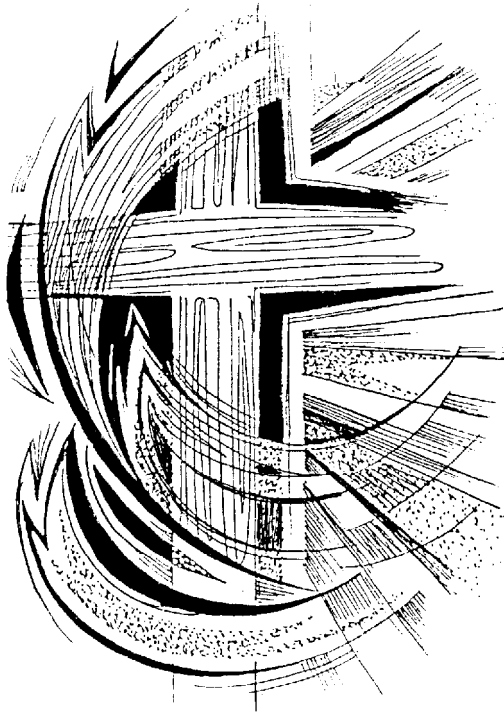


THE OFFICE FOR THE DEAD



LAUDS

BENEDICTINE COMMUNITIES
TURVEY BEDFORDSHIRE

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OFFICE FOR THE DEAD

LAUDS

O Lord, open my lips.

And my mouth shall declare your praise. *(Sung three times)*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be for ever, amen. Alleluia!

INVITATORY

ANTIPHON: Come, let us adore the King for whom all things are alive.

(Sung as refrain)

Psalm 94

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)

A mighty God is the Lord,
a great king above all gods.
In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his.
To him belongs the sea, for he made it
and the dry land shaped by his hands. (R.)

Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)

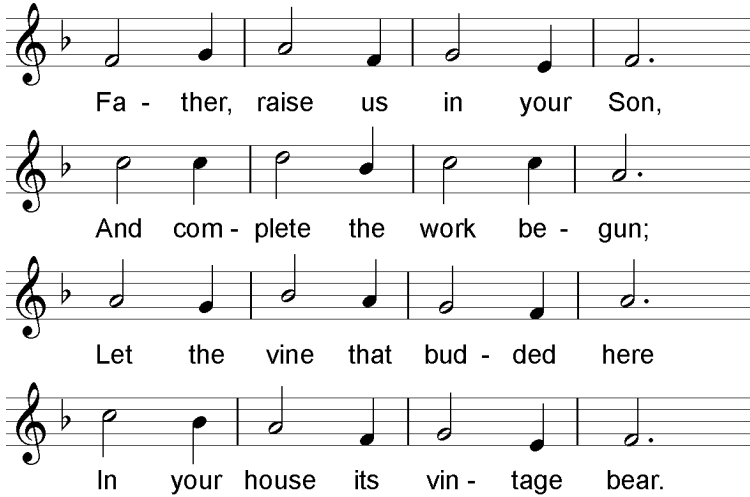
O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work. (R.)

For forty years I was wearied of these people
and I said: "Their hearts are astray,
these people do not know my ways."
Then I took an oath in my anger:
"Never shall they enter my rest." (R.)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be for ever, amen. (R.)

HYMN

Sens, early thirteenth century



Fa - ther, raise us in your Son,
And com - plete the work be - gun;
Let the vine that bud - ded here
In your house its vin - tage bear.

Sin and death that held us bound
In the waters Christ has drowned.
Let us triumph, undismayed,
Seeing sin by grace outweighed.

Time and space had not begun
When you chose us in your Son.
Let your loving Spirit be
Breath of life eternally.

Praise the Father, praise the Son,
Praise the Spirit, ever One;
Endless thanks and glory give
To the Life in whom we live.

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Psalm 116

O praise the Lord, all you nations,
acclaim him, all you peoples!
Strong is his love for us,
he is faithful for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be for ever, amen.

ANTIPHON 1: I tell you * in all truth, whoever keeps my word will never see death.

Psalm 64



To you our praise is due
in Zion, O God.
To you we pay our vows,
you who hear our prayer.

To you all flesh will come
with its burden of sin.
Too heavy for us, our offences,
but you wipe them away.

Blessed is he whom you choose and call
to dwell in your courts.
We are filled with the blessings of your house,
of your holy temple.

You keep your pledge with wonders,
O God our saviour,
the hope of all the earth
and of far distant isles.

You uphold the mountains with your strength,
you are girded with power.
(You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves
and the tumult of the peoples.

The ends of the earth stand in awe
at the sight of your wonders.
The lands of sunrise and sunset
you fill with your joy.

You care for the earth, give it water,
you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over
to provide its grain.

And thus you provide for the earth;
you drench its furrows,
you level it, soften it with showers,
you bless its growth.

You crown the year with your goodness.
Abundance flows in your steps,
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows.

The hills are girded with joy,
the meadows covered with flocks,
the valleys are decked with wheat.
They shout for joy, yes, they sing.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be for ever, amen.

ANTIPHON 1: I tell you * in all truth, whoever keeps my word will never see death.

ANTIPHON 2: I am * the gate, says the Lord; anyone who enters through me will be safe, and sure of finding pasture.



Psalm 62

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry weary land without water.
So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise.
So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.

Those who seek to destroy my life
shall go down to the depths of the earth.
They shall be put into the power of the sword
and left as the prey of the jackals.
But the king shall rejoice in God;
all that swear by him shall be blessed
for the mouth of liars shall be silenced.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be for ever, amen.

ANTIPHON 2: I am * the gate, says the Lord; anyone who enters through me
will be safe, and sure of finding pasture.

ANTIPHON 3: Death, * I will be your death; hell, I shall devour you!

OT Canticle 26

(Isaiah 38:10-14,17-20)



I said, 'So I must go away,
my life half spent,
assigned to the world below
for the rest of my years.'

I said, 'No more shall I see the Lord
in the land of the living,
no more shall I look upon man
within this world.'

My home is pulled up and removed
like a shepherd's tent.
Like a weaver you have rolled up my life,
you cut it from the loom.

Between evening and morning you finish it,
I cry for help until dawn.
I suffer as though a lion
were breaking my bones.

I cry out in grief like a swallow,
I mourn like a dove.
My eyes look wearily to heaven.
Take care of me, Lord.'

You have held back my life
from the pit of doom.
You have cast far from your sight
every one of my sins.

For the world below cannot thank you,
nor death give you praise.
Those who go down to the grave
cannot hope for your mercy.

The living, the living man thanks you
as I do this day;
the father shall tell his children
of your faithful mercy.

O Lord, come to my rescue
and we shall sing psalms
all the days of our life
in the house of the Lord.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be for ever, amen.

ANTIPHON 3: Death, * I will be your death; hell, I shall devour you!

ANTIPHON 4: Your sorrow * will turn into joy, and that joy none shall take from you!

Psalm 150



Alleluia!

Praise God in his holy place,
praise him in his mighty heavens.
Praise him for his powerful deeds,
praise his surpassing greatness.

O praise him with sound of trumpet,
praise him with lute and harp.
Praise him with timbrel and dance,
praise him with strings and pipes.

O praise him with resounding cymbals,
praise him with clashing of cymbals.
Let everything that lives and that breathes
give praise to the Lord. Alleluia!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be for ever, amen.

ANTIPHON 4: Your sorrow * will turn into joy, and that joy none shall take from you!

SCRIPTURE READING

RESPONSORY

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me. *(repeat)*

You have changed my mourning into dancing:

You have rescued me.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me.

BENEDICTUS ANTIPHON

I am * the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me, though he dies, will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.



BENEDICTUS

Canticle of Zechariah

(Luke 1:68–79)

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!
He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour
in the house of David his servant,
as he promised by the lips of holy men,
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,
from the hands of all who hate us.
So his love for our fathers is fulfilled
and his holy covenant remembered.

(He swore to Abraham our father
to grant us that, free from fear
and saved from the hands of our foes,
we might serve him in holiness and justice
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child, you shall be called
a prophet of God, the Most High.
You shall go ahead of the Lord
to prepare his ways before him,

To make known to his people their salvation
through forgiveness of all their sins,
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,
those who dwell in the shadow of death,
and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be for ever, amen.

REPEAT ANTIPHON

INTERCESSIONS

OUR FATHER

(said by the Superior)

CONCLUDING PRAYER

LET US BLESS THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD

May the divine assistance remain always with us.
And with our absent brothers and sisters. Amen.

