

**Magnificat ant.** Saint Paul, apostle, preacher of the truth and teacher of the nations, pray for us to God, who chose you.

My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed.  
The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him.  
He puts forth his arm in strength and scatters the proud-hearted.  
He casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly.  
He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty.  
He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy,  
The mercy promised to our fathers, to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Give praise to the Father Almighty, to His Son Jesus Christ our Lord,  
To the Spirit who dwells in our hearts, both now and forever, Amen.

**Magnificat ant.** Saint Paul, apostle, preacher of the truth and teacher of the nations, pray for us to God, who chose you.

#### INTERCESSIONS

Believing that looking to Jesus and listening to Jesus is at the heart of discipleship, we pray to the Father that we may have grace faithfully to follow Jesus.

**Response:** Lord, graciously hear us.

1. For the unity of the Church, Lord hear us: **R.**
2. For all Christians that we may repent and know how close the Kingdom is, Lord hear us: **R.**
3. For the removal of all man-made divisions among the followers of Christ, Lord hear us: **R.**
4. For all who live in darkness, that they may receive Christ's light, Lord hear us: **R.**
5. For ourselves, that we may go from here with new minds and hearts, Lord hear us: **R.**
6. For all who are suffering or are enslaved in any way, that they may be freed by the gospel. Lord, hear us: **R.**
7. *Pause for those who wish to add an intercession*
8. Life was your first gift to us, may those who have died come to its fullness in you. Lord, hear us: **R.**

As we pray for the unity of Christ's family, we offer the family prayer he taught us:  
**OUR FATHER**

#### CONCLUDING PRAYER

Today, Lord, we celebrate the conversion of Saint Paul, your chosen vessel for carrying your name to the whole world. Help us to make our way towards you by following in his footsteps, and by witnessing to your truth before the men and women of our day. We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

#### BLESSING

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. **R. Amen.**

## WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

### Evening Prayer: 25 January THE CONVERSION OF SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE

**V.** O God, come to our aid

**R.** O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia.

#### HYMN: CHRIST BE BESIDE ME

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| 1. Christ be beside me,<br>Christ be before me,<br>Christ be behind me,<br>King of my heart.<br>Christ be within me,<br>Christ be below me,<br>Christ be above me,<br>Never to part. | 2. Christ on my right hand,<br>Christ on my left hand,<br>Christ all around me,<br>Shield in the strife.<br>Christ in my sleeping,<br>Christ in my sitting,<br>Christ in my rising,<br>Light of my life. |
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3. Christ be in all hearts  
Thinking about me,  
Christ be on all tongues  
Telling of me.  
Christ be the vision  
In eyes that see me,  
In ears that hear me

Christ ever be.

#### PSALMODY

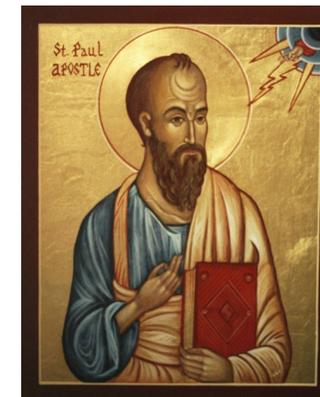
**Ant. 1:** I will freely boast of my weakness, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

#### Psalm 115 (116)

I trústed, éven when I sáid:\*  
'I am sórely afflicted,'  
and when I sáid in my álarm:\*  
'No mán can be trústed.'

How cán I repáy the Lórd\*  
for his góodness to mé?  
The cúp of salvátion I will ráise,\*  
I will cáll on the Lórd's name.

My vóws to the Lórd I will fulfil\*  
befóre all his péople.  
O précious in the éyes of the Lórd\*  
is the deáth of his fáithful.



Your sérvant, Lord, your sérvant am Í,\*  
you have lóosened my bónds.  
A thánksgriving sácrífice I máke:\*  
I will cáll on the Lórd's name.

My vóws to the Lórd I will fulfil\*  
befóre all his péople,  
in the cóurts of the hóuse of the Lórd,\*  
in your mídst, O Jerúsalem.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**Ant:** I will freely boast of my weakness, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

**Ant. 2:** I planted, Apollo watered, but it is God who gave the increase.

### Psalm 125 (126)

When the Lórd delivered Síon from bóndage,\*  
it séemed like a dréam.  
Thén was our móuth filled with láughter,\*  
on our líps there were sóngs.

The héathens themsélves said: 'What márvels\*  
the Lórd worked for thém!'  
What márvels the Lórd worked for ús!\*  
Indéed we were glád.

Delíver us, O Lórd, from our bóndage\*  
as stráams in dry lánd.  
Thóse who are sówing in téars\*  
will sing when they réap.

They go óut, they go óut, full of téars,\*  
cárrying séed for the sówing:  
they come báck, they come báck, full of sóng,\*  
cárrying their shéaves.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**Ant:** I planted, Apollo watered, but it is God who gave the increase.

**Ant. 3:** For me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain; I must glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### God, the Saviour

Canticle: Eph 1:3-10

Blessed be the God and Father\*  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has blessed us in Christ\*  
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

He chose us in him\*  
before the foundation of the world,  
that we should be holy\*  
and blameless before him.

He destined us in love\*  
to be his sons through Jesus Christ,  
according to the purpose of his will, †  
to the praise of his glorious grace\*  
which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

In him we have redemption through his blood,\*  
the forgiveness of our trespasses,  
according to the riches of his grace\*  
which he lavished upon us.

He has made known to us †  
in all wisdom and insight\*  
the mystery of his will,  
according to his purpose\*  
which he set forth in Christ.

His purpose he set forth in Christ,\*  
as a plan for the fullness of time,  
to unite all things in him,\*  
things in heaven and things on earth.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**Ant.** For me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain; I must glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### SCRIPTURE READING

1 Cor 15: 9-10

I am the least of the apostles; in fact, since I persecuted the Church of God, I hardly deserve the name apostle; but by God's grace that is what I am, and the grace that he gave me has not been fruitless. On the contrary, I, or rather the grace of God that is with me, have worked harder than any of the others.

### SHORT RESPONSORY

**R.** I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart. **Repeat R.**  
**V.** I will tell of your name among the peoples. **R.**  
Glory be. **R.**

