

Magnificat ant. Let my soul proclaim your greatness for ever, O my God.

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.

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INTERCESSIONS

Jesus announced the closeness of the Kingdom: God is not distant or disinterested but intimately close to us and we can call on him in all our needs. So now let us pray:

R. Hear our prayer.

1. For the unity of the Church, Lord, in your mercy... **R.**
2. For all Christians that we may repent and know how close the Kingdom is. Lord, in your mercy... **R.**
3. For the removal of all man-made divisions among the followers of Christ. Lord, in your mercy... **R.**
4. For all who live in darkness, that they may receive Christ's light. Lord, in your mercy... **R.**
5. For ourselves, that we may go from here with new minds and hearts. Lord, in your mercy... **R.**
6. For all who are suffering or are enslaved in any way, that they may be freed by the gospel. Lord, in your mercy... **R.**
7. *Pause for those who wish to add an intercession*
8. Welcome the dead into the company of the saints. Lord, in your mercy... **R.**

Let us pray for the coming of God's Kingdom as Jesus Himself taught us to pray:

OUR FATHER

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ,
You said to Your apostles: "*Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you,*" look not upon our sins, but upon the faith of Your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your Kingdom where you live and reign 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 - Monday

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: ALL PEOPLE THAT ON EARTH DO DWELL

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| 1. All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell,
Come ye before him, and rejoice. | 4. For why, the Lord our God is good:
His mercy is for ever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure. |
| 2. The Lord, ye know, is God indeed;
Without our aid he did us make;
We are his folk, he doth us feed,
And for his sheep he doth us take. | 5. To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
The God whom heaven and earth adore,
From men and from the angel-host:
Be praise and glory evermore. |
| 3. O enter then his gates with praise;
Approach with joy his courts unto;
Praise, laud and bless his name always,
For it is seemly so to do. | |

PSALMODY

Ant. 1: You are the fairest of the children of men and graciousness is poured upon your lips.

Royal wedding song

Psalm 44 (45)

Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him (Mt 25:6)

I

My héart overflóws with nóble wórds.
To the kíng I must spéak the sóng I have máde;*
my tóngue as nímble as the pén of a scríbe.

Yóu are the fáirest of the children of mén
and gráciousness is póured upón your líps:*
because Gód has bléssed you for évermóre.

O míghty one, gírd your swórd upon your thíg;
in spléndour and státe, ríde on in tríumph*
for the cáuse of trúth and góodness and ríght.

Take áim with your bów in your dréad ríght hánd.
Your árróws are shárp: peóples fall benéath you.*
The fóes of the kíng fall dówn and lose héart.



Your thróne, O Gód, shall endúre for éver.
A scéptre of jústice is the scéptre of your kíngdom.*
Your lóve is for jústice; your hátréd for évil.

Therefore Gód, your Gód, has anóinted yóu
With the óil of gládnness abóve other kíngs.*
Your róbes are frágrant with áloes and mýrrh.

From the ívory pálace you are gréeted with músic.
The dáughters of kíngs are amóng your lóved ones.*
On your right stands the quéén in góld of Óphir.

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: You are the fairest of the children of men and graciousness is poured upon your lips.

Ant. 2: Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out and meet him.

II

Lísten, O dáughter, give éar to my wórds.*
forgét your own péople and your fáther's hóuse.
Só will the kíng desíre your béauty.*
Hé is your lórd, pay hómage to him.

And the péople of Týre shall cóme with gifts,*
the ríchest of the péople shall séek your fávor.
The dáughter of the kíng is clóthed with spléndour,*
her róbes embróided with péarls set in góld.

She is léd to the kíng with her máiden compánions. †
Théy are escórted amid gládnness and jóy;*
they páss within the pálace of the kíng.

Sóns shall be yóurs in pláce of your fáthers.*
you will máke them prínces over áll the éarth.
May this sóng make your náme for éver remémbered.*
May the péoples práise you from áge to áge.

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: Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out and meet him.

Ant. 3: God planned to bring all things together under Christ when the fullness of time had come.

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. God planned to bring all things together under Christ when the fullness of time had come.

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Thess 2:13

Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it.

SHORT RESPONSORY

R. Let my prayer come before you, O Lord. **Repeat R.**

V. Let it rise in your presence like incense. **R.** Glory be. **R.**

