

Hymns for the Liturgy of the Hours
at Saint Meinrad Archabbey:
Hymns for The Liturgical Seasons

edited by
Harry Hagan, OSB

Saint Meinrad Archabbey
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- 3. Clear the Voice and Clear the Warning
- 41. O Christ, Bright Sun of Justice
- 43. The Kingdom Calls Us To Repent
- 48. This Season Calls Us to Return
- 49. By Mercy Set Us Free
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Introduction

During the last several years, Saint Meinrad has reviewed its celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours with the goal of bound books. The early Middle Ages produced a collection of sixteen hymns for Lauds and Vespers which came to be called "The Old Hymnal." It was succeeded in the ninth century by "The New Hymnal" which had 41 hymns. Continuing that tradition, this collection gathers our findings into one resource, mainly to assist others searching these texts.

Before the introduction of the vernacular, the priest-monks celebrated the Latin liturgy using the *Breviarum monasticum* and the *Antiphonale monasticum*. In the 1940s, Abbot Ignatius Esser, OSB has an English office created for the brothers: Divine Praise. In the mid 1960s, a third celebration began which formed the basis for the post-conciliar English Liturgy of the Hours. The early celebration was rather simple and spare. Beginning in 1972, Fr Samuel Weber, OSB provided the impetus to recreate an English version of the Latin chant. Fr. Columba Kelly, OSB, had returned from Rome in 1964 with a doctorate in chant from Musica Sacra. He had already adapted some of the Latin chant for English texts and the new impetus carried that work forward. This took place before the publication of the *Thesaurus liturgiae horarum monasticae* (1975) which provided a framework for the monastic office in the Benedictine world.

Since that time, the various choirmasters have furthered that work for both the Liturgy of the Hours and the Eucharistic celebration. However, no systematic and thorough revision had taken place.

As a writer of hymn texts, I have been for some time very invested in this particular area, and as a member of the text committee, I devoted myself to discovering texts that we might use. This also involved working out a system for their usage. The Latin office has a single for Lauds and another for Vespers during the seasons of Advent, Christmas,

Lent and Easter. Today we prefer more variety, but not too much. Hymns must be sung often enough so that people can remember them from year to year. In part that has been a question for the music committee, but it was also a textual consideration. There is a new hymn for St. Stephen Martyr (Dec. 26) which is 86.86 so that it can be sung to used for another hymn during the season.

The hymns for Lauds and Vespers of Advent appear twice each week because the hymns of feast days take precedence. The days before and after Epiphany shorten and lengthen each year, and each has its own character.

For Lent, the first four weeks emphasize the penitential character of Lent, and the last two weeks focus on the Passion, as has been traditional.

Ordinary Time divides into a summer cycle and a fall & winter cycle with the Feast of the Holy Cross marking the boundary.

The revision has left some hymn texts behind. Perhaps some that have made the cut should have been left behind, but we have grown used to singing them.

The *Thesaurus* has served as resource for the text committee. Its cursus appears in *Liber Hymnarius* (Solesmes, 1983), and Fr. Anselmo Lentini, OSB of Monte Cassino Abbey was surely instrumental in its preparation. He discusses the provenance of the Latin hymns in his *Te decet hymnus: l'innario della "liturgia horarum"* (Vatican, 1984), and I have depended on it for my notes.

The English Oxford Movement of the nineteenth century produced many translations from the Latin and Greek by John Mason Neale, Edward Caswall, and others. We have used that treasure from the beginning. Later editors have altered many texts, and modern hymnals often modernize their language. While that is a reasonable course, our

community is used to the language of “thee” and “thou.” Therefore, we have kept that language, and I have also restored some, not all, of the original wording. Not all of the later editors were better than Neale or Caswall or Ellerton.

By and large, the hymnody has been altered to create a more inclusive sense for people.

I have searched through various editions of *The English Hymnal*, *Hymnal 1982*, *The Hymnal for the Hours* (1989), *Hymns for Prayer and Praise* (2nd ed, 2012), and various online databases. Rightfully because of copyright, it is harder to discover what has been written more recently. Hope Publishing Company has put the copyrighted texts of its hymnody online.

I had written a number of texts, particularly for Lauds, which have been included. I have written several new texts where nothing satisfactory

seemed to exist. I have also found a new use for other texts. In a few places, I have added some stanzas to existing hymns to fill them out for this context.

The Text Committee graciously accepted my plea for the inclusion of several hymns, and I am grateful for their indulgence.

This collection is surely not a definitive list, and others with different requirements will find themselves looking for different text. The celebrations of saints, not a part of a liturgical season, remains to be done.

This document was prepared during my sabbatical during the spring of 2022.

Harry Hagan, OSB, SSD

Advent

Advent Lauds

1. Behold a Clarion Voice Rings Out

Lauds, Weeks 1-4, Sunday

Behold, a clarion voice rings out
And drives all hidden sin away.
Depart! all fearful dreams and doubt;
Let Christ shine forth, the Promised day.

Now let the weary soul arise,
The mind weighed down, the wounded heart.
The Morning Star adorns the skies;
Let all things harmful now depart.

The Lamb was sent from heav'n on high
To fully pardon all our sin.
His glorious advent now is nigh;
Let us with tears give thanks to him.

That when he shines again revealed,
When trembling grips the world with fear,
His wrath to loving kindness yield,
His mercy beckons us come near.

To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, ever One,
praise, honor, might and glory be
from age to age eternally.

L.M.

Vox clara ecce intonate

Tr. vss. 1-4, Cassian Folsom, OSB,
© 1991, Saint Meinrad Archabbey
vs. 5 John Mason Neale, 1851

2. Awake, My Soul, Awake

Lauds, Weeks 1-3, Monday & Thursday

Awake, my soul, awake.
Awake the dawn, and sing:
"The Sun of Righteousness shall rise
With healing in his wings."

For, as the morning dew,
His justice shall descend
To raise the lowly from the dust
To heal and to defend.

Arise, Jerusalem!
With lyre and harp sing praise,
The King of Glory comes with dawn
A Light for all your ways.

The Key of David comes!
Your Christ is at the gate!
And he shall open every door
For those who watch and wait.

O Zion, shout for joy,
With song and cymbal sing:
To Father, Son and Spirit: One
Let praises ever ring.

S.M.

Harry Hagan, OSB

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3. Clear the Voice and Clear the Warning

Lauds, Weeks 1-3 Tuesday & Fri

Clear the voice and clear the warning!
Clear for all with ears to hear!
Voice resounding through the darkness:
"Tremble, Earth! The Christ appears!"

"Stir from sleep, and heed the warning!
Look again with keener eye!
In the dark a new star flashes,
Promise of the morning sky."

"See, the Lamb from Jordan's waters
Comes to pardon and forgive.
Turn from sin, and mark the Gospel
That forgiven you may live."

"Christ the King comes robed in glory,
Scatters night and every fear.
Run to meet the King of glory,
Christ whose mercy draws us near."

Honor, glory, praise, and power,
Kingship, might, and majesty,
To the Father, Son, and Spirit
Blessings for eternity.

L.M.

Vox clara ecce intonat

Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB

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Published by OCP Publishers

4. Throughout a World in Shadow

Lauds, Weeks 1-3. Wednesday & Sat

Throughout a world in shadow,
John's urgent voice we hear:
Prepare for Christ your Savior!
The Son of God is near.

His veiled but certain splendor
Begins to shine from far;
He come his saints around him:
The bright and morning star.

He gives a new beginning
To those who turn from sin,
Who answer love with loving
By turning back to him.

With all who wait with longing.
Give thanks that never cease,
For him whom God is sending
To visit us in peace.

All praise to God the Father,
To Christ, the Son who comes,
Bound by the Holy Spirit
While endless ages run.

L.M.

Vox clara ecce intonat

Words from Stanbrook Abbey

© 1971, Stanbrook Abbey, Wass, York YO61 4AY

5. Come, O Long Expected Jesus

Lauds Week before Christmas, Mon, Wed, & Friday

Come, Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
Born a child, and yet a King.
Born to reign in us forever,
Now your gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to your glorious throne.

Worship, honor, glory, blessing
To the Father and the Son,
With the everlasting Spirit,
While unending ages run.

C.M.

Charles Wesley

in *Hymns for the Nativity of Our Lord* (1744), #10.

The doxology found in *Hymns for the Hours*, #1 without attribution.

6. The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

*Lauds Week before Christmas, Tuesday Thursday
Saturday & Dec 24*

The King shall come when morning dawns
And light triumphant breaks,
When beauty gilds the eastern hills
And life to joy awakes.

Not as of old, a little child
To bear and fight and die,
But crowned with glory, like the sun
That lights the morning sky.

O brighter than that glorious morn,
Shall this fair morning be,
When Christ, our King, in beauty comes,
And we his face shall see.

The King shall come when morning dawns, .
and earth's dark night is past:
O, haste the rising of that morn,
the day that aye shall last.

The King shall come when morning dawns
And light and beauty brings.
Lord Jesus Christ, your people pray,
Come quickly, King of kings.

C.M.

John Brownlie, 1857-1925

in *Hymns from the East* (1907);

<https://archive.org/details/HymnsFromTheEast/page/n127/mode/2up> p. 119

Advent Midday Prayer

7. Lightbearing Christ, Come Down to Us

Midday, Weeks 1-4 Sun. & Wed

Lightbearing Christ, come down to us,
And light in darkness show;
Come down and save our fallen world
Whose sinful ways you know.

Prepare us for your light and truth,
Who watch and wait for you;
Restore our once lost dignity;
Come down and make us new.

Almighty Father, speak the word
Your children long to hear,
And with your Spirit dwell with us:
Lord God of love, draw near.

C.M.

Words from Stanbrook Abbey

© 1974, 1995, Stanbrook Abbey, Wass, York YO61 4AY.

8. A Winter Rose Shall Flower

Midday, Weeks 1-4 Mon & Thur

A winter rose shall flower
On Jesse's ancient thorn,
The Word of God unfolding,
In human likeness born.

O Christ, So long awaited,
Your age-old promise keep;
Awake to life your people
Who lie in sin asleep.

Come forth from God, your Father,
Take Adam's guilt away,
And with your Holy Spirit
Come, Lord, do not delay.

76.76

Words from Stanbrook Abbey,

© 1974, 1995, Stanbrook Abbey Wass, York YO61 4AY

9. Hark, the Glad Sound! the Saviour Comes!

Midday, Weeks 1-4 Tuesday & Fri
Hark, the glad Sound! the Saviour comes!
The Saviour promis'd long!
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne,
And every voice a song.

He comes the pris'ners to release,
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace
t' enrich the humble poor.

Our glad *Hosannas*, Prince of Peace,
thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heav'n's eternal arches ring
with thy belovèd Name.

C.M.

Phillip Doddridge, 1735

10. O Heavenly Word, Eternal Light

Midday, Weeks 1-4 Sat

O heavenly Word, eternal Light,
Begotten of the Father's might,
Descend within our midst like dew;
With gentleness our hearts renew.

Our minds enlighten from above,
And kindle them with truest love;
That we may now and evermore
Behold Thee, love Thee, and adore.

Lord Jesus, not as Judge, draw near,
And let thine Advent drive out fear;
Then pardoned we on bended knee
Shall praise thy gracious Majesty.

L.M.

Verbum supernum prodiens

Tr. compilers of *Hymns Ancient & Modern*, 1859, alt.

Advent Vespers

11. Redeemer of the Nations, Come

Sunday 1st Vespers, Weeks 1-4.

Redeemer of the nations, come;
Thou, Virgin's Son, here make Thy home!
O marvel heaven, wonder earth,
That Christ our Lord chose such a birth.

For not by human flesh and blood;
But by the Spirit of our God,
Was Christ the Word of God made flesh,
A woman's offspring, pure and fresh.

O wondrous birth! O wondrous Child
Of Mary Virgin undefiled!
Though he by all the world disowned,
Is still in heaven our king enthroned.

O Thou, the Father's only Son,
Hast over sin the victory won.
And boundless shall Thy kingdom be.
Lord, when shall we its glories see?

Come, Savior, in thy glory shine,
The glory of thy light divine;
Come shine again throughout earth
That we again may know thy birth.

All praise to God the Father sing,
All praise to God the Son, our King,
All praise to God the Spirit be
Forever and eternally.

L.M.

Veni, Redemptor gentium, St. Ambrose
Tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812-1876
alt. Saint Meinrad Text Committee

12. Creator of the Stars of Night

Sunday 2nd Vespers: Weeks 1-2. Wed: Weeks 1-4

Creator of the stars of night,
Thy people's everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all,
And hear thy servants when they call.

Thou, grieving that the ancient curse
Should doom to death a universe,
Hast found the med'cine, full of grace,
To save and heal a ruined race.

Thou cam'st, the Bridegroom of the bride,
As drew the world to eventide;
Proceeding from a virgin shrine,
The spotless Victim all divine.

At Whose dread name, majestic now,
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
And things celestial thee shall own,
And things terrestrial, Lord alone.

O Thou whose coming is with dread
To judge and doom the quick and dead,
Preserve us, while we dwell below,
From every insult of the foe.

To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Laud, honour, might and glory be
From age to age eternally.

L.M.

Conditor alme siderum
Tr. John Mason Neale, in *Hymnal Noted*, 1851

13. O Day of God, Draw Nigh

Weeks 1-3 Mon & Thur

O day of God, draw nigh
In beauty and in power.
Come with your timeless judgment now
To match our present hour.

Bring to our troubled minds,
Uncertain and afraid,
The quiet of a steadfast faith,
Calm of a call obeyed.

O day of God, draw nigh
With wisdom and with grace
Reveal your simple majesty
with your unseen embrace.

Bring justice to our land
That all may dwell secure,
And firmly build for days to come
Foundations that endure.

O day of God, draw nigh
with clear and searching light
till what is hidden is revealed
with every heart contrite

Bring to our world of strife
Your sovereign word of peace,
That war may haunt the world no more
And desolation cease.

O day of God, draw nigh
As at creation's birth;
Let there be light again, and send
Your justice to the earth

S.M.

Robert Balgarnie Young Scott, 1899-1987
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14. Behold the Bridegroom Cometh

Weeks 1-3. Tuesday & Fri

Behold the Bridegroom cometh
in the middle of the night,
And blest are ye whose loins are girt,
whose lamp is burning bright;
But woe to that dull servant,
whom the Master shall surprise
With lamp untrimmed, unburning
and with slumber in his eyes.

Do thou, my soul, beware, beware
lest thou in sleep sink down,
Lest thou be given o'er to death,
and lose the golden crown;
But see that thou be sober,
with a watchful eye, and thus
Cry, "Holy, holy, holy God,
have mercy upon us!"

That day, the day of fear, shall come;
my soul, slack not thy toil,
But light thy lamp, and feed it well,
and make it bright with oil;
Who knowest not how soon may sound
the cry at eventide,
"Behold the Bridegroom comes! Arise!
Go forth to meet the Bride!"

Beware, my soul; beware, beware,
lest thou in slumber lie,
And, like the five, remain without,
and knock, and vainly cry;
But watch, and bear thy lamp undimmed,
and Christ shall gird thee on
His own bright wedding robe of light, —
the glory of the Son.

C.M.D.

Tr. from the Greek by Gerard Moultrie (1864)

Text as found in *The English Hymnal* (1933)

15. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*2nd Vespers: Verses for Sundays Weeks 3 & 4*

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
 Redeem thy captive Israel,
 That into exile drear is gone
 Far from the face of God's dear Son.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
 And order all things, far and nigh;
 To us the path of knowledge show,
 And cause us in her ways to go.

Draw nigh, draw nigh, O Lord of Might,
 Who to Thy tribes from Sinai's height
 In ancient time didst give the Law,
 In cloud and majesty and awe.

O come, Thou Branch of Jesse, draw
 The quarry from the lion's claw;
 From the dread caverns of the grave,
 From nether hell, Thy people save.

O come, thou Lord of David's Key!
 The royal door fling wide and free;
 Safeguard for us the heav'nward road,
 And bar the way to death's abode.

O come, Desire of nations, bind
 All peoples in one heart and mind;
 Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease;
 Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

Vespers: Verses for Dec. 17-23, Tuesday and Friday

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
 Redeem thy captive Israel,
 That into exile drear is gone
 Far from the face of God's dear Son.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Branch of Jesse, draw
 The quarry from the lion's claw;
 From the dread caverns of the grave,
 From nether hell, Thy people save.

O come, thou Lord of David's Key!
 The royal door fling wide and free;
 Safeguard for us the heav'nward road,
 And bar the way to death's abode.

O come, O come, thou Dayspring bright!
 Pour on our souls thy healing light;
 Dispel the long night's lingering gloom,
 And pierce the shadow of the tomb.

O come, Desire of nations, bind
 All peoples in one heart and mind;
 Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease;
 Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

L.M with 8.8 refrain

Text: *Veni, Emmanuel*, 15th century processional
 Translations of the verses:

Emmanuel, Branch, David's Key, Dayspring,
 by T.A. Lacey (1906);

Lord of Might, by John Mason Neale, (1851)

Wisdom & Desire of Nations by Henry S. Coffin (1916)

16. O Child of Promise, Come

Vespers: Dece.17-23, Monday & Thursday

#152 in *Hymns for All Seasons: The Complete Works of James Quinn, SJ*

S.M.

James Quinn, SJ, 1919-2010

Published by OCP

Christmastide

Christmas Lauds

17. From East to West

Lauds for Christmas Days; Dec. 30; Jan. 1

From east to west, from shore to shore
Let ev'ry heart awake and sing
The holy child whom Mary bore,
The Christ, the everlasting king.

Behold, the world's creator wears
The form and fashion of a slave;
Our very flesh our Maker shares,
His fallen creatures all to save.

For this how wondrously He wrought!
A maiden, in her lowly place,
Became, in ways beyond all thought,
The chosen vessel of His grace.

4 And while the angels in the sky
Sang praise above the silent field,
To shepherds poor the Lord Most High,
the one great Shepherd, was revealed.

All glory for this blessed morn
To God the Father ever be;
All praise to You, O Virgin-born,
All praise, O Holy Ghost, to thee.

L.M.

A solis ortus cardine, by Coelius Sedulius (c. 450)
Tr. John Ellerton, 1826-1893.

18. Saint Stephen Martyr, Yours the Crown

Lauds for the Feast of St. Stephen Martyr, Dec. 26

Saint Stephen Martyr, yours the crown:
the crown of victory.

The birth of Christ your feast day joins
to his lifegiving Tree.

Saint Stephen Martyr, yours the crown:
the crown of Christ the Word
His Word you preached that all might hear,
that Christ by all be heard.

Saint Stephen Martyr, yours the crown:
the crown of selfless care.
Forgiving those who raised a stone,
you mirrored Christ's own prayer.

Saint Stephen Martyr, yours the crown:
the crown of sacrifice.
In faith you gave your all, your life,
becoming one with Christ.

Saint Stephen Martyr, yours the crown:
the crown of grateful praise:
To Father, Son, and Spirit, One
this hymn with you we raise.

C.M.

Harry Hagan, OSB
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19. Beloved John the Gospel Heard*Lauds for the Feast of St. John the Evangelist, Dec. 28*

Beloved John the Gospel heard
and gave himself to Christ the Word,
the Word made flesh of God's own will,
the Word that dwells among us still.

Beloved John saw seven signs
that show Christ human and divine.
And all who saw and then believed
have from his fullness life received.

Beloved John the last meal shared
when Jesus made his priestly prayer
that as the Father and the Son
we with and in him may be one.

Beloved John at Mary's side
saw his Beloved crucified.
but Easter Day he saw his Christ
who is the Way, the Truth, the Life.

Beloved John, we keep your feast
to celebrate this time of peace
when Christ, the Light of truth and grace,
arose to shine upon our race.

L.M.

Harry Hagan, OSB

© 2008, Saint Meinrad Archabbey

L.M. Written to be sung to *A solis ortus cardine*, as adpt.
by Columba Kelly, OSB**20. That Worried Tyrant Herod Froze***Lauds, Feast of the Holy Innocents, Dec. 28*

That worried tyrant, Herod, froze
to hear a child in swaddling clothes
as David's promised prince was born
to rule and reign as God had sworn.

Enraged, that foolish king decreed:
"Let every boy in Judah bleed.
Lest this pretender's shoot should bud,
make every cradle run with blood."

But evil triumphed not that day,
for Christ was safely borne away.
And Herod by his wicked deed
sow martyrs for the Church's seed.

As Rachel would not be consoled
because her own lay dead and cold,
let us each life as Christ's defend
for we on him for life depend.

Hail, newborn martyrs of the Prince!
Hail noble Holy Innocents!
May all deprived of life as you
in Christ be born to live anew.

To you, Lord Jesus, far and wide,
O Mary's child, this Christmastide
with Father and the Spirit be
all praise: Most Blessed Trinity.

L.M.

Audit tyrannus anxius from the *Liber Cathemerinon*

Hymn XII:93-100,133-136,125-129;

by Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413

Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB with v. 4 added

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L.M. Written to be sung to *A solis ortus cardine*, adpt. by
Columba Kelly, OSB

21. In Stature Grows the Heav'nly Son

Lauds for Holy Family: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday before Epiphany

In stature grows the heav'nly Son,
Who, from a Virgin Mother's womb
Took human nature for his own,
To reign as King on Calv'ry's throne.

He grows in wisdom and in grace,
Blest Savior of a fallen race;
In all things like his people made,
To be a sinful people's aid.

He all his radiant splendor hides,
And he who made the stars abides
With parents in a village home
Who is the sole begotten One.

And he who rules angelic bands,
Who high in heav'nly glory stands,
Now yields himself to human will,
A boy's obedience to fulfill.

To him, the Father's only Son,
Let praise and honor now be done,
Who, by the Holy Spirit's grace,
Was born to save our human race.

L.M.

Divine crescebas, puer, by JB de Santeuil, 1630-1697,
Tr. the first line comes John Chandler, 1837, but nothing
else of vss. 1-3. Vs. 4 by George B. Timms from the hymn:
"The Growing Limbs of God the Son," #45, *New English Hymnal*.

22. O More Than Mighty Cities Known

Lauds for Epiphany; Thursday after Epiphany

O more than mighty cities known,
Dear Bethlehem, in thee alone
Salvation's Lord from heaven took birth
In human form upon the earth.

And from a star that far outshone
The radiant circle of the sun
Came for the news both sweet and wild
How God was born as Mary's child.

The wise men, seeing him, so fair,
Bow low before him, and with prayer
Their treasured orient gifts unfold
Of incense, myrrh, and royal gold.

The fragrant incense which they bring,
The gold, proclaim him God and King;
The bitter spicy dust of myrrh
Foreshadows his new sepulcher.

All glory, Lord, to thee we pay
For thine Epiphany today;
All glory, as is ever meet,
To Father and to Paraclete.

L.M.

O sola magnarum urbium,
Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413
Tr. The Monastic Diurnal, 1963
© Lancelot Andrews Press

23. Let All Together Praise Our God*Monday, Wednesday, Friday, before Epiphany*

Let all together praise our God
 Before his highest throne;
 Today he opens heav'n again
 And gives us his own Son.

He leaves his heav'nly Father's throne,
 Is born an infant small,
 And in a manger, poor and lone,
 Lies in a humble stall.

He veils in flesh his pow'r divine
 A servant's form to take;
 In want and lowliness must die
 Who heav'n and earth did make.

A wondrous change which he does make:
 He takes our flesh and blood,
 And he conceals for sinners' sake
 His majesty as God.

He comes that we his own may be
 A great exchange indeed!
 Could Jesus' love do more to free
 And help us in our need

For us he opens wide the door
 Of paradise today.
 The angel guards the gate no more;
 To God our thanks we pay.

C.M.

Nikolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561
 Tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, after Epiphany

Let all together praise our God
 Before his highest throne;
 Today he opens heav'n again
 And gives us his own Son.

He leaves his heav'nly Father's throne,
 Is born an infant small,
 And in a manger, poor and lone,
 Lies in a humble stall.

He veils in flesh his pow'r divine
 A servant's form to take;
 In want and lowliness must die
 Who heav'n and earth did make.

A wondrous change which he does make:
 He takes our flesh and blood,
 And he conceals for sinners' sake
 His majesty as God.

The magi with their gifts he greets:
 Their incense, myrrh, and gold
 They bow before him God and King
 Who comes to save the world.

He comes that we his own may be
 A great exchange indeed!
 Could Jesus' love do more to free
 And help us in our need.

For us he opens wide the door
 Of paradise today.

The angel guards the gate no more;
 To God our thanks we pay.

C.M.

Nikolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561
 Tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.

24. Why, Impious Herod, Should You Fear*Lauds Tuesday and Saturday after Epiphany*

Why, impious Herod, should you fear
 Because the Christ is come so near?
 For he who heaven's kingdom rules
 wants not your kingdom or its jewels.

Lo, sages from the East have come
 To where the star shines on the Son.
 Led on by light to Light they press,
 And by their gifts their God confess.

The Lamb of God is manifest
 Again in Jordan's water blest,
 And he who sin had never known
 By washing now our sins atones.

And he that rules o'er everything
 Can change the nature of the spring,
 And gives at Cana as a sign:
 The water reddens into wine.

O Lord, to you be majesty
 At this, your great Epiphany.
 All glory through eternity
 To Father, Son, and Spirit be.

L.M.

Hostis Herodes impie, Coelius Sedulius, c. 450,
 Tr. Percy Dearmer, 1887-1936, public domain
 altered by Harry Hagan, OSB

25. When Jesus Comes to Be Baptized*Lauds for the Baptism of the Lord*

When Jesus comes to be baptized,
 Of hidden years he leaves no trace,
 The years of safety and of peace,
 To bear the sins of all our race.

The Spirit of the Lord comes down,
 Anoints the Christ to suffering,
 To preach the word, to free the bound,
 And to the mourner, comfort bring.

He will not quench the dying flame,
 And what is bruised he will not break,
 But heal the wound injustice dealt,
 And our of death his triumph make.

Our everlasting Father, praise,
 With Christ his well-beloved Son,
 Who with the Spirit reigns servene,
 Untroubled Trinity in One.

L.M.

Words from Stanbrook Abbey

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Christmas Midday Hymns

26. A Child is Born in Bethlehem

*Midday Prayer: Christmas Day; Dec. 28, Dec 31,
Wednesday before and after Epiphany*

A child is born in Bethlehem, alleluia;
Rejoice, rejoice, Jerusalem, alleluia; alleluia.

Refrain:

Let grateful hearts now sing,
A song of joy and holy praise
To Christ the new-born King!

Our Brother in the flesh is He, alleluia;
Our King for all eternity, alleluia; alleluia.

By grace this child is born again, alleluia;
In ev'ry heart he frees from sin, alleluia; alleluia.

Praise God the Holy Trinity, alleluia.
With thankfulness eternally, alleluia, alleluia.

8.8 with refrain 6.8.6 and alleluias
Puer natus est, tr. vss. 1-3 & Refrain, Irvin Udulutsch,
OFM Cap, b. 1920. © Liturgical Press
vs. 4 Harry Hagan, OSB, © 2020, Saint Meinrad
Archabbey
Tune: V.Babst's *Gesangbuch*. Leipzig, 1545. Mode 1.

27. Hail, Mary, Mother of Our God

Midday Prayer: January 1, Mother of God,

Hail, Mary, Mother of our God, alleluia.
who heard and bore the Word of God,
alleluia, alleluia.

Refrain:

Your Motherhood we tell
and with the angels, "Hodie!"
For Christ with us shall dwell.

Hail, Mary, Heaven's Queen and Gate, alleluia!
Your dignity we celebrate, alleluia, alleluia!

Hail, Mary, by your giving birth, alleluia,
you fill this time with joy and mirth,
alleluia, alleluia!

Hail, Mary, full of grace, we pray, alleluia,
that grace abound this new year's day,
alleluia, alleluia!

8.8 with refrain 6.8.6 and alleluias
Harry Hagan, OSB
© 2020, Saint Meinrad Archabbey
Tune: V.Babst's *Gesangbuch*. Leipzig, 1545. Mode 1.

28. A Star Arising In the East

Midday Prayer: Epiphany; Wednesday and Saturday after Epiphany

A star arising in the east, alleluia!
announces Christ the Prince of Peace,
 alleluia, alleluia!

Refrain:

Let earth resound and ring,
and with the angels: "Gloria!"
to Christ the King of Kings.

This star has brought three kings to see, alleluia!
The Christ at his epiphany, alleluia, alleluia!

The magi on this child confer, alleluia!
Their gold and frankincense and myrrh,
 alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God the Holy Trinity, alleluia.
With thankfulness eternally, alleluia, alleluia.

8.8 with refrain 6.8.6 and alleluis

Harry Hagan, OSB

© 2003, Saint Meinrad Archabbey

Tune: V.Babst's *Gesangbuch*. Leipzig, 1545. Mode 1.

29. The Christ, He Comes to Jordan's Stream

Midday Prayer: Baptism of the Lord

The Christ, he comes to Jordan's stream, alleluia;
He comes God's people to redeem, alleluia, alleluia!

Refrain:

A voice cries out: "Behold!"
Prepare his way! His path make straight!
The Gospel shall be told!

The Father's voice the heavens rends, alleluia;
The Spirit as a dove descends, alleluia, alleluia!

"Behold him, my beloved Son," alleluia;
"In him my pleasure shall be done,"
 alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God the Holy Trinity, alleluia.
Whose life gives life eternally, alleluia, alleluia.

8.8 with refrain 6.8.6 and alleluis

Harry Hagan, OSB

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Tune: V.Babst's *Gesangbuch*. Leipzig, 1545. Mode 1.

30. Good People All, This Christmas Time: Wexford Carol

For Midday Prayer, Wexford I on Dec 26, 29; Monday and Thursday Saturday before Epiphany

Good people all, this Christmas time,
Consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done,
In sending his beloved Son.

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep;
To whom God's angels did appear,
Which put the shepherds in great fear.

"Fear not, but go with joyful mind
and there you shall the baby find."
And as God's angels had foretold
They did our Saviour Christ behold.

Wexford II on Monday and Thursday after Epiphany

Good people all, this Christmas time
Consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done,
In sending his beloved Son.

There were three wise men from afar
Directed by a glorious star,
And on they wandered night and day
Until they came where Jesus lay.

And when they came unto the place
that our Messiah blessed with grace,
They humbly knelt there at his feet
with gold and myrrh and incense sweet.

L.M.

Traditional, public domain.

31. Christ is Here Emmanuel

*Christmastide Midday Prayer: Tuesday and Friday before
and after Epiphany*

Christ is here Emmanuel!
Majesty so mind:
Wisdom dwells with grace and truth,
Hidden in this Child.

Her is God's eternal Son,
Known to everyone,
By the Spirit's love conceived,
Mary's flesh his own.

Born of God's creative will,
Christ is light from light,
Come to rescue Adam's line
Waiting in the night.

Father, Son, and Spirit Blest:
Heaven their glory sings,
While the earth mighty voice
Praise and worship brings.

75.75

Words from Stanbrook Abbey.

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Christmastide Vespers

32. O Christ, Redeemer of Our Race

*Vespers: Christmas Day; Dec 27, Dec. 30;
Wednesday before Epiphany*

O Christ, redeemer of our race,
Thou brightness of the Father's face,
Of Him, and with Him ever one,
Ere times and seasons had begun.

Thou art that very light of light,
Unfailing hope in sin's dark night,
Hear Thou the prayers Thy people pray,
The wide world o'er, this blessed day.

Remember, Lord of life and grace,
How once, to save a ruined race,
Thou didst our very flesh assume
In Mary's undefiled womb.

Thou from the Father's throne didst come
To call His banished children home;
Redeemed the new made song we sing;
It is the birthday of our King.

O Lord, the Virgin born, to Thee
Eternal praise and glory be,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Ghost forevermore.

L.M.

Christe, Redemptor Omnium

Tr. Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877

33. Of the Father's Love Begotten

*Vespers: December 26, 29, Holy Family;
1st Vespers Mother of God on January 1;
Tuesday and Friday before Epiphany*

Of the Father's love begotten
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the Source, the Ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessed,
when the Virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bore the Savior of our race;
and the babe, the world's Redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore!

This is he whom seer in old time,
chanted of with one accord,
whom the voices of the prophets
promised in their faithful word;
now he shines, the long expected;
let creation praise its Lord,
evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heav'n, adore him;
angel hosts, his praises sing:
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before him
and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
ev'ry voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore!

Christ, to thee, with God the Father,
and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
and unwearied praises be,
honor, glory, and dominion
and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore!

87.87.877

Corde natus ex parentis, Aurelius Clemens Prudentius,
348-413

Tr. vss. 1-4, John Mason Neale, 1818-1866,
vs. 5. Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877.

34. In the Ending of the Year

*Vespers: Holy Innocents, Holy Family 2nd Vespers,
Mother of God, 2nd Vespers,
Monday & Thursday before Epiphany*

In the ending of the year
Life and light to us appear.
See! The Holy Babe is here
By the Virgin Mary,
For the Word has taken flesh
Of the Virgin Mary.

What in ancient days was slain
This day calls to life again;
God is coming; God shall reign,
By the Virgin Mary,
For the Word has taken flesh
Of the Virgin Mary.

From the desert grew the corn,
Sprang the lily from the thorn,
When the Infant King was born
Of the Virgin Mary,
For the Word has taken flesh
Of the Virgin Mary.

On the straw He lays His head,
With a manger for His bed,
Thirsts and hungers and is fed
By the Virgin Mary,
For the Word has taken flesh
Of the Virgin Mary.

Angel hosts His praises sing,
Just themselves the shepherds bring,
Ox and ass adore the King,
With the Virgin Mary,
For the Word has taken flesh
Of the Virgin Mary.

Though King Herod sought to slay
All the Innocents as prey,
Joseph rushed the child away
With the Virgin Mary.
For the Word had taken flesh
Of the Virgin Mary.

Wherefore let us all to-day
Banish sorrow far away,
Singing and exulting aye,
With the Virgin Mary,
For the Word has taken flesh,
Of the Virgin Mary.

77.76.76

In hoc anni circulo, German Anon., c. 12th Century,
an adaptation of John Mason Neale's translation
from *Medieval Hymns* (1876)

by George Radcliffe Woodward, ed., *Songs of
Syon* (1908), alt. with refrain restored and v. 6 added by
Harry Hagan, OSB.

35. What Star Is This, With Beams So Bright*1st Vespers, Epiphany;**Vespers: Tuesday and Thursday after Epiphany*

What star is this, with beams so bright,
 More beauteous than the noonday light?
 It heralds forth the King of kings,
 And Gentiles to his cradle brings.

See now fulfilled what God decreed:
 "From Jacob shall a star proceed."
 And eastern sages with amaze
 Upon the wondrous vision gaze.

The guiding star above is bright;
 Within them shines a clearer light,
 And leads them on with pow'r benign
 To seek the Giver of the sign.

True love can brook no dull delay,
 Nor toil nor dangers stop their way;
 Home, kindred, native land and all
 They leave at their Creator's call.

While now the shining star of grace
 Draws us, O Christ, to seek thy face,
 Let not our slothful hearts refuse
 The guidance of the Light to use.

To God the Father, heavenly Light,
 To Christ, revealed in earthly might
 To God the Holy Ghost we raise
 Our equal and unceasing praise.

L.M.

Quae stella sole pulchrior, Charles Coffin, 1676-1749

Tr. John Chandler, 1806-1876

36. Earth Has Many a Noble City*Vespers: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday after Epiphany*

Earth has many a noble city;
 Bethl'hem, thou dost all excel:
 out of thee the Lord from heaven
 came to rule his Israel.

Fairer than the sun at morning
 was the star that told his birth,
 to the world its God announcing
 seen in fleshly form on earth.

Eastern sages at his cradle
 make oblations rich and rare;
 see them give in deep devotion,
 gold and frankincense and myrrh.

Sacred gifts of mystic meaning:
 incense doth their God disclose,
 gold the King of kings proclaims him,
 myrrh his sepulcher foreshows.

Jesus, whom the Gentiles worshipped
 at thy glad Epiphany,
 unto thee with God the Father
 and the Spirit glory be.

87.87

O sola magnarum urbium, by Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413

Tr. by Edward Caswall, 1814-1878;

alt. by the compilers, 1849, alt. 1861.

37. The Sinless One to Jordan Came

I & II Vespers: Baptism of the Lord

L.M.

George B. Timms, 1910-1997

© The Canterbury Press Norwich

Lent

Lauds in Lent

38. Christ, Sun of Righteousness, We Pray

Lauds: Sunday of Lent 1-4

Christ, Sun of righteousness, we pray
our darkened minds may now know day,
that virtues light may shine once more
as day to earth thou dost restore.

While setting us this time apart
O grant us, too, a contrite heart,
that they by kindness may be turned
who long they patient love have spurned.

Some med of penance make us bear,
in thy far greater pangs a share,
that so, through thee, our every sin,
though great and vile, may pardon sin.

That day draws nigh, thy saving hour
when all things made anew shall flow'r
O let us greet with joyful face
that day which brings us back thy grace.

May all creation worship thee,
O bless forbearing Trinity,
and we by pardon new restored,
a new song sing we to the Lord.

L.M.

Jam, Christe, sol justitiae

Tr. Br. James Oakley, ObIOSB

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HR2 9RZ

39. Now Is the Healing Time Decreed

Lauds: Mondays in Lent 1-4

Now is the healing time decreed
For sins of heart, of word or deed,
When we in humble fear record
The wrong that we have done the Lord.

Who, always merciful and good,
Has borne so long our wayward mood,
Nor cut us off unsparingly
In our so great iniquity.

Therefore with fasting and with prayer,
Our secret sorrow we declare;
With all good striving seek His face,
And lowly hearted plead for grace.

Cleanse us, O Lord, from every stain,
Help us the meed of praise to gain,
Till with the angels linked in love
Joyful we tread Thy courts above.

Father and Son and Spirit blest,
To Thee be every prayer address,
Who art in threefold Name adored,
From age to age, the only Lord.

L.M.

Ecce tempus idoneum,

Tr. T.A. Lacey (1853-1931)

40. O Jesus Christ, From Thee Began*Lauds: Tuesday of Lent 1-4*

1. O Jesu Christ, from Thee began
This healing as thy saving plan:
By fasting sought, by fasting found
Through forty days of yearly round;
2. That we who fell from Eden's height
Borne down to sensual appetite,
restored by fast and prayer may rise
To climb the hills of Paradise.
3. Therefore behold Thy Church, O Lord,
And grace of penitence accord
To all who seek with generous tears
Renewal of their wasted years.
4. Forgive the sin that we have done,
Forgive the course that we have run,
And show henceforth in evil day
Thyself our helper and our stay.
5. But now let every heart prepare,
By sacrifice of fast and prayer,
To keep with love and joy most full¹
The solemn Easter festival.
6. Father and Son and Spirit blest,
To Thee be every prayer address,
Who art in threefold name adored,
From age to age, the only Lord.

L.M.

Jesu quadragenariae

Tr. T.A. Lacey, 1906

41. O Christ, Bright Sun of Justice*Lauds: Ash Wednesday and Wednesday of Lent 1-4*

- O Christ, Bright Sun of Justice, rise
And drive the darkness from our eyes.
May justice with your light increase
And guide us in the way of peace.
- As gift, you give this time to heal,
To fire the contrite heart with zeal.
By fasting, prayer, and charity
Restore to us our dignity.
- May we who keep this Lententide
Repent of sin and conquer pride
And then with humble hearts draw near
To you, the Love that casts out fear.
- The Day shall come, Great Day of Days,
When earth reborn shall sing your praise;
Then we shall glory in the Cross
And count all gain but Christ as loss.
- To You, most gentle God, we sing,
For with this Lent You give us spring
And make the narrow way a door
To life and light forevermore.

L.M.

Jam, Christe, sol justitiae

Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB

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Published by OCP

¹ This line originally rhymed with "festival."

42. Come, Let Us to the Lord Our God*Lauds: Thursdays after Ash Wednesday and Weeks 1-4*

Come, let us to the Lord our God
 With contrite heart return;
 Our God is gracious, nor will leave
 The desolate to mourn.

His voice commands the tempest forth,
 And stills the stormy wave;
 And though His arm be strong to smite,
 'Tis also strong to save.

Long hath the night of sorrow reigned;
 The dawn shall bring us light;
 God shall appear, and we shall rise
 With gladness in His sight.

Our heart, if God we seek to know,
 Shall know Him, and rejoice;
 His coming like the morn shall be,
 Like morning songs His voice.

So shall His presence bless our souls,
 And shed a joyful light;
 That hallowed morn shall chase away
 The sorrows of the night.

His word of promise is our food,
 His Spirit is our guide.
 Thus daily is our strength renewed,
 And all our wants supplied.

God's presence always let us bless
 God's glory let us tell,
 God's kingdom come and will be done
 that we with God may dwell.

C.M.

Vss. 1-4, 6-7 John Morrison, 1749-1798, *Olney Hymnal*,
 I.69.4

Doxology: Harry Hagan, OSB, © 2019, Saint Meinrad
 Archabbey

43. The Kingdom Calls Us To Repent*Lauds: Friday after Ash Wednesday and Weeks 1-4*

The Kingdom calls us to repent
 till love alone remain.
 Uphold us, Lord, this holy Lent,
 by your abiding reign.

You know our sadness and our pain,
 the measure of our sin;
 in mercy, Lord, our hearts sustain
 as we seek you again.

Give us a heart so strong and true,
 though we are made of clay,
 that we may follow none but you
 whatever be the way.

Into your passion and your death
 are we, the Church, baptized.
 O breathe into us, Lord, your breath,
 that we with you may rise.

We glory in your Cross, O Christ,
 O Jesus crucified.
 By sharing in your sacrifice
 may we be glorified.

C.M.

Harry Hagan, OSB

© 2004, Saint Meinrad Archabbey.

Published by OCP

44. May We Observe These Forty Days

Lauds: Saturday after Ash Wednesday and Weeks 1-4

C.M.

Words: Verses 1-3, Ralph Wright OSB, © 1989 GIA Publications Inc, 7404 Chicago, Illinois 60638, as found in *Hymns of Prayer and Praise*, # 141.

Verses 4-6, from Ralph Wright OSB, "We Call on You, O Living Lord," . © 1981 ICEL, 1100 Connecticut Ave, NW, Suite u710, Washington, DC 20036, as found in *Hymns for Prayer and Praise*, #136

Midday Prayer in Lent and Passiontide

45. Father of Heaven Whose Love Profound

Midday Prayer: Sundays of Lent

Father of heav'n, whose love profound
A ransom for our souls hath found,
Before Thy throne we sinners bend;
To us Thy pard'ning love extend.

Almighty Son, incarnate Word,
Our Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, Lord,
Before Thy throne we sinners bend;
To us Thy saving grace extend.

Eternal Spirit, by whose breath
The soul is raised from sin and death,
Before Thy throne we sinners bend;
To us Thy quickening power extend.

Thrice holy—Father, Spirit, Son;
Mysterious Godhead, Three in One,
Before Thy throne we sinners bend;
Grace, pardon, life to us extend.

L.M.
Edward Cooper, 1805

46. Have Mercy, Son of David!

Midday Prayer: Mondays of Lent

Have mercy, Son of David!
By mercy set us free.
Have mercy, Son of David!
O Lord, that we may see.
For we, like Bartimeus,
cry out with heart and soul.
We ask for faith to follow,
for faith to make us whole.

Have mercy, Son of David!
Give us your eyes to see
that we may see the Kingdom
in its simplicity.
May we behold the glory,
the majesty and grace
of your mysterious beauty,
alive in every face.

76.76.D
Harry Hagan, OSB
© 2006, Saint Meinrad Archabbey

47. Lord Jesus, Think on Me

Midday Prayer: Tuesdays of Lent

Lord Jesus, think on me
And purge away my sin;
From earth-born passions set me free
And make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me
With many a care opprest;
Let me Thy loving servant be
And taste Thy promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me
Amid the battle's strife;
In all my pain and misery
Be Thou my Health and Life.

Lord Jesus, think on me
Nor let me go astray;
Through darkness and perplexity
Point Thou the heavenly way.

Lord Jesus, think on me
That I may sing above
To Father, Spirit, and to Thee
The strains of praise and love.

S.M.

Synesius of Cyrene, c. 375-430

Tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808-1896, vss. 1-4, 7

48. This Season Calls Us to Return

Midday Prayer: Wednesdays of Lent

This season calls us to return
That by repentance we may learn
To seek but Christ and Christ alone
Who by his cross makes us his own.

O may the holy joy of Lent
Bring us the patience to repent,
To lose our lives for Christ this day
And run by faith the Gospel way.

Come make our yoke, O Christ, so sweet,
Our burden light, our joy complete
That we may praise the Trinity
This day and all eternity.

L.M.

Harry Hagan, OSB

© 1999, Saint Meinrad Archabbey.

Published by OCP

49. By Mercy Set Us Free

Midday Prayer: Thursdays of Lent

By mercy set us free
From fear and tyranny:
That we your face may see
For all eternity.

With courage make us bold
That we may ever hold
To Christ upon the tree
Our joy and victory.

With justice fill our hearts
That we may never part
From Christ the narrow way,
Our hope and only stay.

In love reveal your grace,
Your great and strong embrace,
That our desire increase
As we await your Feast.

66.66

Harry Hagan, OSB
© 1995, Saint Meinrad Archabbey
Published by OCP

50. At Noon Our Christ Took Up His Cross

Midday Prayer: Fridays of Lent

At noon our Christ took up his Cross
That he might show by wondrous loss
The height and depth of love divine:
Made perfect now in human time.

By death he made his Cross a Tree
To bear the fruit of victory:
A shelter for the Kingdom's poor,
The Tree of Life by death restored.

All praise to Christ, the Crucified,
Who by his Cross has glorified
The prayer and work of every hand
In every age, in every land.

L.M.

Harry Hagan, OSB
© 1999, Saint Meinrad Archabbey
Published by OPC Publishers

51. Lord in Thy Mercy's Day

Midday Prayer: Saturdays of Lent

Lord, in this thy mercy's day,
Ere it pass for ay away,
On our knees we fall and pray.

Lord, on us thy Spirit pour,
Kneeling lowly at the door,
Lest it close for evermore.

By thy night of agony,
By thy supplicating cry,
By thy willingness to die.

By thy tears of bitter woe,
For Jerusalem below,
Let us not thy love forgo.

Grant us 'neath thy wings a place,
Lest we lose the day of grace,
Ere we shall behold thy face.

7.7.7.

Isaac William, 1842, alt.

Vespers in Lent

52. Sole Hope of All the World

*Vespers for Ash Wednesdays; Wednesdays 2 & 4
I Vespers of Sunday 1-4*

Sole hope of all the world, and Lord,
Bestower of the great reward,
Receive the prayers thy servants raise,
Accept our psalms and hymns of praise.

And though our consciences proclaim
Our deep transgression and our shame,
Cleanse us, O God, we humbly plead,
From sins of thought and word and deed.

Ours sins remember now no more;
Forgive; thy mercy can restore;
So, Lord, take on thyself our care,
That pure in heart we make our prayer.

Accept, O Lord, this Lententide,
This fast which thou hast sanctified,
That we, through sacramental ways,
May reach the joys of Paschal days.

This grant us, blessed Trinity,
Supreme and wondrous Deity:
Who through all ages glorified,
Does still one God unchanged abide.

L.M.

Summi Largitor Premi

Tr. Alan G. McDougall, alt.

53. O Merciful Redeemer, Hear

*II Vespers for Sundays 1-4 of Lent
Wednesday of Lent 1 & 3*

O merciful Redeemer, hear
in pity now incline Thine ear;
accept the contrite prayers we raise
in this our fast of forty days.

Our hearts are open, Lord to Thee,
and knowing our iniquity,
pour out on us Thy healing grace,
restore to life a fallen race.

Our sins are great, our wills are weak,
but Thy forgiveness Lord, we seek,
and for the glory of Thy Name,
do Thou our wounded souls reclaim.

Then grant us while by fasts we strive
our strength of purpose to revive
To fast from all the food of sin
And purify the self within.

O, grant most holy Trinity,
Thou undivided Unity,
that these our holy Lenten days,
increase our merit and Thy praise.

L.M.

Audi, benigne conditor

Tr. Irvin Udulutsch, OFM Cap 1959;

© Liturgical Press

vs. 4 adapted from Edward Caswall, 1814-1878's
translation.

54. Father of Mercies, Turn to Us Your Children

Vespers: Monday 1-4 of Lent

Father of Mercies, turn to us, your children;
We come before you, humbled, lost, and broken.
Hear our petitions, pardon our transgressions.
Do not forsake us.

Lord God Almighty, ruling from the heavens,
Look down upon us, shining in your radiance.
Banish our darkness, heal us of our blindness,
Lighten our footsteps.

Rock and Redeemer, God of our Salvation;
Sin would enslave us; Guard us from temptation!
Loosen the fetters, liberate the debtor,
Raise up the fallen.

God of the living, Fount of life and goodness;
Joy of the nations, rich in loving kindness;
You are restoring, by your Son's outpouring,
Our life within us.

Praised by the Father, God forever reigning;
Praised be Christ Jesus, Lord forever saving;
Praised be the Spirit, Light forever guiding;
One God, forever.

11.11.11.5

Aures ad nostras, Ante-Tridentine Breviary;
Tr. Joel Blaize, OSB
© 2020, Saint Meinrad Archabbey

55. The Fast as Taught by Holy Lore

Vespers: Tuesdays 1 & 3 of Lent

The fast, as taught by holy lore,
we keep in solemn course once more:
the fast to all men known, and bound
in forty days of yearly round.

The law and seers that were of old
in divers ways this Lent foretold,
which Christ, all seasons' King and guide,
in after ages sanctified.

More sparing therefore let us make
the words we speak, the food we take,
our sleep and mirth, -and closer barred
be every sense in holy guard:

In prayer together let us fall,
and cry for mercy, one and all,
and weep before the Judge's feet,
and His avenging wrath entreat.

Blest Three in One, and One in Three,
Almighty God, we pray to Thee,
that this our fast of forty days
may work our profit and Thy praise. Amen.

L.M.

Ex more docti mystica

Tr. by John Mason Neale in *The Hymnal Noted*, 1854

56. Now Let Us All with One Accord*Vespers: Tuesdays 2 & 4 of Lent*

Text:

<http://ehymnbook.org/CMMS/hymnSong.php?id=pd08980>

L.M.

Ex more docti mystica

attr. St. Gregory the Great (540-604)

Tr. Editors of *Praise the Lord*, 1972, alt.

Though sometimes attributed to James Quinn, it is not in his complete works.

57. Lord, Teach Us How to Pray Aright*Vespers: Thursdays of Lent 1-4*

Lord, teach us how to pray aright
with rev'ence and with fear.
though dust and ashes in your sight,
we may, we must draw near.

We perish if we cease from pray'r;
Oh, grant us pow'r to pray.
and when to meet thee we prepare,
Lord, meet us on our way.

God of all grace, we come to Thee
with broken, contrite hearts:
give, what Thine eye delights to see,
truth in the inward heart.

Give deep humility with truth;
and godly sorrow give;
a strong desire with confidence,
to hear thy voice and live.

In faith we ask our prayer may rise
and for our sin atone;
We cast our hopes and fix our eyes
on Christ, on Christ alone.

Patience to watch, and wait and weep,
though mercy long delay,
courage our fainting souls to keep
and trust Thee, Thou our stay.

Give these, and then Thy will be done;
thus, strengthened with all might,
we, through Thy Spirit and Thy Son,
shall pray, and pray aright.

C.M.

James Montgomery, Hymn LXV, alt. by Harry Hagan, OSB,
2020

58. Take Up Thy Cross, the Savior Said*Vespers: Friday 1-4*

Take up thy cross, the Savior said,
if thou wouldst my disciple be;
deny thyself, the world forsake,
and humbly follow after me.

Take up thy cross, let not its weight
fill thy weak spirit with alarm;
his strength shall bear thy spirit up,
and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.

Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,
nor let thy foolish pride rebel;
thy Lord for thee the cross endured,
to save thy soul from death and hell.

Take up thy cross then in his strength,
and calmly every danger brave,
'twill guide thee to a better home,
and lead to victory o'er the grave.

Take up thy cross and follow Christ,
nor think til death to lay it down;
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

To thee, great Lord, the One in Three,
all praise forevermore ascend:
O grant us in our home to see
the heavenly life that knows no end.

L.M.

C.W. Everest, 1833

Passiontide in Lent

59. Sing, My Tongue, the Savior's Glory

*Lauds Hymn #1: Part I of Pange lingua
Tuesday and Saturday of the Fifth Week
Tuesday of Holy Week*

Sing, my tongue, the Savior's glory;
Tell His triumph far and wide;
Tell aloud the famous story
Of His Body crucified;
How upon the Cross a Victim,
Vanquishing in death, He died.

Eating of the Tree forbidden,
Adam sank² in Satan's snare,
When our pitying Creator did
This second Tree prepare;
Destined, many ages later,
That first evil to repair.

Such the order God appointed
When for sin He would atone;
To the Serpent thus opposing
Schemes yet deeper than his own;
Thence the remedy procuring,
Whence the fatal wound had come.

*So when now at length the fullness
Of the sacred time drew nigh,
Then the Son, the world's creator³
Left his Father's throne on high;
From a Virgin's womb appearing,
Clothed in our mortality.*

*All within a lowly manger,
Lo, a tender babe He lies!
See his gentle Virgin Mother
Lull to sleep his infant cries!
While the limbs of God Incarnate
Round with swathing bands she ties.*

Honor, blessing everlasting,
To th' immortal Deity;
To the Father, Son, and Spirit,
Equal praises ever be;⁴
Glory through the earth and Heaven
To Trinity in Unity. Amen.

87.87.87

Pange lingua gloriosi, vss. 1-5 & doxology
Venantius Fortunatus, c. 580
Tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878

Verses in italic are not sung.

² Original reads: Man had sunk

³ Original reads: who moulded all things.

⁴ Orig: Praise be paid co-equally

60. Thus Did Christ to Perfect Manhood

*Lauds Hymn #2: Part II of Pange lingua
Sunday, Thursday of the 5th Week of Lent,
Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday*

Thus did Christ to perfect manhood
In our mortal flesh attain:
Then of His free choice He goeth
To a death of bitter pain;
As a lamb, upon the altar
Of the Cross, for us is slain.

*Lo, with gall His thirst He quenches!
See the thorns upon His brow!
Nails His tender flesh are rending!
See His side is opened now!
Whence, to cleanse the whole creation,
Streams of blood and water flow.*

Faithful Cross! O tree all beauteous!
Tree all peerless and divine!
Not a grove on earth can show us
Such a leaf and flower as thine.
Gently, gently bear the members
Laden with so sweet a load.

Lofty tree, bend down thy branches,
To embrace thy sacred load;
Oh, relax the native tension
Of that all too rigid wood;
Gently, gently bear the members
of thy dying King and God.

*Tree of trees, alone found worthy,
Our great Victim to sustain
Harbor from the raging tempest!
Ark, that saved the world again!
Tree, with sacred blood anointed
Of the Lamb for sinners slain.*

Honor, blessing everlasting,
To th' immortal Deity;
To the Father, Son, and Spirit,
Equal praises ever be;⁵
Glory through the earth and Heaven
To Trinity in Unity. Amen.

87.87.87
Pange lingua gloriosi, vss. 6-10 & doxology
by Venantius Fortunatus, c. 580
Tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878

Verses in italic are not sung.

⁵ Original: Praise be paid co-equally

61. Sing in Triumph of Our Saviour

*Lauds: Wednesday of the 5th Week,
Monday of Holy Week*

87.87.87

Pange lingua gloriosi, Venantius Fortunatus (c. 530-609),

Tr. Ralph Wright, OSB, © 1989, GIA.

Taken from *Hymns of Prayer and Praise*, #153

62. There in God's Garden Stands a Tree

Lauds Hymn #4 for Passiontide

Monday and Friday of the 5th Week

Wednesday of Holy Week

There in God's garden stands a tree of wisdom
Whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations:
Tree of all knowledge, tree of all compassion,
Tree of all beauty.

Its name is Jesus, name that says 'Our Saviour':
There on its branches see the scars of suffering;
See where the tendrils of our human selfhood
Feed on its lifeblood.

Thorns not its own are tangled in its foliage;
Our greed has starved it, our despite has choked it.
Yet, look, it lives: its grief has not destroyed it,
Nor fire consumed it.

See how its branches reach to us to welcome.
Hear what the voice says, 'Come to me, ye weary;
Give me your sickness, give me all your sorrow:
I will give blessing.'

All heaven is singing, 'Thanks to Christ whose passion
Offers in mercy healing, strength and pardon:
Peoples and nations take it, take it freely.'
Amen, my master.

11.11.11.5

Erik Routley (1917-1982), from the Hungarian
of Kiraly Imre von Pecsely (c. 1590-1614).

© 1974, Hope Publishing Company.

Text: <https://www.hopepublishing.com/find-hymns-hw/hw4096.aspx#FullDescription>

Vespers in Passiontide

63. The Royal Banners Forward Go, Part 1

*1st Vespers of the Fifth Sunday of Lent.
Tuesday of the Fifth Week
1st Vespers of Palm Sunday
Tuesday of Holy Week*

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 bright!
Elect on whose triumphal breast
Those holy limbs should find their rest.

To Thee, eternal Three in One,
Let homage meet by all be done:
As by the cross Thou dost restore,
So rule and guide us evermore

87.87.87

Vexilla regis prodeunt, Part I,
by Venantius Fortunatus, c. 580
tr. John Mason Neale, *Hymns A & M*: #58

64. The Royal Banners Forward Go: Part 2

*2nd Vespers of the Fifth Sunday of Lent
Thursday of the Fifth Week
2nd Vespers of Palm Sunday
Wednesday of Holy Week*

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.

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.

Blest tree, whose chosen branches bore
The wealth that did the world restore,
Where Life for sinners' death endured,
And life by death for us procured.

O cross, our one reliance, hail!
Still may thy power with us avail
To give new virtue to the saint,
And pardon to the penitent.

To Thee, eternal Three in One,
Let homage meet by all be done:
As by the cross Thou dost restore,
So rule and guide us evermore.

87.87.87

Vexilla regis prodeunt, Part II,
Venantius Fortunatus, c. 580
Tr. John Mason Neale,
except for the first two lines of stanza 3
by Walter Kirkham Blount, d. 1717

65. Take Up Thy Cross, the Savior Said*Vespers: Monday and Friday of the Fifth Week*

Take up thy cross, the Savior said,
 if thou wouldst my disciple be;
 deny thyself, the world forsake,
 and humbly follow after me.

Take up thy cross, let not its weight
 fill thy weak spirit with alarm;
 his strength shall bear thy spirit up,
 and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.

Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,
 nor let thy foolish pride rebel;
 thy Lord for thee the cross endured,
 to save thy soul from death and hell.

Take up thy cross then in his strength,
 and calmly every danger brave,
 'twill guide thee to a better home,
 and lead to victory o'er the grave.

Take up thy cross and follow Christ,
 nor think til death to lay it down;
 for only those who bear the cross
 may hope to wear the glorious crown.

To thee, great Lord, the One in Three,
 all praise forevermore ascen99d:
 O grant us in our home to see
 the heavenly life that knows no end.

L.M.

C.W. Everest, 1833

66. Alone Thou Goest Forth*Vespers: Wednesday of the Fifth Week
Monday of Holy Week*

Alone Thou goest forth, O Lord,
 in sacrifice to die;
 Is this Thy sorrow naught to us
 who pass unheeding by?

Our sins, not Thine, Thou bearest, Lord;
 make us Thy sorrow feel,
 till through our pity and our shame
 love answers love's appeal.

This is earth's darkest hour, but thou
 dost light and life restore;
 then let all praise be given thee
 who livest evermore!

Give us compassion for Thee, Lord,
 that, as we share this hour,
 Thy cross may bring us to Thy joy
 and resurrection power.

Lord Jesus Christ, we hail the Cross!
 That saved our wayward race.
 With Father and the Spirit One
 Embrace us with Thy grace.

C.M.

Solus ad victimam procedis, Domine, Peter Abelard
(1079-1142)

Tr. Francis Bland Tucker, 1895-1984

doxology, by Harry Hagan, OSB, © 2019, Saint Meinrad
Archabbey

Triduum

Good Friday

67. Sing, My Tongue, the Savior's Glory: Good Friday

Lauds: Good Friday

SING, my tongue, the Savior's glory;
 Tell His triumph far and wide;
 Tell aloud the famous story
 Of His Body crucified;
 How upon the Cross a Victim,
 Vanquishing in death, He died.

Lo, with gall His thirst He quenches!
 See the thorns upon His brow!
 Nails His tender flesh are rending!
 See His side is opened now!
 Whence, to cleanse the whole creation,
 Streams of blood and water flow.

Faithful Cross! O tree all beautiful!
 Tree all peerless and divine!
 Not a grove on earth can show us
 Such a leaf and flower as thine.
 Gently, gently bear the members
 Laden with so sweet a load.

Lofty tree, bend down thy branches,
 To embrace thy sacred load;
 Oh, relax the native tension
 Of that all too rigid wood;
 Gently, gently bear the members
 Of thy dying King and God.

Tree of trees, alone found worthy
 Our great Victim to sustain
 Harbor from the raging tempest!
 Ark, that saved the world again!
 Tree, with sacred blood anointed
 Of the Lamb for sinners slain.

Honor, blessing everlasting,
 To th' immortal Deity;
 To the Father, Son, and Spirit,
 Equal praises ever be;
 Glory through the earth and Heaven
 To Trinity in Unity. Amen.

87.87.87

Pange lingua gloriosi, vss. 1, 7-10 & doxology
 by Venantius Fortunatus, c. 580
 Tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878

68. Sunset to Sunrise Changes Now

Midday: Good Friday:

Sunset to sunrise changes now,
For God doth make his world anew;
On the Redeemer's thorn crowned brow
The wonders of the dawn we view.

E'en though the sun withholds its light.
Lo! a more heav'nly lamp shines here,
And from the cross on Calv'ry's height
Gleams of eternity appear.

Here in o'erwhelming final strife
The Lord of life hath victory,
And sin is slain, and death brings life,
And earth inherits heaven's key.

To God the Father glory give
For Jesus Christ his deathless Son,
Who with the Holy Spirit lives
Immortal, and forever One.

L.M.

St. Clement of Alexandria (c 170-200);
para. Howard Chandler Robbins, 1876-1952, alt.
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see *Hymnal 1982*, #163

Holy Saturday

69. Great Silence Reigns On Earth This Day

Lauds & Vespers: Holy Saturday

Great silence reigns on earth this day!
Great loneliness embraces all!
For death has had its ruthless way,
And caught the Lord and Love of all.

But Jesus, gone to darkest hell,
Has entered on the Sabbath Rest,
In which He, with His Father still,
Works mighty wonders for the blest.

His body's vessel smashed apart,
His Life and Love now flood the world
And penetrating to its heart,
Through all the earth whirl up and swirl.

Thus in that darkness, Light shines out,
And those from Adam to the last
Raise up their hands; in joy they shout:
"Behold! the Lord, the First, the Last"

The bonds and gates of hell give way.
A great procession comes to sight.
Who leads them is Himself the Way,
Their goal—Himself, in God's full light.

O may we, Lord, who yet must die,
Who pray awaiting the great Feast
Of your arising from the dead
Be joined with you in endless peace.

L.M.

Colman Grabert, OSB,

© 1972, 1986, Saint Meinrad Archabbey.

70. His Cross Stands Empty

Midday Prayer: Holy Saturday

His Cross stands empty in a world grown silent
Through hours of anguish and of dread;
In stillness earth awaits the resurrection,
While Christ goes down to wake the dead.

He summons Adam and his generations,
Brings light where darkness endless seemed
He frees and claims his own, so long held captive,
Who with the living are redeemed.

With God the Father and the Holy Spirit,
Give praise to Christ the crucified;
Who through the ages seeks to save his lost one:
The sinners all for whom he died

11.8.11.8

Words from Stanbrook Abbey

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Easter

Easter Lauds

71. The Morn Had Spread Her Crimson Rays

Lauds: Easter and the Sundays of Easter 1-5

The morn had spread her crimson rays
When rang the skies with shouts of praise;
Earth joined the joyful hymn to swell
That brought despair to vanquished hell.

While he, the King the mighty King,
Despoiling death of all its sting,
And trampling down the pow'rs of night,
Brings forth his ransomed saints to light.

His tomb of late the threefold guard
Of watch and stone and seal had barred;
But now, in pomp and triumph high,
He comes from death to victory.

The pains of hell are loosed at last;
The days of mourning now are past;
An angel robed in light hath said:
"The Lord is risen from the dead."

With gentle voice the angels gave
The Women tidings at the grave
"Fear not, your master, ye shall see.
He goes before to Galilee."

To thee who dead, again dost live.
All glory, Lord thy people give;
All glory, as is ever meet,
To Father, Son and Paraclete.

L.M.

Aurora lucis rutilat,

Tr. v. 1 Robert Campbell;

vss. 2-6, John Mason Neale, with vs. 6, the doxology,
coming from his translation of *Ad coenam agni providi*.

72. Day of Wonder

Lauds: Mondays of Easter 1-6

Day of wonder, for praise of Christ our King.
Day of gladness, the victor's song we sing.
Day of glory, our glory is in him:
Day of our great joy.

Christ is victor, our blindness has been healed.
Satan's empire of night has been repelled.
Light is shining, the darkness is dispelled.
Day is triumphant.

Peace is fastened between the earth and heav'n.
Hands are whole now in which the nails were driv'n,
Scars revealing the healing that was giv'n
By our Redeemer.

Come now Christians, in song let us applaud,
Storming heaven, the Father's mighty Word,
Who has saved us and harmony restored,
Jesus the Savior.

Joy unbounded will echo through this day.
Sin is conquered and death has lost its sway.
Life once given, his peace will always stay:
He is eternal.

10.10.10.5

Salve, dies dierum gloria, Adam of St. Victor, c. 1170

Tr. Ralph Wright, OSB © St. Louis Abbey, St. Louis, MO.

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73. Let Hymns of Joy to Grief Succeed*Lauds: Tuesdays of Easter 1-6*

Let hymns of joy to grief succeed;
 We know that Christ is risen indeed;
 We hear his white-robed angel's voice,
 And in our risen Lord rejoice.

He comes victorious from the grave,
 The Lord omnipotent to save,
 And brings with him to light of day
 The saints who long imprisoned lay.

With Christ we died, with Christ we rose,
 When at the font his name we chose;
 So by our lives let us proclaim
 A living faith that tells his name.

To God the Father let us sing,
 To God the Son, our risen King,
 And equally let us adore
 The Holy Spirit evermore.

L.M.

Aurora lucis rutilat,

Tr. Robert Campbell, 1868, vss. 1-3, 5, alt.

74. Easter Glory Fills the Sky!*Lauds: Wednesdays of Easter 1-6*

#45 in *Hymns for All Seasons: The Complete Works of James Quinn, SJ*

77.77

James Quinn, SJ, 1919-2010

Published by OCP

75. Bright You Break the Bars of Darkness*Lauds: Thursdays of Easter 1-6*

87.87

Genevieve Glen, OSB.

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Walburga

Published by OCP

76. That Easter Day with Joy was Bright*Lauds: Fridays of Easter 1-6*

That Easter with joy was bright,
 The sun shone out with fairer light,
 When, to their longing eyes restored,
 Th' Apostles saw their risen Lord.

His risen flesh with radiance glowed,
 his wounded hands and feet he showed;
 those scars their solemn witness gave
 that Christ was risen from the grave.

O Jesus, King of gentleness,
 Do Thou Thyself our hearts possess
 That we may give you all our days
 the willing tribute of our praise.

O Lord of all, with us abide
 in this, our joyful Easter;
 from ev'ry weapon death can wield
 Thine own redeemed forever shield.

All praise to Thee, O Risen Lord,
 From death to endless life restored:
 All praise to God the Father be,
 And Holy Spirit ceaselessly.

L.M.

From *Claro paschali gaudio* Part II of *Aurora lucis rutilat*
 in *Hymnologia Christiana*, #691,
 Tr. John Mason Neale, vss. 1-4 alt.;
 v. 5, doxology from his "O Thou, the World's Redeeming
 Lord" in *Hymnologia Christiana*, #848, alt.

77. Hail, Easter Morn, in Glory Bright!

Lauds: Saturdays of Easter 1-6

Hail, Easter morn, in glory bright!
Ye heavens, laugh and sing:
Since Christ our light uprose by night,
Let praises greet the King.

The work of death has been reversed
By Jesus' victory;
And mortals from their prison burst
To his new life, and free.

Was ever such a battle won?
By loss, the victor's gain:
And he who held the reed of scorn,
A scepter doth obtain.

Then sing of him who rose from death,
Sing forth with heart and voice!
In Christ, our sun, our life, our light,
Let earth and heav'n rejoice.

To God the Father glory give
For Christ his deathless Son,
Who with the Holy Spirit lives
Immortal, ever one.

C.M.

Daniel's Thesaurus Hymnologicus, c. 1530,
Tr. George Radcliffe Woodward 1848-1934 & Editors of
New English Hymnal

Easter Midday Prayer

78. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Midday Prayer: Sundays & Thursdays Easter

Refrain:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Verses:

Praise we in songs of victory
That love, that life which cannot die,
And sing with hearts uplifted high: Alleluia.

Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
And sing today with one accord
The life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia.

To God the Father, God the Son,
To God the Spirit, always One,
We sing for life in us begun: Alleluia.

8.8.8 with allelulias

Cyril A. Alington, 1872-1955;

© 1958, Ren. 1986 by Hope Publishing Company.

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays of Easter 1-6

On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays of Easter 1-6, the midday hymns for Ordinary Time are used.

79. The Lord is Risen Indeed!*Midday Prayer: Tuesdays of Easter*

The Lord is risen indeed;
 Now is his work performed;
 Now is the mighty captive freed,
 And death's strong castle stormed.

The Lord is risen indeed;
 Then hell has lost his prey;
 With him is risen the ransomed seed:
 To reign in endless day.

The Lord is risen indeed;
 He lives, to die nor more;
 He lives, the sinner's cause to plead,
 Whose curse and shame he bore.

S.M.

Thomas Kelly, 1769-1844

80. Living Lord, Our Praise We Render*Midday Prayer: Saturdays of Easter*

Living Lord, our praise we render!
 His the blood for sinners shed.
 In the Father's power and splendor
 Christ is risen from the dead.

Death's dominion burst and broken
 by that Life which no more dies;
 we to whom the Lord has spoken,
 one with Christ, in freedom rise.

One with Christ, both dead and risen;
 dead to self and Satan's claim,
 raised from death and sin's dark prison,
 born of God through Jesus' Name.

87.87

Timothy Dudley-Smith, *Collected Hymns 1961-1983*, p.
 106, © 1984 Hope Publishing Company

The text: <https://www.hopepublishing.com/find-hymns-hw/hw2117.aspx#FullDescription>

Easter Vespers

81. Sing, Choirs of New Jerusalem

1st Vespers of Sunday: Easter 1-5

Sing, choirs of New Jerusalem;
with solemn joy, sing this new hymn,
for Christ has by his Cross released
the world to share his paschal feast.

Unconquered, Judah's Lion roars
and o'er the ancient dragon soars
as he with loud and thund'rous cries
calls forth the dead with him to rise.

What hungry hell had swallowed whole
is wrenched from death, as was foretold,
with every captive now set free
to follow Christ in victory.

Triumphant, Christ is raised on high,
His splendor filling earth and sky.
He joins the heights and depths as one
as here on earth his Kingdom comes.

To unknown ages Christ proclaim
and tell the glory of his name:
To Father, Son and Spirit be
all honor, might and majesty.

L.M.

Chorus novae Ierusalem

by Fulbert of Chartres, 952-1028

Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB.

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82. The Lamb's High Banquet

2nd Vespers of Sundays of Easter 1-5

The Lamb's high banquet we await
In snow-white robes of royal state,
And now, the Red Sea's channel past,
To Christ, our Prince, we sing at last.

Upon the altar of the Cross
His Body hath redeemed our loss,
And tasting of his precious Blood,
Our life is hid with Christ in God.

That Paschal eve God's arm was bared,
The devastating angel spared;
By strength of hand our hosts went free
From Pharaoh's ruthless tyranny.

Now Christ our Passover is slain,
The Lamb of God that knows no stain,
The true Oblation offered here
Our own unleavened Bread sincere.

Creation's Author, now we pray
Fulfil in us thy joy today;
When death assails, grant, Lord, that we
May share thy Paschal victory.

To thee who, dead, again dost live,
All glory, Lord, thy people give,
All glory to the Father be
And spirit blest, eternally. Amen.

L.M.

Ad coenam agni providi,

Tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866.

83. Christ is Risen! Alleluia!*Vespers: Mondays in Easter 1-6*

Christ is risen! Alleluia!
 Christ the first born of the dead.
 All creation, Alleluia!
 Hails him as its fountainhead.
 Christ the Victor! Alleluia!
 Truly risen as he said.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!
 By his glorious wounds made known.
 Stone rejected, Alleluia!
 Christ, the perfect cornerstone.
 Grace abounding, Alleluia!
 All depends on Christ alone.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!
 Death by life has been defined.
 Random patterns, Alleluia!
 Bear his hallmark and design.
 Christ the image, Alleluia!
 Truly human and divine.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!
 Measure of infinity.
 Christ discloses, Alleluia!
 Chaos as simplicity,
 Drawing all things, Alleluia!
 Strangely to his sovereignty.

87.87.87

Harry Hagan, OSB

© 2002, Saint Meinrad Archabbey.

84. Christ the Lord is Risen Again*Vespers: Tuesdays in Easter 1-6*

Christ the Lord is risen again;
 Christ has broken every chain!
 Hark, the angels shout for joy,
 Singing evermore on high: Alleluia!

Christ who gave for us his life,
 Who for us endured the strife,
 Is our Paschal Lamb today.
 We, too, sing for joy and say: Alleluia!

Christ who bore all pain and loss
 Comfortless upon the cross,
 Lives in glory now on high,
 Pleads for us and hears our cry: Alleluia!

He who slumbered in the grave
 Is exalted now to save,
 Now through Christendom it rings
 That the Lamb is King of kings. Alleluia!

Hymns of Glory, songs of praise,
 Father unto thee we raise:
 Risen Lord, all praise to thee
 With the Spirit ever be. Alleluia!

77.77

Christus is erstanden, Michael Wisse, c1480-1534

Tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1858)

85. Vespers Wednesday:

86. Wk 1, 3, 5:

The Lamb's High Banquet We Await

Cf. Sunday 2nd Vespers

87. Wk 2, 4, 6:

Sing, Choirs of New Jerusalem

Cf. Sunday 1st Vespers

88. Daylight Fades in Days

Vespers: Thursdays of Easter 1-6

Text : Worship (3rd edition), 448. Daylight Fades

87.87

Peter J. Scagnelli

© Peter J. Scagnelli

89. O Thou the Heaven's Eternal King

Vespers: Friday in Easter 1-6

O Thou, the heavens' eternal King,
Creator, unto Thee we sing,
With God the Father ever One,
Co-equal, co-eternal Son.

Eternal Shepherd, Thou art wont
To cleanse thy people at the font,
That mystic bath, that grave of sin,
Where ransomed souls new life begin.

Redeemer, Thou for us didst deign
To hang upon the cross of pain,
And give for us the lavish price,
Of Thine own blood in sacrifice.

Grant Lord in Thee each faithful mind
Unceasing Paschal joy may find;
And from the death of sin set free
Souls newly born to life in thee.

To Thee once dead who now dost live,
All glory, Lord, thy people give,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Holy Spirit ever more.

L.M.

Rex æterne Domine

Tr. *Hymns Ancient & Modern* as used by Saint Meinrad.

Ascension

90. The Source of All Our Life

1st & 2nd Vespers: Ascension

The source of all our life is Christ,
Our love and joy, our only worth,
Who formed the world as mighty God,
In promised time was born on earth.

What selfless love possessed your heart
That you should bear our sinful deeds
And die in pain and agony
That we from certain death be freed.

You crushed the grip of slavish sin
And set a captive people free
As victor now in ev'ry way
Your Father's joy alone you see!

The strength of kindly love alone
Urged on your struggle o'er our sins;
As gracious brother giving aid,
Your grace our sole allegiance wins.

O Christ, you are our joy of life,
Our present striving's future goal.
May all our glory be in you,
As years on years our ages roll.

L.M.

Jesu, nostra redemption,

Tr. Basil Mattingly, OSB (?)

© 1967, Saint Meinrad Archabbey.

91. See, the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph

Lauds of Ascension

See, the Conqueror mounts in triumph;
See the King in royal state,
Riding on the clouds, his chariot,
To his heavenly palace gate.

Hark, the choirs of angel voices
Joyful alleluias sing,
And the portals high are lifted
To receive their heavenly King.

Who is this that comes in glory,
With the trumpet's-jubilee?
Lord of battles, God of armies,
He has gained the victory.

He who on the cross did suffer,
He who from the grave arose,
He has vanquished sin and Satan;
He by death has spoiled His foes.

While He lifts His hands in blessing,
He is parted from His friends;
While their eager eyes behold Him,
He upon the clouds ascends.

You have raised our human nature
On the clouds to God's right hand;
There we sit in heavenly places,
There with you in glory stand.

Glory be to God the Father;
Glory be to God the Son,
Glory to the Holy Spirit!
To our God, Three Persons One.

87.87

Christopher Wordsworth, 1862, alt.

92. The Lord Goes Up with Shouts of Joy

Midday Prayer: Ascension

The Lord goes up with shouts of joy,
While trumpets all his triumph tell;
With him humanity is raised
Above angelic worlds two dwell.

He sits with God, at his right hand,
Who is the Lord of ev'rything;
The Father's glory is his own:
Christ Jesus all creation's king.

And when he comes again in might,
To raise us on that splendid day,
We shall be gathered up to him
And ev'ry tear be wiped away.

O God, our Father, hear our prayer:
With Christ, our Lord, your only Son,
Send forth the Spirit of your love
To live in us and make us one.

L.M.

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Ascension to Pentecost: Week Seven of Easter

Lauds: Ascension to Pentecost

The Conqueror Mounts in Triumph

Lauds: Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Cf. Ascension Lauds

The Source of All Our Life Is Christ

Lauds: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

Cf. Ascension Vespers

Midday Prayer: Ascension to Pentecost

The Lord Goes Up with Shouts of Joy

Noon Prayer: Monday and Thursday of Week 7

Cf. Ascension Midday

93. Holy Spirit Come Confirm Us

Midday Prayer: Tuesday and Friday of Week 7

Cf. Pentecost Midday

87.87

Brian Foley

Published by OCP

94. Spirit, Come, Dispel Our Sadness

Midday Prayer: Wednesday and Saturday

Spirit, come, dispel our sadness;
Pierce the clouds of nature's night;
Come, great Source of joy and gladness,
Breathe Your life, and spread Your light.

From the height which knows no measure,
As a gracious show'r descend,
Bringing down the richest treasure
We could wish, or God can send

Author of the new creation,
Come with blessings and with pow'r.
Make our hearts Your habitation;
On our souls Your graces show'r.

Hear, O hear our supplication,
Blesséd Spirit, God of peace!
Rest upon this congregation,
With the fulness of your grace.

87.87

Paul Gerhardt in *Praxis pietatis melica*, 1648

Tr. John C. Jacobi, 1670-1750, alt.

Vespers: Ascension to Pentecost

Come, Spirit, Come, Creator Blest

Hymn for 1st and 2nd Vespers of Pentecost

95. Spirit of the Lord, Come Down

Vespers: Tuesday and Thursday of Week 7 of Easter

Spirit of the Lord, come down,
Spreading your protective wing
Over all that you have made,
Over ev'ry living thing.

Come in storm-wind, cleansing fire,
Sweeping through a world unclean;
Come in ev'ry gentle breeze:
Breath of God, unheard, unseen.

Father of the poor, come down,
In your sight our sins lay bare;
What is naked clothe with love,
That your likeness we may wear.

Holy Spirit, blessed Light,
Guide and strengthen mind and will.
Comfort ev'ry grieving heart,
And our inmost being fill.

Through the Father and the Son
By whose blood our life was bought,
Fill our empty hands with gifts:
Come with grace unearned, unsought.

77.77

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96. O Holy Spirit, by Who Breath

Vespers: Wednesday of Week 7 of Easter

L.M.

Veni Creator Spiritus, attr. Rabanus Maurus

Tr. by John W. Grant

© 1971 by John W. Grant. GIA (cf. *Worship IV*, #475)

97. Creator Spirit, Lord of Grace

Vespers: Friday of Week 7 of Easter

#37 in *Hymns for All Seasons: The Complete Works of James Quinn, SJ*

L.M.

Veni Creator Spiritus, attr. Rabanus Maurus,

Tr. James Quinn, SJ 1919-2010.

Published by OCP

Pentecost

98. Come, Spirit, Come, Creator Blest

1st & 2nd Vespers of Pentecost

Come, Spirit, come! Creator blest,
and in our hearts take up Thy rest;
come with Thy grace and heav'nly aid,
To fill the hearts which Thou hast made.

O Comforter, to Thee we cry,
Thou heav'nly gift of God most high,
O fount of life! O fire of love!
and sweet anointing from above.

O healing touch of God's right hand
pour out thy gifts on every land.
True promise of the Father's Word,
May all and every plea be heard.

Thy light to every sense impart,
and shed thy love in every heart;
thine own unfailing might supply
for we upon thy strength rely

Drive far away our ancient foe,
and thine abiding peace bestow;
if thou be our unfailing Guide,
so shall the world be sanctified.

Praise we the Father and ere: Son
and Holy Spirit with them One;
and may the Son on us bestow
the gifts that from the Spirit flow.

87.87.87

Veni Creator Spiritus,

Vss. 1-2, 4-6, tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878, alt.

Vs. 3, tr. Harry Hagan, OSB

99. Rejoice! The Year Upon Its Ways

Pentecost Lauds

Rejoice! the year upon its way:
Has brought again that blessed day,
When on the Church by Christ the Lord
The Holy Spirit was outpoured.

From out the heavens a rushing noise
Came like the tempest's sudden voice,
And mingled with the Apostles' prayer,
Proclaiming loud that God was there.

Like quivering tongues of light and flame,
Upon each one the Spirit came:
Tongues, that the earth might hear their call,
And fire, that love might burn in all.

And so to all were spread abroad
The wonders of the works of God;
They knew the prophet's word fulfilled,
And owned the gift which God had willed.

Look down, most gracious God, this day
Upon thy people as they pray;
And Christ the Lord upon us pour
The Spirit's gift forever more.

To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, praise be done;
May Christ the Lord upon us pour
The Spirit's gift forever more.

L.M.

Beata nobis gaudia

Tr. R. Ellis Roberts, 1879-1953, in *The English Hymnal, 1906*

Spirit, Come, Dispel our Sadness

Pentecost Midday Prayer

Cf. Week 7, Midday, Wednesday & Saturday

Ordinary Time

Lauds: Week I in Ordinary Time, Fall and Winter Cycle

100. On This Day, the First of Days

Lauds: Sunday of Week I, Fall and Winter

On this day, the first of days,
God our maker's name we praise;
Who, creation's Lord and spring,
Did the world from darkness bring.

On this day th' eternal Son
Over death his triumph won;
On this day the Spirit came
With the gifts of living flame.

Word made flesh, all praise to Thee!
Thou from sin hast set us free;
And with Thee we die and rise
Unto God in sacrifice.

Holy Spirit, thou impart
Gifts of love to ev'ry heart;
Give us light and grace, we pray,
Fill our hearts this holy day.

God, the blessed Three in One,
May Thy holy will be done;
In Thy Word our souls are free,
And we rest this day with Thee.

77.77

Die parente temporum, LeMans Breviary, 1748,
Tr. Henry W. Baker

101. Lo! The Dim Shadows

Lauds: Monday of Week I, Fall and Winter

Lo, the dim shadows of the night are waning;
Radiantly glowing, dawn of day returneth;
Fervent in spirit, to the mighty Father
Pray we devoutly.

So shall our Maker, of His great compassion,
Banish all sickness, kindly health bestowing;
And may He grant us, of a Father's goodness,
Mansions in heaven.

This be our portion, God for ever blessed,
Father eternal, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Whose is the glory which through all creation
Ever resoundeth. Amen.

11.11.11.5

Ecce jam noctis tenuatur umbra, 11.11.11.5
Tr. Maxwell Julius Blacker, 1822-1888

102. Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies*Lauds: Tuesday of Week I, Fall and Winter*

Christ whose glory fills the skies,
 Christ, the true, the only Light,
 Sun of Righteousness, arise!
 Triumph o'er the shades of night:
 Dayspring from on high be near;
 Daystar in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
 Unaccompanied by thee:
 Joyless is the day's return,
 Till thy mercy's beams I see;
 Till they inward light impart,
 Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine!
 Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!
 Fill me, radiance divine,
 Scatter all my unbelief;
 More and more thyself display,
 Shining to the perfect days.

77.77.77

Charles Wesley, 1740

103. Lord in Thy Name Thy People Meet*Lauds: Wednesday of Week I, Fall and Winter*

Lord in Thy Name Thy people meet
 All thanks to Thine abundant grace!
 With rev'rent fear we worship Thee
 In this Thy chosen dwelling place.

Attend when unto Thee we pray;
 Each silent supplication heed;
 O God and King, hear our appear
 And aid us in our time of need.

To all the righteous Thou dost grant
 Rich blessings from Thy boundless store,
 with Thy mercy gird us round;
 Thy favor shield us evermore.

Give ear to us this morning hour
 And hearken to our fervent cry.
 Our needs are told, and now we wait
 Thy gracious answer from on high.

May all who love thy holy Name
 Sing praise to Thee with gladsome voice;
 Let all who build their trust on Thee
 Now magnify Thee, and rejoice.

L.M.

The Scottish Metrical Psalter, 1650, L.M.
 based on Ps 5.

104. Praise the God of Our Salvation*Lauds: Thursday of Week I, Fall and Winter*

Praise the God of our salvation,
 all life long your voices raise,
 stir your hearts to adoration,
 set your souls to sing his praise!

Turn to him, his help entreating;
 only in his mercy trust:
 human pomp and power are fleeting;
 mortal flesh is born for dust.

Thankful hearts his praise have sounded
 down the ages long gone by:
 happy they whose hopes are founded
 in the God of earth and sky!

Faithful Lord of all things living,
 by his bounty all are blest;
 bread to hungry bodies giving,
 justice to the long-oppressed.

For the strength of our salvation,
 light and life and length of days,
 praise the King of all creation,
 set your souls to sing his praise!

87.87

Timothy Dudley-Smith, based on Psalm 146

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Text: <https://www.hopepublishing.com/find-hymns-hw/hw2179.aspx>

105. Transcendent God in Whom We Live*Lauds: Friday of Week I, Fall and Winter*

Transcendent God in whom we live
 The resurrection and the light;
 We sing for you a morning hymn
 To end the silence of the night.

When early dawn begins to show
 And everything from sleep awakes
 New life and hope spring up again,
 While out of darkness color breaks.

Creator of all things that are,
 The measure and the end of all,
 Forgiving God, forgive our sins
 And hear our prayer before we call.

Praise Father, Son and Spirit, One,
 Blest Trinity and source of grace
 Who call us forth from nothingness
 To find in your our resting place.

L.M.

Words from Stanbrook Abbey

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106. From the Night of Ages Waking

Lauds: Saturday of Week I, Fall and Winter

From the night of ages waking
morning comes to heart and mind,
day of grace in splendour breaking,
mists and shadows fall behind;
in the brightness of his glory
Christ the Light of life has shined.

Christ in light immortal dwelling,
Word by whom the worlds were made;
Light of lights, our dark dispelling,
Lord of lords in light arrayed;
in the brightness of his glory
see the Father's love displayed.

Risen Lord in radiance splendid,
Christ has conquered Satan's sway;
sin and shame and sorrow ended,
powers of darkness flee away;
in the brightness of his glory
walk as children of the day.

Light to lighten every nation,
shining forth from shore to shore,
Christ who won the world's salvation
now let all the earth adore;
in the brightness of his glory
Light of life for evermore.

87.87.87

Timothy Dudley-Smith

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Text: <https://www.hopepublishing.com/find-hymns-hw/hw2059.aspx>

Lauds: Week II in Ordinary Time, Fall and Winter Cycle

107. Day of Wonder,

Lauds: Sundays of Week II, Fall and Winter

Day of wonder, for praise of Christ our King.
Day of gladness, the victor's song we sing.
Day of glory, our glory is in him.
Day of our great joy.

Christ is victor, our blindness has been healed.
Satan's empire of night has been repelled.
Light is shining, the darkness is dispelled.
Day is triumphant.

Peace is fastened between the earth and heav'n.
Hands are whole now in which the nails were driv'n,
Scars revealing the healing that was giv'n
By our Redeemer.

Come, now, Christians, in song let us applaud,
Storming heaven, the Father's mighty Word,
Who has saved us and harmony restored,
Jesus the Savior.

Joy unbounded will echo through this day.
Sin is conquered and death has lost its sway.
Life once given, his peace will always stay:
He is eternal.

10.10.10.5

Salve dies dierum gloria, Adam of St. Victor, c. 1170

11.11.11.5

Tr. Ralph Wright, OSB

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108. Most Splendid and Resplendent Light

Lauds: Monday of Week II, Fall and Winter

Most splendid and resplendent Light,
O Brilliance overwhelming night,
You bring to light all things concealed;
In you is all the world revealed.

True Light and Bearer of the Light,
True Galaxy beyond all sight,
O Morning Star announcing day,
Revealing all in just one ray.

More glorious than the sun's bright light,
And more mysterious than the night,
You shine within the inmost heart
Revealing all its secret parts.

May our desire with love unite;
Our love reveal your purest light.
Make us glad temples of your praise,
Our lives a mirror of your ways.

O Christ, the uncreated Light,
To you be glory, praise, and might;
The Father's sole begotten Son,
The Spirit's Word: God, Three in One.

L.M.

Lucis largitor splendide, once attr. to St. Hilary of Poitier,
unknown, early 500s AD

Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB

© 1999, Saint Meinrad Archabbey

109. Eternal Light and Source of Light*Lauds: Tuesday of Week II, Fall and Winter*

Eternal Light and Source of light,
 All Light beyond this day and night,
 You show the brightness of each thing,
 And show yourself its source and spring.

No darkness shall your light subdue,
 for darkness is not dark for you.
 You shine with undimmed clarity
 and radiate bright charity.

Lord, let us see the sin and hate,
 The wrongs that wound and desecrate.
 Then give us strength to bear the sight
 and bring this sadness to your light.

May light this day reveal your face
 To every eye of every race
 that we with them from strife set free
 may live in blameless harmony.

Praise God the Father of the Light.
 Praise Christ whose glory gives us sight
 and praise the Spirit, bold and bright,
 One God in whom all worlds unite. Amen

L.M.

Aeterne lucis conditor, unknown, 5th-6th century

Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB

© 2004, Saint Meinrad Archabbey

110. Creator of the Morning Skies*Lauds: Wednesday of Week II, Fall and Winter*

Creator of the morning skies:
 earth turns so that the sun may rise,
 and we now turn again toward you
 that you may rise in us anew.

The palest light the night dispels
 as day's bright beauty it foretells
 and brings new strength for heart and mind
 to make us strong and ever kind.

Your praise the coming day demands
 with love to fill your great command.
 May daylight bring serenity,
 the fruit of peace, to set us free.

As day grows bolder length by length
 so may our faith find strength in strength.
 Let hope new hope in us incite
 and love with love for Christ unite.

Lord God, most good and ever kind!
 How glorious the world's design.
 We praise you, Blessed Trinity,
 who hold all in your unity.

L.M.

Fulgentis auctor ætheris, unknown, 5th-6th century

Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB

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111. As Daylight Fills the Morning Sky*Lauds: Thursday of Week II, Fall and Winter*

As daylight fills the morning sky,
 We lift our hearts to God, Most High,
 That we in all we do or say
 Be kept from hurt and harm this day.

May angry words and foolish fears
 Be exorcized by heartfelt tears.
 Let all extremes and anxious cares
 Be turned and milled by constant prayer.

May God so temper heart and mind
 That we by mercy mercy find.
 Then we like Jacob shall discern
 The middle way of our return.

O may our hearts be chaste and pure
 Our love so strong, our courage sure
 That we may seek but God alone:
 The unseen God in Christ made known.

All praise to God the Father be,
 All praise, eternal Son, to Thee,
 Whom with the Spirit we adore
 Forever and forevermore.

L.M.

Jam lucis orto sidere, unknown, by 8th century
 Vss. 1 (alt.) & 5 tr. by J. M. Neale (1818-1866);
 vss. 2-4, by Harry Hagan, OSB
 © 2000, Saint Meinrad Archabbey
 Published by OCP

112. Lord God, You Are the Heaven's Light*Lauds: Friday of Week II, Fall and Winter*

Lord God, You are the heaven's light.
 You spread and span the starry night.
 Its countless worlds Your hand has spun:
 each galaxy and fiery sun.

These distant stars the sunrise hides
 with red that floods the eastern skies
 while earth alive appears anew
 as if baptized with morning dew.

Let shadows and despair disperse
 and with them Adam's ancient curse,
 for Christ the Daystar rises clear
 and rouses day to purge all fear.

All Holy God and Day of Days,
 the Light of Light, beyond all praise.
 You hold all things in unity
 all one in your blest Trinity.

Good Savior, hear our prayer and plea,
 accept our oath of fealty
 whom with the Father we adore
 one with the Spirit evermore.

L.M.

Deus, qui caeli lumen es, unknown, 5th-6th century
 Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB
 © 2008, Saint Meinrad Archabbey

113. As Turns the Earth

Lauds: Saturday of Week II, Fall and Winter

As turns the earth, so day returns
and we who live and breathe and yearn
must turn again and sing God's praise
confessing Christ and all his ways.

In Christ, the Father of all things
decreed the laws from which life springs:
the double helix of desire,
the spiral of the Spirit's fire.

This chain of four repeats the bond
that links us to your life beyond;
its turning gyre records your trace:
bright image of our human race.

True Light are you, as we believe,
beyond the light that we perceive;
around your center we revolve
and in your timeless light resolve.

Grant, uncreated Father fair,
that we may gather all in prayer
and bend to Christ this day entire,
encircled by the Spirit's fire.

L.M.

Diei luce reddita, unknown, 7th-8th century

Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB

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Lauds: Week I in Ordinary Time, Summer Cycle

114. The First of All the Days of Time

Lauds: Sunday of Week I, Summer Cycle

The first of all the days of time,
The day that darkness lost its dread
Becomes the everlasting day
The firstborn rose of all the dead.

So we arise again, alert,
Renewed by salutary sleep
To gird ourselves for life ahead,
Your loving covenant to keep.

Your Holy Spirit gives the words
To psalms and canticles we pray;
Give us this day our daily need
To join our hearts to what we say.

Grant, loving Father, what we ask,
Addressed to you, his loving Son,
Who, with the Spirit Paraclete,
Has gathered us to make us one.

L.M.

Primo dierum omnium, unknown, 6th-7th century

Tr. Basil Mattingly, OSB (?)

© 1967, Saint Meinrad Archabbey

115. Lord, Thee I Seek at Break of Day

Lauds: Monday of, Week I, Summer Cycle

Lord, Thee I seek at break of day
For my whole being thirsts for Thee,
As in a parched and weary land
Wherein no springs of water be.

Grant me the vision of Thy pow'r;
Reveal the glory of Thy face.
As I have seen Thee heretofore
Within Thy holy dwelling place.

Thy love is more than life to me;
I render Thee all thanks and praise,
And with uplift hand in prayer
Will bless Thee all mine earthly days.

My longing heart is satisfied
With Thy rich bounty. gracious Lord.
And from my lips glad songs arise.
For ever be Thy name adored.

L.M.

The Scottish Metrical Psalter, 1650 on Ps 62

116. Blest Be the Lord our God!

Lauds: Tuesday of Week I, Summer Cycle

#15 in *Hymns for All Seasons: The Complete Works of James Quinn, SJ*

76.76

James Quinn, SJ, 1919-2010

Published by OCP

117. The Herald of the Newborn Day

Lauds: Wednesday of Week I, Summer Cycle

The herald of the newborn day
Now sings of growing light,
Christ stirs our hearts and bids us seize
The passing cup of life.

“Dispel the clinging web of sleep
For I am near,” he calls.
“Love justice; keep a constant watch;
Obey my guiding laws.”

O come, Lord Jesus, we implore
With cries of joy or grief,
We long to pray with vigilance
But we are tired and weak.

So come, Lord, banish sleep, destroy
The fetters that remain,
Then with your gift of light remove
The darkness of our shame.

Most holy Father, grant our prayer
Through Christ your only Son
That in your spirit we may live
A praise you ever One.

C.M.

Ales diei nuntius, Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413
Tr. Ralph Wright, OSB, © St. Louis Abbey. All rights reserved.

118. Darkness Has Faded

Lauds: Thursday of Week I, Summer Cycle

#40 in *Hymns for All Seasons: The Complete Works of James Quinn, SJ*

11.11.11.5

James Quinn, SJ, 1919-2010

Published by OCP

119. It is a Wondrous Thing

Lauds: Friday of Week I, Summer Cycle

It is a wondrous thing
To glorify and praise
Our God, the everlasting word,
And Lord of endless days.

The trembling cherubim
Bow low and fold their wings,
And all the heav'nly hosts adore
The mighty King of kings.

We would our off'ring give.
O Christ to thee we pray,
For thou didst break the bands of death
When dawn the glorious day.

To thee, O Three in One, original To Thee,
Thou Three in One
Ascend our songs divine;
One pow'r, one kingdom without end,
And one dominion thine.

O Christ, the source of light,
With light our souls inspire;
Come, make our hearts the bright abode
Of thy celestial fire.

S.M.

John Brownlie (1857-1925) from *Hymns of the Greek Church*, 1900

120. From All That Dwell Below the Skies

Lauds: Saturday of Week I, Summer Cycle

From all that dwell below the skies,
Let the Creator's praise arise;
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
Through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue.

Eternal are Thy mercies Lord;
Eternal truth attends Thy Word;
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore
Till suns shall rise and set no more.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

L.M.

Words: vss. 1-2, Isaac Watts, 1719;
vs. 3, Thomas Ken, 1674

Lauds for Week II, Summer Cycle

121. Day of Wonder

Lauds: Sundays of Week II, Fall and Winter

Day of wonder, for praise of Christ our King.
Day of gladness, the victor's song we sing.
Day of glory, our glory is in him.
Day of our great joy.

Christ is victor, our blindness has been healed.
Satan's empire of night has been repelled.
Light is shining, the darkness is dispelled.
Day is triumphant.

Peace is fastened between the earth and heav'n.
Hands are whole now in which the nails were driv'n,
Scars revealing the healing that was giv'n
By our Redeemer.

Come, now, Christians, in song let us applaud,
Storming heaven, the Father's mighty Word,
Who has saved us and harmony restored,
Jesus the Savior.

Joy unbounded will echo through this day.
Sin is conquered and death has lost its sway.
Life once given, his peace will always stay:
He is eternal.

10.10.10.5

Salve dies dierum gloria, Adam of St. Victor, c. 1170

11.11.11.5

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122. O Splendor of God's Glory Bright

Lauds: Monday of Week II, Summer Cycle

O Splendor of God's glory bright,
O Daystar bringing light from light,
O Light of Light, light's living Spring,
O Day, all days illumining.

O Christ, true Sun, upon us shine,
Enlighten us with light divine.
Send forth the Spirit's piercing rays
To sanctify us for your praise.

May prudence be a lamp and guide,
And justice burn away all pride.
Let common sense like light abound
While courage shines as virtue's crown.

O Christ, be food to make us whole
And faith a cup that overflows;
That we by drinking deep may feel
The Spirit's calm, consuming zeal.

As day from early dawn is born
Come forth, O Christ, our Perfect Morn:
The Word in God the Father One,
The Father perfect in the Son.

L.M.

Splendor paternae gloriae, St. Ambrose

Tr. vss. 1 & 5 by Robert Bridges (1844-1930)

vss. 2-4 by Harry Hagan, OSB

© 2000, Saint Meinrad Archabbey

Published by OCP.

123. How Welcome, Break the Sun's First Rays*Lauds: Tuesday of Week II, Summer Cycle*

How welcome, break the sun's first rays
 that mark again the dawn of praise.
 They clothe with color earth and sky:
 In all things God be glorified!

O Christ, our ancient, living Light,
 with fiery love our lives ignite.
 Make your undying joy our guide:
 In all things God be glorified!

You are the Father's thought and word;
 by you are all earth's wonders stirred
 to shine and draw us to your side:
 In all things God be glorified!

From your clear light give us a share
 that we as heirs may walk and dare
 to let God's grace pervade our lives:
 In all things God be glorified!

Grant all that is entire and whole
 from deep within us overflow.
 Let truth by joy our hearts lift high:
 In all things God be glorified!

To you, our good and godly King,
 the Father's glory we shall sing
 that in your Spirit we may bide:
 In all things God be glorified!

L.M.

Pergrata mundo nuntiat, by Anselmo Lentini, OSB

Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB

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124. Though Darkest Night and Anxious Gloom*Lauds: Wednesday of Week II, Summer Cycle*

Though darkest night and anxious gloom
 would make the earth a restless tomb,
 the first light tells of victory:
 "The Christ! He comes! Let darkness flee!"

The night's foreboding must give way
 when shattered by one piercing ray.
 Then color to all things returns
 as Christ the Day-Star brightly burns.

May we, O Christ, know only you,
 know you with mind both pure and true.
 With heartfelt song we ask in prayer
 to feel your gracious touch and care.

Lord, we by much are **crimson stained**,
 but let your light cleanse us of shame.
 O true celestial Light serene,
 may your bright face in us be seen.

All holy, lightsome Lord of all,
 beyond all measure, great or small.
 Lord God who startle and amaze!
 O Father, Son and Spirit: Praise! Amen.

L.M.

Nox et tenebrae et nubila, by Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413, *Liber Cathemerinon*, Hymn II:1-8,48-49,51,57,59-60,67-68

Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB

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125. Come, Christ, our Sun, in Gold Arise*Lauds: Thursday of Week II, Summer Cycle*

Come Christ, our Sun, in gold arise
 and blind the blindness of our eyes
 until your clearer light remains
 and you alone within us reign.

May your clear light such calm confer,
 a purer self within us stir
 that we may see each shade and hue
 of every color found in you.

All color in your clear, bright light
 from red to deepest blue unite
 and joined as one in just one ray
 reveal your life, your truth, your way.

In your clear light we take our stand
 and pray our hearts with love expand.
 Grant all we speak and breathe and feel
 may radiate your holy zeal.

Praise God Almighty, Light of Light,
 The unseen God who gives us sight.
 To Father, Son and Spirit praise
 who is, who was and is always.

L.M.

Sol ecce surgit igneus, by Aurelius Clemens Prudentius,
 348-c405

Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB

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126. Eternal Glory of the Skies*Lauds: Friday of Week II, Summer Cycle*

Eternal Glory of the skies,
 Blest Hope for us that never dies,
 Resounding Word of God Most High:
 Chaste virgin's offspring, hear our cry.

Give us your hand that we may rise
 with mind uplifted, calm and wise.
 Then we resplendent with your praise
 shall shine with thanks, our hearts ablaze.

The day star, risen bright and clear,
 announces that the dawn is near.
 As fades the darksome shroud of night,
 come, Holy Light, and make us light.

May light pervade our hearts and minds,
 expel the drear and gloom that binds.
 Lord, burn away all sin and shame,
 and make us beacons of your name.

Let faith within our hearts take root
 and bear for us the longed for fruit.
 Let joyful hope great love sustain
 till love of Christ alone shall reign.

How bright the morning majesty
 of God the Holy Trinity.

Praise Father, Son and Spirit: One,
 in whom have life and love begun.

L.M.

Aeterna caeli gloria, unknown, 7th-8th century

Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB

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127. The Early Dawn Spreads East to West

Lauds: Saturday of Week II, Summer Cycle

The early dawn spreads east to west,
and in its light the earth is blest;
with nothing hidden from its rays,
insisting all give thanks and praise.

Let all illusion's form and charm
be banished with its false alarm
that we may see the true and real
revealed in Christ, its pledge and seal.

The rising sun foretells the end
when Christ in glory shall descend
to flood the earth with light so clear
that every truth must then appear.

All praise to God the Father be
and to the Son eternally
with God the Holy Paraclete
in whom all joy shall be complete.

L.M.

Aurora jam spargit, unknown, 7th-8th century

Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB

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Midday Hymns for Week One in Ordinary Time of the Whole Year

128. This Day Our Risen Savior Reigns

Midday: Sunday of Week I

This day our risen Savior reigns,
Creation's undefeated King,
While angels in resplendent light
With mighty voice his triumph sing.

This day the Lord has made his own.
Who broke from his confining grave.
His living presence fills the world
That by his Cross he came to save.

To God the Father glory give
For Jesus Christ his deathless Son,
Who with the Holy Spirit lives
Immortal, and forever One.

L.M.

Words from Stanbrook Abbey

© 1971, Stanbrook Abbey, Wass, York YO61 4AY

129. Come, Holy Spirit Ever One

Midday: Monday of Week I

Come, Holy Spirit ever one
with God the Father and the Son.
Our hearts encompass and possess;
our prayer and work sustain and bless.

May all our thoughts and speech proclaim,
our strength and feeling tell your name
while we by charity aspire
to set our neighbors' love afire.

Through You may we this day receive
the strength to live as we believe
who with the Father and the Son
we worship as the Three in One.

L.M.

Nunc, Sancte, nobis, Spiritus, once attributed to St. Ambrose (c. 339-397), anonymous, very ancient, vs. 1 after John Henry Newman (1801-1890), vss. 2-3, tr. Harry Hagan, OSB
© 2012, Saint Meinrad Archabbey

130. The Sun No More Our Star

Midday: Tuesday of Week I

The sun no more our star by day,
Nor moon our guide by night,
The Lord in glory like the sun,
Our everlasting light.

Such love and mercy never set,
Nor justice ever wanes:
From north to south and east to west
Eternally the same.

All praise to you, who give the day
And turn our work to prayer.
Receive this noonday song of praise
and bless us with your care.

C.M., from Isa 60:19-20,
Harry Hagan, OSB
© 1995, Saint Meinrad Archabbey
Published by OCP

131. O God of Truth, O Lord of Might

Midday: Wednesday of Week I

O God of Truth, O Lord of Might,
Who order time and change aright,
Who clothe the splendid morning ray
And give the heat at noon of day.

Extinguish now each sinful fire,
And banish ev'ry ill desire;
And while you keep our bodies whole,
Shed forth your peace upon our souls.

Almighty Father, hear our cry,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord Most High,
Whom in the Spirit we adore,
Who reigns with you forever more.

L.M.
Rector potens, verax Deus, unknown, very ancient
Compiled by Samuel Weber, OSB, 1989

132. O God, How Wonderful Thou Art

Midday: Thursday of Week I

O God, how wonderful Thou art,
Thy majesty how bright,
How beautiful Thy mercy seat,
In depths of burning light!

How wonderful, how beautiful,
The sight of Thee must be,
Thine endless wisdom, boundless pow'r,
And awesome purity!

Praise Father, Maker of the Day,
And Son, the Cornerstone;
Who with the Spirit live and love,
One Lord and God alone.

C.M.

vss. 1-2, F.W. Faber, 1814-1863;

v. 3 by Harry Hagan, OSB.

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133. O God, Creation's Secret Force

Midday: Friday of Week I

O God, creation's secret force,
Thyself unmoved, yet motion's source,
Who from the morn till evening's ray
Through ev'ry change dost guide the day:

Grant us, when this short life is past,
The glorious evening that shall last;
That by a holy death attained
Eternal glory may be gained.

Look kindly on our humble plea,
O Living Kindness, One in Three,
Our loving Father, with His Son
And Holy Spirit, making One.

L.M.

Rerum, Deus, tenax virgor, unknown, very ancient

Tr. John Mason Neale, 1851.

revised by Samuel Weber, OSB, 1972

134. O Blessed Lord, Creator God

Midday: Saturday of Week I

O blessed Lord, Creator God,
In you all things are rendered pure,
By you are strengthened to endure.

O blessed, holy hand of God,
All things are sanctified by you;
Adorned, enriched you make them new.

O blessed Majesty of God,
Containing all that you have filled;
All things are done as you have willed.

O blessed holy Trinity,
Serene and certain in your ways;
You are the light of endless days.

8.8.8

Words from Stanbrook Abbey

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Midday Hymns for Week II in Ordinary Time for the Whole Year

135. The Everlasting Lord is King

Midday: Sunday of Week II

The everlasting Lord is King,
let ocean find a voice,
her furthest shores his triumph sing
and all the earth rejoice.

He comes in clouds with fire and flame
to make his judgments known;
the mountains tremble at his Name
and melt before his throne.

The sun and moon and starry sky
his glories blaze abroad,
the one eternal God most high,
the true and living Lord.

Defended by his hand divine
his saints secure remain;
for them the light of life shall shine,
the King of love shall reign.

76.76

Timothy Dudley-Smith, based On Psalm 97
© 1988 Hope Publishing Company

Text: <https://www.hopepublishing.com/find-hymns-hw/hw2206.aspx>

136. This Sacred Round of Prayer

Midday: Monday of Week II

This sacred round of prayer we keep
and ask that all we plant and reap
be blessed with glory at this hour
by your transforming triune power.

Make us, your Church, a house of prayer
that in your Spirit we may share
the gifts poured out in tongues of fire
on your apostles at this hour.

All things most splendid you have made,
your kingdom here on earth displayed.
Your gifts outshine the morning sun:
O Father, Son and Spirit, One!

L.M.

Certum tenentes ordinem, anonymous, early 6th century
Anselmo Lentini, OSB suggests that it is probably part of
a larger poem made up of *Dicamus laudes Domino* and
Ternis horarum terminis.

Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB

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137. O Jesus Ruler Wonderful

Midday: Tuesday of Week II

O Jesus, Ruler, Wonderful,
Our voices let us raise.
We greet you at this midday hour
In goodness and in praise.

Come visit us with your great peace,
And let you light so shine
Within our hearts, that truth and love
May be your gift divine.

We praise you God, the perfect Word,
We praise the Spirit blest,
Who with the Father reigns above:
You are our labor's rest.

C.M.

Jesus rex admirabilis, unknown, 12th-13th century
Tr. Denis Robinson, OSB
© 1997, Saint Meinrad Archabbey.

138. The Spirit's Prompting, Like the Sun

Midday: Wednesday of Week II

The Spirit's prompting, like the sun,
To prayer now gathers us as one,
And all we do, each hope and cry
In Christ the Lamb is lifted high.

Let us, restored by midday grace,
In clearer light now seek the face
Of God mostly humbly manifest
In sister, brother, poor and guest.

O Father, this we ask be done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son,
Whom in the Spirit we adore:
One God who reigns forevermore.

L.M.

Dicamus laudes Domino, unknown, very ancient
Anselmo Lentini, OSB suggests that it is probably part of
a larger poem made up of *Dicamus laudes Domino* and
Ternis horarum terminis.

Tr. Keith McClellan

© 1995, Saint Meinrad Archabbey.

139. Life Giving Word

Midday: Thursday of Week II

#131 in *Hymns for All Seasons: The Complete Works of James Quinn, SJ*

11.11.11.5

James Quinn, SJ, 1919-2010

Published by OCP

140. To Offer Praise We Turn Once More

Midday: Friday of Week II

To offer praise we turn once more
and sing as we have sung before
to You the perfect One and Three:
All gifts flow from Your majesty.

As Peter saw the mystery
of all creation's dignity,
may we Your saving signs behold
as in our midst Your gifts unfold.

United with the Church, we sing
and humbly ask our hymn may bring
your blessing on all we have done:
O Father, Son and Spirit: One.

L.M.

Ternis horarum terminis, unknown

Anselmo Lentini, OSB suggests that it is probably part of
a larger poem made up of *Dicamus laudes Domino* and
Ternis horarum terminis.

Tr. by Harry Hagan, OSB.

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141. Blest Be the Lord Our God

Midday: Saturday of Week II

#15 in *Hymns for All Seasons: The Complete Works of James Quinn, SJ*

S.M.

James Quinn, SJ, 1919-2010

Published by OCP

Vesper Hymns for Week I, Fall and Winter, Cycle

142. Now Fades All Earthly Splendor

1st Vespers of Sunday, Week I, Fall and Winter

#146 in *Hymns for All Seasons: The Complete Works of James Quinn, SJ*

76.76.D

James Quinn, SJ, 1919-2010

Published by OCP

143. Hail Gladsome Light

2nd Vespers of Sunday, Week I, Fall and Winter

Hail Gladsome Light, Lord Jesus Christ,
Light from the Father's glory bright:
the blessed brilliance of God's face,
the radiant light of heaven's grace.

The sunset with its kindly light
points toward a day beyond the night
where twilight yields to pure desire:
the Spirit's chaste, immortal fire.

May we be worthy of this Light:
the Son of God who gives us life.
Then let us with a joyful voice
in Christ, our Gladsome Light, rejoice.

All praise to Christ, the Light from Light.
All glory, majesty, and might
to Father, Son, and Spirit, One,
blest Light beyond the setting sun.

L.M.

Φῶς ἱλαρόν— Phos hilaron

Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB

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144. Now Cheer our Hearts This Eventide

Vespers: Monday of Week I of Fall & Winter

Now cheer our hearts this eventide,
Lord Jesus Christ, and with us bide;
Thou that canst never set in night,
Our heav'nly Sun, our glorious Light.

Whatever sin this day has brought
Whatever harmful word or thought:
We ask Thy mercy wash away
Its blinding pride and willful sway.

Lord, bless the good that from Thee flows
Our works that Thee this day disclose
That each and every deed may tell
That Thou among us move and dwell.

May we and all who bear thy name
By gentle love thy cross proclaim.
Thy gift of peace on earth secure,
And for thy truth the world endure.

This prayer, our ev'ning sacrifice,
We raise to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit evermore.

L.M.

Robert Bridges, vss. 1 and 4; vss. 2-3, 5, Harry Hagan, OSB
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145. Lord Jesus Christ, Abide with Us

Vespers: Tuesday of Week I of Fall & Winter

Lord Jesus Christ abide with us,
Now that the sun has run its course;
Let hope be not obscured by night,
But may faith's darkness be as light.

Lord Jesus Christ, grant us your peace,
And when the trials of earth shall cease,
Grant us the morning light of grace,
The radiant splendor of your face.

Lord Jesus Christ, bestow your grace,
and sanctify all time and space.
As daylight fails, may we secure
the love and life that shall endure

Lord Jesus Christ, all good and wise
let this, our hymn, like incense rise
and render thanks for all you give
as we in you rejoice and live.

Immortal, holy, threefold Light,
Yours be the kingdom, power, and might;
All glory be eternally
To you, life-giving Trinity.

L.M..

Vss. 1, 2, 5, St. Joseph's Abbey, Spencer, MA © 1968
vss. 3-4, Harry Hagan, OSB
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146. Caedmon's Hymn

Vespers: Wednesday of Week I of Fall & Winter

Now praise the Keeper of bright heaven's realm.
Our Maker's matchless might and purpose tell.
Such works the Father of all glory wrought:
This timeless Lord whose wonders pass all thought.

This holy Framer first for us did form
The sky above a roof, then earth a floor
Where we, once formed of breath and dust, adore
This mighty God, our Guard, and timeless Lord.

When light from dark God's Word did first divide
and set the sun and moon to rule and guide,
each plant and tree with every beast proclaimed
how good this earth that our good God has framed.

And even in the garden when they fell,
began the plan for Christ with us to dwell
that through his peerless Cross, that precious Tree
should come our share in his divinity.

Now praise the Keeper of bright heaven's realm.
Our Maker's matchless might and purpose tell.
Such works the Father of all glory wrought:
This timeless Lord whose wonders pass all thought.

10.10.10.10

Nunc laudare debemus / Nu scylun hergan, by the monk
Caedmon given by St. Bede the Venerable in his *Historia
ecclesiastica gentis Anglorum*,
vss 1-2, tr. Harry Hagan, OSB with vss. 3 & 4 added.
© 2003, 2019, Saint Meinrad Archabbey

147. Where True Love is Dwelling

Vespers: Wednesday of Week I of Fall & Winter

#223 in *Hymns for All Seasons: The Complete Works of
James Quinn, SJ*

11.11.11.11

vss. 1, 3-5 by James Quinn, SJ, 1919-2010

Published by OCP

v. 2 by Justin Duvall, OSB, alt.

Christ binds us together Now at eventide.
His undying vict'ry Is our lamp and guide
As night's deep'ning shadows Overtake the day,
Christ's abiding presence Lights the narrow way.

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148. O Cross of Christ, Immortal Tree

Vespers: Friday of of Week I of Fall & Winter

O Cross of Christ, immortal tree
On which our Saviour died,
The world is sheltered by your arms
That bore the Crucified.

From bitter death and barren wood
the tree of life is made;
Your branches bear unfailing fruit
And leaves that never fade.

O faithful Cross, you stand unmoved
While ages run their course;
Foundation of the universe,
Creation's binding force.

O wondrous Cross, undying light,
As evening shadows grow,
You keep the world from lasting dark
And timeless light foreshow.

Give glory to the risen Christ
And to his Cross give praise,
The sign of God's unfailing love,
The hope of all our days.

C.M.

Words from Stanbrook Abbey

©1974, Stanbrook Abbey, Wass, York YO61 4AY

v. 4 by Justin Duvall, OSB

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Vesper Hymns for Week II in Ordinary Time, Summer, Fall & Winter Cycles

149. O Splendid Light, O Trinity

1st Vespers of Sunday, Week II for Summer, Fall & Winter

O Splendid Light, O Trinity
 Three personed love and unity,
 As now the fiery sun departs
 We seek thy* light to fill our hearts.

To Thee* at dawn we sing our praise;
 To Thee* are evening prayer we raise:
 To Thee* our sacred hymns ascend
 As fervent hearts and voices blend.

O Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
 To Thee* be every prayer addressed;
 One God, Three Persons, we adore,
 Before and now and evermore.

L.M.

O lux beata Trinitas, unknown, 7th-8th century

Attr. St. Gregory the Great (540-604)

Tr. Keith McClellan

© 1994, Saint Meinrad Archabbey

150. O Holy Splendor Mystr'y Bright

2nd Vespers of Sunday, Week II for Summer, Fall & Winter

O holy splendor, mystr'y bright,
 Creator of resplendent light,
 Who from abyss of dark and cold,
 Bring days and wonders manifold.

Who send the dawn, your morning gift,
 The sad and sleepy heart to life,
 And build its brightness through the day
 To light the straight and narrow way.

As looming dark renews our fears
 We come to you in prayer and tears,
 To grieve our sins and seek the Light
 That drives away the endless night.

O hear us knock at Wisdom's gate,
 And make us watchful as we wait,
 That when the night of dark is done
 Our dawn will be the Risen One.

O Father, this we ask be done
 Through Jesus Christ, your only Son,
 Whom in the Spirit we adore:
 One God who reigns for evermore.

L.M.

Lucis Creator optime, by 6th-7th century

Attr. St. Gregory the Great (540-604)

Tr. Keith McClellan

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151. O Good Creator, God Most High

Vespers: Monday of Week II for Summer, Fall & Winter

O Good Creator, God Most High
 Who spread the ocean of the sky,
 And with a word of thund'ring force,
 Divide chaotic water's course.

Who give the rains a lofty place
 And guide the rivers as they race,
 That flowing waters be at hand
 To save the scorched and thirsty land.

O flood us from your font above
 With living waters of your love,
 To bathe in grace the wounded part
 Of every troubled human heart.

Restore our weak and weary sight
 In streams of faith's abundant light,
 And turn our quest for passing things
 To thirst for everlasting springs.

O Father, this we ask be done
 Through Jesus Christ, your only Son,
 Whom in the Spirit we adore:
 One God who reigns forevermore. Amen

L.M.

Immense caeli conditor, by 6th-7th century

Attr. St. Gregory the Great (540-604)

Tr. Keith McClellan

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152. O Mighty Maker of the Land

Vespers: Tuesday of Week II for Summer, Fall & Winter

O mighty Maker of the land,
 Who part the ocean with your hand,
 And from the floor of swirling sea
 The firm and fertile earth set free.

Who fill the solid ground with seed
 Of plants to nourish every need,
 And give them buds and tender shoots
 To bear green herbs and pleasant fruits.

Make now our hearts a spacious field
 And cause their hardened ways to yield,
 That filled with Christ the Sower's word,
 Our deeds may show what we have heard.

Shine bright on us your radiant face;
 Send down the healing dew of grace;
 And grant to us the joy untold:
 To reap the promised hundredfold.

O Father, this we ask be done
 Through Jesus Christ, your only Son,
 Whom in the Spirit we adore:
 One God who reigns forevermore. Amen

L.M.

Telluris ingens conditor, by 6th-7th century

Attr. St. Gregory the Great (540-604)

Tr. Keith McClellan

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153. O God Most Holy, God Most High

Vespers: Wednesday of Week II for Summer, Fall & Winter

O God most holy, God most high,
Who spread the splendor of the sky,
And paint its spacious canvas bright
With shining stars and fiery light.

Who give the blazing sun a throne,
Its course from east to west make known,
And set the moon and stars on ways
That mark the seasons, months, and days.

Grant us, as signs of night return,
Your just and faithful ways to learn,
That as we gaze on darkened skies
Our hope, the light of Christ, will rise.

O let the Sun of Justice reign
To shatter every earthly chain,
And make our wounded world within
Resplendent with your grace again.

O Father, this we ask be done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son,
Whom in the Spirit we adore:
One God who reigns forevermore. Amen

L.M.

Caeli Deus sanctissime, by 6th-7th century
Attr. St. Gregory the Great (540-604)
Tr. Keith McClellan
© 1994, Saint Meinrad Archabbey

154. O God of Pow'r and Matchless Force

Vespers: Thursday of Week II for Summer, Fall & Winter

O God of pow'r and matchless force,
Who set the waters in their course
And draw from raging ocean strife
A world of fresh and fertile life.

Who freely fill the sea and sky
With fish to swim and birds to fly,
and give to each its proper place
To leap and sing before your face.

Grant us, your new creation here,
Adrift in chaos, sin, and fear,
To see our anchor in the flood
Of life that comes from Jesus' blood.

O Father, this we ask be done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son,
Whom in the Spirit we adore:
One God who reigns forevermore. Amen

L.M.

Magne Deus potentiae, by 6th-7th century
Attr. St. Gregory the Great (540-604)
Tr. Keith McClellan
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155. O God Who Made the Human Race

Vespers: Friday of Week II for Summer, Fall & Winter

O God who make the human race
To bear the image of your face,
And cause each beast and creeping thing
From womb of mother earth to spring.

Who ask that man and woman share
Your holy task to rule and care,
And ev'ry crea-ture, great and small,
Obey your word and live your law.

Grant us, your children, born above
To fix our gaze upon your love,
And guard us from the serpent's charm
That seeks to do us mortal harm.

Renew in us the gifts of grace
That mark the second Adam's race,
And turn our bitter bonds of strife
To partnership of peace and life.

O Father, this we ask be done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son,
Whom in the Spirit we adore:
One God who reigns forevermore.

L.M.

Plasmator hominis, by 6th-7th century

Attr. St. Gregory the Great (540-604)

Tr. Keith McClellan

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Vespers Hymns for Week I in Ordinary Time, Summer Cycle

156. Abide, O Risen Savior

Abide, O risen Savior,
Among us by your grace;
And may your presence lead us
In faith to seek your face.

Abide, O great Redeemer,
Among us by your word;
To light our path and guide us,
In grace and truth restored.

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,
Grant that our love may be
The witness to your Spirit,
A sign that all may see.

Abide, victorious Savior,
Among us as our Lord;
O light of Light unending,
Our God in faith adored.

To Father, Son, and Spirit,
Eternal One in Three,
As was, and is forever,
All praise and glory be.

76.76

St. Joseph's Abbey, Spencer, © 1967

157. Hail Gladsome Light

*2nd Vespers of Sunday, Week II of the Summer Cycle
(the same as the hymn for the Fall & Winter Cycle)*

Hail Gladsome Light, Lord Jesus Christ,
light from the Father's glory bright:
the blessed brilliance of God's face,
the radiant light of heaven's grace.

The sunset with its kindly light
points toward a day beyond the night
where twilight yields to pure desire:
the Spirit's chaste, immortal fire.

May we be worthy of this Light:
the Son of God who gives us life.
Then let us with a joyful voice
in Christ, our Gladsome Light, rejoice.

All praise to Christ, the Light from Light.
All glory, majesty, and might
to Father, Son, and Spirit, One,
blest Light beyond the setting sun.

L.M.

Φῶς ἱλαρόν – *Phos hilaron*

Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB

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158. The Heavens by Your Word

Vespers: Monday of Week I, Summer Cycle

The heavens by your Word were made,
some billion galaxies,
whose fiery mass times light by light
explodes as energy.
When first you spoke, you struck the spark
that loosed this majesty:
a billion, billion racing stars
against the dark set free.

Orion's sword, Magellan's cloud,
the Milky Way in flight,
Andromeda's majestic swirl,
black holes, and bending light.
The planets held by gravity
move round our little sun
while all the universe expands
with time and space as one.

The vastness of this universe,
surpasses our surprise.
Across its countless light years come
the wonders in our skies.
Each quasar like a trillion suns,
each quark the smallest small,
dark matter just beyond our grasp.
The beauty of it all!

Lord, what are we that we can probe
the mystery of your ways?
And what shall we return to you
except this simple praise?
What vastness shall compare with you?
O True Infinity!
What height or depth shall measure you?
Most Blessed Trinity!

C.M.D.

Harry Hagan, OSB

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159. Day is Done

Vespers: Tuesday of Week I, Summer Cycle

#41 in *Hymns for All Seasons: The Complete Works of James Quinn, SJ*

85.85.88.84

James Quinn, SJ, 1919-2010

Published by OCP

160. Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Vespers: Wednesday of Week I, Summer Cycle

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness
and love.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish but naught changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all praise we would render, O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee

11.11.11.11

Walter C. Smith, 1867

**161. Christ, Mighty Savior, Light of All
Creation**

Vespers: Thursday of Week I, Summer Cycle

11.11.11.5

Christe, lux mundi; Mozarabic Rite,

Tr. Alan G. McDougall; rev. Anne K. LeCroy, b. 1930. ©
1985, GIA Publications

162. Behold, Before Our Wondering Eyes

Vespers: Friday of Week I, Summer Cycle

L.M.

Genevieve Glen, OSB © 1992, 2000

Published by OCP

Compline

163. To You, At This, the Close of Day

Compline Hymn through the year

To You, at this, the close of day,
Creator of all things, we pray
that You, as You are ever kind,
may guard and keep both heart and mind.

Dispel the terror of the night,
and sleepless worry put to flight
that we may find our rest in You
and rise refreshed to serve anew.

Let God be blessed, who gives the night,
revealing ancient worlds of light.
To Father, Son, and Spirit praise:
the Source of all our nights and days.

L.M.

Te lucis ante terminum, unknown, early 500s AD

Tr. Harry Hagan, OSB

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