closed, \*  
will you love what is futile and seek what is false?

It is the Lord who grants favors to those whom he loves; \*  
the Lord hears me whenever I call him.

Fear him; do not sin: ponder on your bed and be still. \*  
Make justice your sacrifice, and trust in the Lord.



“What can bring us happiness?” many say. \*  
Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord.

You have put into my heart a greater joy \*  
than they have from abundance of corn and new wine.

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once \*  
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

*(Bow)*

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.

**Ant.** *Have mercy, Lord, and hear my prayer.*

**Ant. 2** *In the silent hours of night, bless the Lord.*

### **Psalm 134**

O come, bless the Lord, \*  
all you who serve the Lord,  
who stand in the house of the Lord, \*  
in the courts of the house of our God.

Lift up your hands to the holy place \*  
and bless the Lord through the night.

May the Lord bless you from Zion, \*  
he who made both heaven and earth.

*(Bow)*

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.

**Ant. 2** *In the silent hours of night, bless the Lord.*

**READING: Deuteronomy 6:4-7**

Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone! Therefore, you shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength. Take to heart these words which I enjoin on you today. Drill them into your children. Speak of them at home and abroad, whether you are busy or at rest.

## **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.

*(Bow)*

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

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

**Ant.** *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.*

## **CANTICLE OF SIMEON: Luke 2:29-32**

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.

*(Bow)*

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.

**Ant.** *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,*

*(Bow)*

*Lord, be with us throughout this night.  
When day comes may we rise from sleep to rejoice in the resurrection of  
your Christ,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
— Amen.*

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

### **ANTIPHON IN HONOR OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy,  
our life, our sweetness, and our hope.  
To you do we cry,  
poor banished children of Eve.  
To you do we send up our sighs  
mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.  
Turn then, most gracious advocate,  
your eyes of mercy toward us,  
and after this exile  
show us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.  
O clement, O loving,  
O sweet Virgin Mary.