

# The Divine Office

**Vespers for Wednesday in Holy Week**

## PREPARATORY PRAYER

*Before the Office, it is praiseworthy to kneel, make the sign of the cross and then say silently the following prayers.*

### *Aperi Domine*

Open my mouth, O Lord, to bless thy holy Name: cleanse my heart from all vain, evil, and wandering thoughts; enlighten my understanding and kindle my affections, that I may fittingly recite this Office with attention and devotion, and so may be meet to be heard before the presence of thy divine Majesty, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### *The Prayer of St. Gertrude*

O Lord, in union with that divine intention wherewith thou thyself didst offer thy praises to God while upon the earth, I now recite this Office to thee.



PSALMS

The first half of Antiphon 1 is sung.

Psalm 134. Laudate Nomen

III.A.6 Bc g h c ] c k l l l l l l c v c w j c k ] c k l l c [ c l c j c h e g

O praise the Lord, laud ye the • Náme of thé Lórd; \*

Be Seated.

praise it, O ye • sérvants óf the Lord,

<sup>2</sup> ye that stand in the • hóuse of thé Lórd, \*  
in the courts of the • hóuse of óur God.

<sup>3</sup> O praise the Lord, for the • Lórd is grácious; \*  
O sing praises unto his Name, for • it is lóvely.

<sup>4</sup> For why? the Lord hath chosen Jacob • únto hímsélf, \*  
and Israel for his • ówn posséssion.

<sup>5</sup> For I knów • that the Lórd is gréat, \*  
and that our Lord ís • above áll gods.

<sup>6</sup> Whatsoever the Lord pleased, that did he in héav • en, and ín  
éarth, \*  
and in the sea, and in • áll deep pláces.

<sup>7</sup> He bringeth forth the clouds from the • énds of thé wórlð, \*  
and sendeth forth lightnings with the rain, bringing the winds óut • of  
his tréasures.

<sup>8</sup> He smote the fírst- • born of Égypt, \*  
• bóth of mán and beast.

<sup>9</sup> He hath sent tokens and wonders into the midst of thee, † O thou •  
lánd of Égypt, \*  
upon Pharaoh, and • áll his sérvants.

<sup>10</sup> He smote dívers nátions, \*  
• and sléw míghty kings;

<sup>11</sup> Sihon, king of the Amorites, and Og, the • kíng of Básan, \*  
and all the kíng • doms of Canáan;

When Compline does not follow immediately, the appropriate Marian Antiphon is sung.

Xchxhxlcvtcbx fxx } Xc v x h c v c l c l c h x h c v f x }

= The Lord give us his peace. + And life everlasting. Amen.

THE MARIAN ANTIPHON

From Compline of the Purification through Compline of Wednesday in Holy Week.

Bx fc v l s v e s v f c l g v f c h c v b x v c v l c l g l c l g v c v l e v g x f b

Queen of the heavens, we hail thee † Hail thee, Lady of all the Angels;

Bx fc w d x i s x v a x v c v l c c g v l c v x v h x v g x j x c v h x o

Thou the dawn, the door of morning Whence the world's true

Bc v g x s l g f c l c l v x h c v l e v g v c l v x h c v c v l c h a t e l y x f c o

Light is risen: Joy to thee, O Virgin glorious, Beautiful beyond

B r c l g v l c l h x h x v g x j c v l c c g x v l c v c v l c h a t e l c l v l b

all other; Hail, and farewell, O most gracious, Intercede for us

B r c l g v l c l g f c x }

always to Jesus.

X x h x h x h c l c h x v h x v c v l c h a t e l c l x }

= Vouchsafe that I may praise thee, O holy Virgin.

Xc v h x h x c h x v b x h x v h x h c f c l x }

+ Give me strength against thine enemies.



III.A.6

*[Stylized decorative text]*

O GIVE thanks unto the LORD, for • hé is grácious: \*

*Be Seated.*

and his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>2</sup> O give thanks unto the • Gód of áll góds: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>3</sup> O thank the • Lórd of áll lórds: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>4</sup> Who only dó • eth great wónders: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>5</sup> Who by his excellent wisdom • máde the héavens: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>6</sup> Who laid out the earth a • bóve the wáters: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>7</sup> Whó • hath made gréat líghts: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>8</sup> The • sún to rúle the dáy: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>9</sup> The moon and the stars to • góvern thé níght: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>10</sup> Who smote Egypt, • wíth their firstborn: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>11</sup> And brought out Isra-el • fróm amóng them: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>12</sup> With a mighty hand and • strétch-ed-óut árm: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>13</sup> Who divided the Red • Séa in twó párts: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>14</sup> And made Israel to go • thróugh the mídst of it: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

*[Stylized decorative text]*

+ But deliver us from „ evil.

*[Stylized decorative text]*

= The Lord be with you.

*[Stylized decorative text]*

+ And with thy spirit.

*[Stylized decorative text]*

Let us pray.

*The collect is prayed, ending with the words:*

*[Stylized decorative text]*

...world without end.

*[Stylized decorative text]*

+ Amen

*Appointed commemorations are observed.*

He remembering his mercy † hath holpen his • sérvant Ísra-el; \*  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his • séed for éver.

*Bow (women genuflect) while singing:*

Glory be to the Fá • ther and tó the Són, \*  
and • tó the Hóly Ghost.

*Stand upright.*

As it was in the beginning, † is now, and • éver shall be, \*  
wórlD • without énd. Amen.

*The Antiphon is sung in its entirety.*

### THE PRAYERS

Xvte hvgf dgtc hc ]

Ky-ri-e e-le-i-son.

XXvte c g fvg dgtc hc ] c vte hvg fvg dgtc hc

+ Chris-te e-le-i-son. Ky-ri-e e-le-i-son.

Vc vte hvg hc [ c h vte h vte v g [ c vte h vte h x vte h c f c c v g c h c

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom

Vc vte hvg hc [ c h vte h vte v g [ c vte h vte h x vte h c f c c v g vte h x b

come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day

Vc h x h b x g [ c f c vte h v g v g vte h vte h c [ c h vte h vte h x b x c

our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those

Vc h x vte h vte h x hc { c h vte h v g h vte h vte h x }

who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation.

<sup>15</sup> But as for Pharaoh and his host, he overthrew them • in the Réd Séa: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>16</sup> Who led his people • through the wílderness: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>17</sup> • Whó smote gréat kíngs: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>18</sup> Yéa, • and slew míghty kíngs: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>19</sup> Sihon, kíng • of the Ámorites: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>20</sup> And Og, the • kíng of Báshan: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>21</sup> And gave away their land • fór an héritage: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>22</sup> Even for an heritage unto Isra • él his sérvant: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>23</sup> Who remembered us when we • wére in tróuble: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>24</sup> And hath delivered us • fróm our énemies: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>25</sup> Who giveth • fóod to áll flésh: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>26</sup> O give thanks unto the • Gód of héaven: \*  
for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

<sup>27</sup> O give thanks ún • to the Lórd of lórd's: \*

*Stand.*

for his mercy endúr • eth for éver.

*Bow (women genuflect) while singing:*

Glory be to the Fá • ther and tó the Són, \*  
and • tó the Hóly Ghost.

*Stand upright.*

As it was in the beginning, † is now, and • éver shall be, \*  
wórlD • without énd. Amen.

*Antiphon 2 is sung in its entirety.*

*The first half of Antiphon 3 is sung.*

**Psalm 136. Super flumina**

VIII.5 *[Musical notation]*

*BY the waters of Babylon • wé sat dówn and wépt, \**

*Be Seated.*

when we remember-ed • thée, O Síon.

<sup>2</sup> As for our harps, we háng-ed thém úp \*  
upon the • trées that áre therein.

<sup>3</sup> For they that led us away captive, required of us then a song, † and  
melody • ín our héaviness: \*  
Sing us one of the • sóngs of Síon.

<sup>4</sup> How shall we • síng the LÓRD'S sóng \*  
• ín a stránge land?

<sup>5</sup> If I forget thee, • Ó Jerúsalem, \*  
let my right hand for • gét her cúnning.

<sup>6</sup> If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the • róof of  
mý móuth; \*  
yea, if I prefer not Jerú • salem ín my mirth.

<sup>7</sup> Remember the children of Edom, O LORD, in the dáy • of Jerúsalem; \*  
how they said, Down with it, down with it, • éven tó the ground.

<sup>8</sup> O daughter of Babylon, wást • ed with míserý; \*  
yea, happy shall he be that rewardeth thee as • thóu hast sérv-ed us.

<sup>9</sup> Bless-ed shall he be that ták • eth thy chíldren, \*

*Stand.*

and throweth • thém agáinst the stones.

*Bow (women genuflect) while singing:*

Glory be to the Fá • ther and tó the Són, \*  
and • tó the Hóly Ghost.

**VERSICLE**

*[Musical notation]*

= Deliver me, O Lord, from the evil man.

*[Musical notation]*

+ And preserve me from the wicked man.

**THE MAGNIFICAT**

*The first half of the Antiphon is sung.*

II.1 *[Musical notation]*

„ MY SOUL doth • mágnify the Lórd, \*  
and my spirit hath rejoic-ed in • Gód my Sáviour.

For he • háth regárded \*  
the lowliness of • his handmáiden.

For be • hólD, from hénceforth \*  
all generations shall • cáll me bléss-ed.

For he that is mighty hath • mágnifí-ed mé; \*

*Bow the head.*

and hó • ly is hís Name.

And his mercy is on • thém that féar him \*  
throughout all • génerátions.

He hath shew-ed • stréngth with hís árm; \*  
he hath scatter-ed the proud in the imaginá • tion of théir hearts.

He hath put down the mígh • ty from théir séat, \*  
and hath exalted the • húmble ánd meek.

He hath filled the húng • ry with góod thínGS; \*  
and the rich he hath sent • émpTy áway.

HYMN



*The royal banners forward go:*

**The Cross shines forth in mystic glow,  
Where he in flesh, our flesh who made,  
Our sentence bore, our ransom paid:**

**Where deep for us the spear was dyed,  
Life's torrent rushing from his side,  
To wash us in that precious flood,  
Where mingled Water flowed and Blood.**

**Fulfilled is all that David told  
In true prophetic song of old:  
Amidst the nations, God, saith he,  
Hath reigned and triumphed from the Tree.**

**O Tree of beauty! Tree of light!  
O Tree with royal purple dight!  
Elect on whose triumphal breast  
Those holy limbs should find their rest:**

**On whose dear arms, so widely flung,  
The weight of this world's ransom hung,  
The price of humankind to pay,  
And spoil the spoiler of his prey.**

*All kneel during the following stanza.*

**O Cross, our one reliance, hail!  
This holy Passiontide avail  
To give fresh merit to the saint  
And pardon to the penitent.**

*Stand. Then bow (women genuflect) while singing:*

**To thee, eternal Three in One,  
Let homage meet by all be done:  
Whom by the Cross thou dost restore,  
Preserve and govern evermore. Amen.**

*Stand upright.*

As it was in the beginning, † is now, and • éver shall be, \*  
wórd • without énd. Amen.

*Antiphon 3 is sung in its entirety.*

*The first half of Antiphon 4 is sung.*

**Psalm 137. Confitebor tibi**



*I WILL give thanks unto thee, O Lord, • with my whole héart; \**

*Be Seated.*

even before the gods will I sing • práise untó thee.

<sup>2</sup> I will worship toward thy holy temple, **y** and praise thy Name,  
because of thy loving • kindness ánd trúth; \*  
for thou hast magnifi-ed thy Name, and thy wórd, • above áll things.

<sup>3</sup> When I called upon • thée, thou héardest me; \*  
and enduedst my • sóul with múch strength.

<sup>4</sup> All the kings of the earth shall • práise thee, Ó LÓRD; \*  
for they have heard the • wórd of thý mouth.

<sup>5</sup> Yea, they shall sing of the • wáys of thé LÓRD, \*  
that great is the • glóry óf the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> For though the LORD be high, yet hath he respect un • tó the  
lówly; \*  
as for the proud, he beholdeth • thém afár off.

<sup>7</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble, **y** yet shalt • thóu refrésh me; \*  
thou shalt stretch forth thy hand upon the furiousness of mine enemies,  
and thy right • hánd shall sáve me.

<sup>8</sup> The LORD shall make good his loving-kínd • ness to-wárd me; \*

*Stand.*

yea, thy mercy, O LORD, endureth for ever; despise not then the  
wórk • of thine ówn hands.

