

EVENING PRAYER

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

WITH THE ASSOCIATION OF LUTHERAN CHURCH MUSICIANS
IN THE 500TH ANIVERSARY YEAR OF THE REFORMATION (1517)

PRELUDE Gregorian Chant

Rerum, Deus, tenax vigor,
immotus in te permanens,
lucis diurnæ tempora
successibus determinans,

Largire clarum vespere,
quo vita numquam decidat,
sed præmium mortis sacræ
perennis instet gloria.

Præsta, Pater piissime,
Patrique compar Unice,
cum Spiritu Paraclito
regnans per omne sæculum.

O God, creation's secret force,
yourself unmoved, all motion's source,
who from the morn till evening's ray
through every change direct the day.

Your light at eventide impart,
that light from us may never depart;
but let a holy death accord
eternal glory with the Lord.

Almighty Father, hear our cry,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord most high,
and with the Spirit Paraclete,
whose reign the endless ages greet.

Text: Office hymn, St. Ambrose of Milan (340-397), tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt., and composite.
Tune: VENI REDEMPTOR GENTIUM, Mode II.

INVITATORY

Presider: God, come to my as-sis-tance. *All:* Lord, make haste to help me.

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it,

as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er.

A - men.

HYMN

1. Lord, keep us stead - fast in your Word;
2. Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known,
3. O com - fort - er of price - less worth,

curb those who by de - ceit or sword
for you are and Lord of lords a - lone;
send peace and u - ni - ty on earth;

would wrest the king - dom from your Son
de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
sup - port us in our fi - nal strife

and bring to naught all he has done.
 may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
 and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther (1483-1546); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.

Tune: ERHALT UNS HERR, LM; Klug's *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543; setting, Hassler (1564-1612), alt.

This melody is a variant of the medieval chant tune VENI REDEMPTOR GENTIUM.

Be seated.

PSALM 127

GOD, GIVER OF STRENGTH AND LIFE: A PILGRIMAGE SONG

Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for God is at work in you both to will and to work according to the divine good pleasure. (Phil 2: 12-13)

Coller

Cantors If the Lord does not build the house,
 in vain do its builders labor;

All if the Lord does not watch over the city,
 in vain do the watchers keep vigil.

Cantors In vain is your earlier rising,
 your going later to rest,

All you who toil for the bread you eat,
 while he pours gifts on his beloved while they slumber.



Cantors Yes, children are a gift from the Lord –
a blessing, the fruit of the womb.

All The sons and daughters of youth
are like arrows in the hand of a warrior.

Cantors O the happiness of those
who have filled their quiver with these arrows!

All They will have no cause for shame
when they dispute with their foes in the gateways.

PSALM 8

DIVINE MAJESTY AND HUMAN DIGNITY

We see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death. (Heb 2:9)



Cantors How great is your name, O Lord our God,
through all the earth!

All Your majesty is praised above the heavens;
on the lips of children and of babes



Cantors you have found praise to foil your enemy,
to silence the foe and the rebel.

All When I see the heavens, the work of your hands,
the moon and the stars which you arranged,

Cantors What are we that you should keep us in mind,
men and women that you care for us?

All Yet you have made us little less than gods;
and crowned us with glory and honor,

Cantors gave us power over the works of your hands,
put all things under our feet.

All All of them, sheep and cattle,
yes, even the savage beasts,

Cantors birds of the air, and fish
that make their way through the waters.

All How great is your name, O Lord our God
through all the earth!

PSALM 138

THANKSGIVING TO A FAITHFUL GOD

Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!
(Rom 7: 24-25)



1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
In the presence of the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple.
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul.
3. All earth's kings shall thank you
when they hear the words of your mouth.
They shall sing of the Lord's ways:
"How great is the glory of the Lord!"
4. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Though I walk in the midst of affliction
you give me life and frustrate my foes.
5. You stretch out your hand and save me,
your hand will do all things for me.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands.
6. Give glory to the Father almighty,
to his Son, Jesus Christ, the Lord,
to the Spirit, who dwells in our hearts,
both now and for ever. Amen.

READING Ephesians 4: 1-6, 17-24

One Lord, one faith, one baptism

SILENT REFLECTION

RESPONSE

All stand and sing.

Cantor, then all:



The whole cre-a-tion pro-claims the great-ness of your glo - ry.

Cantor: *All:*



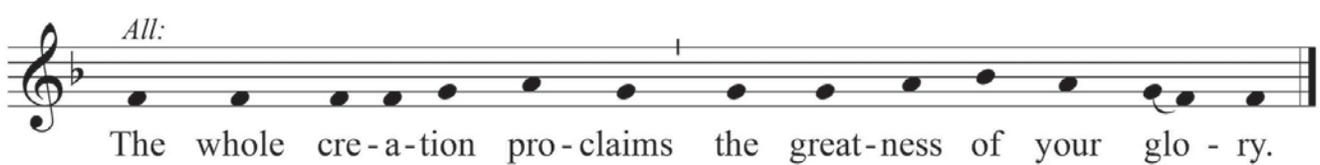
E - ter - nal a - ges praise the great-ness of your glo - ry.

Cantor:



Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it.

All:



The whole cre-a-tion pro-claims the great-ness of your glo - ry.

MAGNIFICAT

ALL 1. My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; my spir
ALL 2. For you a - lone, O God of might, have done
MEN 3. Your arm is strong; your strength is great. You scat -
WOMEN 4. You feed the hun - gry as your own; the wealth
ALL 5. All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and to

leaps, by joy pos - sessed. You keep me in your kind
 maz - ing things for me. Your mer - cy flows; your name
 those of proud in - tent and cast them down from high
 leave with emp - ty hands. You give your help to Is -
 Ho - ly Spir - it be; as from the first it was,

gard; all gen - er - a - tions call me blessed.
 light re - mains in time per - pet - ual - ly.
 tate; then give the low your nour - ish - ment.
 el; your gra - cious prom - ise al - ways stands.
 now, and will be for e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Stanzas 1-4, Stephanie K. Frey (b. 1952), © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Stanza 5, Christopher L. Webber.
 Tune: ICH HEB MEIN AUGEN SEHNLICH AUF, LM, Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672)

LITANY

Hear our prayer!



Our Fa - ther, who art in heav - en, hal - lowed be thy name;
thy king - dom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in
heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly bread and for - give us our
tres - pass - es as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us.
And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from
e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the pow - er,

BLESSING

Thanks be to God!

HYMN



1. Oh, praise the gra-cious pow'r that tum - bles walls of
2. Oh, praise per - sis - tent truth that o - pens fist - ed
3. Oh, praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - 'ry

4. Oh, praise the word of faith that claims us as God's
5. Oh, praise the tide of grace that laps at ev - 'ry
6. Oh, praise the liv - ing Christ with faith's bright song - ful



and gath - ers in one house of faith all strang - ers far and
and eas - es from their anx - ious clutch the prej - u - dice that
ob - liv - i - ous to gen - der, wealth, to so - cial rank or

a liv - ing tem - ple built on Christ, our rock and cor - ner
with vi - sions of a world at peace, no long - er bled by
An - nounce the gos - pel to the world and with these words re

Refrain:



We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us on

Text: Thomas H. Troeger (b. 1945)

Tune: CHRISTPRAISE RAY, SM and Refrain, Carol Doran (b. 1936)

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