

The Ordinary of the Order of Saint Luke for
e v e n i n g p r a y e r
(Vespers or Evensong)

ENTRANCE OF THE LIGHT

Light and peace in Jesus Christ!
Thanks be to God!

HYMN OF LIGHT (*The "Phos hilaron"*)

O gra-cious *Light*,
pure brightness of our everlasting God in *heaven*.
O Je-sus *Christ*,
ho-ly and *blessed*.
Now as we come to the setting of the *sun*,
and our eyes behold the ves-per *light*,
we sing your praises, O *God*,
most holy and bless-ed *Trinity*.
You are worthy at all *times*,
To be praised by hap-py *voices*,
O Son of God, O Giver of *Life*,
And to be glorified through all the *worlds*.

[ADAPTED BY TIMOTHY J. CROUCH FROM THE WORK OF CHARLES MORTIMER GULBERT]

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, our light and our life;
to you be glory and praise forever!
When we turned away to darkness and chaos,
like a mother you would not forsake us.
You cried out like a woman in labor
and rejoiced to bring forth a new people.
Your living Word brings light out of darkness
and daily your Spirit renews the face of the earth,
bending our wills to the gentle rule of your love.

[CCP]

All thanks and praise to you,
Most holy and blessed Trinity,
One God, now and forever. **Amen.**

[INCENSE

[An angel, holding a golden censer full of incense, stood before the altar. The smoke of the incense went up before God, mingled with the prayers of the people.

(Revelation 8:3-4)]

EVENING PRAYER CANTICLE (*selected from Psalm 141*)

(chant version):

***Antiphon: Let my prayer rise before you like *incense*
and my hands like the eve-ning sacrifice.***

I call to you, O God, come to me *quickly*;

Hear my voice when I cry to *you*.

Let my prayer rise before you like *incense*

and my hands like the eve-ning sacrifice.

Keep guard over my mouth, O Lord;

watch the door of my *lips*.

Keep my heart from slipping in-to *evil*;

let me not be busy with ev-il-doers.

My eyes are turned toward you, O Lord my *God*,

In you I take refuge: do not deprive me of *life*.

Antiphon

[TRANS. ARLO. D. DUBA; © ARLO D. DUBA, 1986; USED BY PERMISSION]

(or metrical version: 8888.88; e.g. *SALENA, UMH 287*):

Come quickly, Lord, I call on you;

And hear my voice, my cry for help.

Control my lips and tongue, O Lord,

And save my heart from evil's grasp.

Let my prayer rise like incense, Lord,

My hands, an ev'ning sacrifice.

Help me accept rebuke as grace,

And guard me from all bitterness.

All wicked ways may I resist

And never share in sensuous feasts.

Let my prayer rise like incense, Lord,

My hands, an ev'ning sacrifice.

Protect me from the Evil One,

And rule my life through Christ your Son,

With Holy Fire my sins consume,

And flood my soul with love divine,

My heart shall rise as incense, Lord,

My life, your living sacrifice.

[SARA FLYNN]

CONFESSION AND PARDON

(selected)

—*silence*—

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are a forgiven people.

Thanks be to God!

INVITATORY AND PSALTER

O God, come to our assistance.

O Lord, hasten to help us.

Glory to you, O Trinity, most holy and blessed;

One God, now and forever. Amen.

One or more psalms

THE GLORIA

Glory to God, Love abounding be-fore all *ages*;

Glory to God, Love shown forth in the self-emptying of Je-sus *Christ*;

Glory to God, Love poured out through the gift of the *Spirit*,

who fashions and renews the face of the *earth*;

Glory to the holy and bless-ed *Trinity*!

All things abiding in Love, Love abiding in all *things*.

As it is now, ev-er *was*,

and ever shall be for endless ages. A – men.

[DAVID N. POWER]

SCRIPTURE(S) AND SILENT REFLECTION

CANTICLE OF MARY (*The "Magnificat"; Luke 1:39-56*)

My soul proclaims your great-ness, Lord;
my spirit rejoices in you, my *Savior*;
For you have looked with favor on your low-ly *servant*,
from this day all generations will call me *blessed*.
You the Almighty have done great things for *me*,
and Holy is your *Name*.
You have mercy on those who *fear* you
in every gen-er-ation.
You have shown the strength of your *arm*;
you have scattered the proud in their con-*ceit*.
You have cast the mighty from their *thrones*;
you have lifted up the *lowly*.
You have filled the hungry with good *things*;
and the rich have been sent a-way *empty*.
You have come to the help of your ser-vant *Israel*,
for you have remembered your promise of *mercy*,
the promise you made to our *forebears*,
to Abraham and his children for *ever*.

Glory to you, O Trinity, most holy and *blessed*:
One God, now and for ever. *A-men*.

[TJC]

[READING(S) FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

P R A Y E R S

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.
—*silence*—

PRAYERS OF SUPPLICATION AND INTERCESSION

THE COLLECT FOR PEACE

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgements, and all just works; Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and the fear of our enemies having been removed, we may pass our time in rest and quietness; Through the mercies of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

[GELASIAN SACRAMENTARY, 8TH CENTURY, ALT. TJC]

THE COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST PERILS

O God, the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank you for the blessings of the day that is past and humbly ask for your protection through the coming night. Bring us in safety to the morning hours; Through him who died and rose again for us, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

[MOZARABIC SACRAMENTARY, 6TH CENTURY]

CONCLUDING COLLECT

... **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

HYMN

GOING FORTH

The Lord Jesus Christ be near you to defend you,
within you to refresh you,
around you to preserve you,
before you to guide you, behind you to justify you,
above you to bless you,
who lives and reigns with the Almighty and with the Holy Spirit,
one God, holy and blessed Trinity,
who is now, ever was, and ever shall be to endless ages!
Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God!



Copyright © 2004 by The Order of Saint Luke

You are free to reproduce these materials, providing the copyright is not held by another publisher, for use in the church or by chapters and members of The Order by including the following credit line and copyright notice:

Reprinted from *The Ordinary of The Order of Saint Luke for Evening Prayer*, copyright © 2004 by The Order of Saint Luke. All rights reserved. Used by permission.