

Vespers

Friday Evening Prayer Easter Friday
April 25, 2025



INTRODUCTION

Leader: God, + come to my assistance.

All: Lord, make haste to help me.

Leader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

All: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

PSALMODY

Psalm 110:1-5, 7 The Messiah, king and priest

Christ's reign will last until all his enemies are made subject to him (1 Corinthians 15:25)

Antiphon:

Leader: Mary Magdalen and the other Mary came

All: to see the Lord's tomb, alleluia.

Leader: The Lord's revelation to my Master:

"Sit on my right:

your foes I will put beneath your feet."

All: The Lord will wield from Zion your scepter of power: rule in the midst of all your foes.

A prince from the day of your birth on the holy mountains; from the womb before the dawn I begot you.

The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change. "You are a priest for ever, a priest like Melchizedek of old."

The Master standing at your right hand will shatter kings in the day of his great wrath.

He shall drink from the stream by the wayside and therefore he shall lift up his head.

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

Antiphon:

Leader: Mary Magdalen and the other Mary came

All: to see the Lord's tomb, alleluia.

Psalm Prayer

Leader: Father, we ask you to give us victory and peace. In Jesus Christ, our Lord and King, we are already seated at your right hand. We look forward to praising you in the fellowship of all your saints in our heavenly homeland.

Psalm 114: The Israelites are delivered from the bondage of Egypt

You too left Egypt when, at baptism, you renounced that world which is at enmity with God (Saint Augustine)

Antiphon:

Leader: Come and see the place,

All: where the Lord was buried, alleluia.

When Israel came forth from Egypt, Jacob's sons from an alien people, Judah became the Lord's temple, Israel became his kingdom.

The sea fled at the sight: the Jordan turned back on its course, the mountains leapt like rams and the hills like yearling sheep.

Why was it, sea, that you fled, that you turned back, Jordan, on your course? Mountains, that you leapt like rams, hills, like yearling sheep?

Tremble, O earth, before the Lord, in the presence of the God of Jacob, who turns the rock into a pool and flint into a spring of water.

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

Antiphon:

Leader: Come and see the place,

All: where the Lord was buried, alleluia.

Psalm Prayer

Leader: Almighty God, ever-living mystery of unity and Trinity, you gave life to the new Israel by birth from water and the Spirit, and made it a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a people set apart as your eternal possession. May all those you have called to walk in the splendor of the new light render you fitting service and adoration.

Canticle: See Revelation 19:1-7 The wedding of the Lamb

Antiphon

Leader: Jesus said: Do not be afraid, Go and tell my brothers to set out for Galilee;

All: there they will see me, alleluia.

Alleluia.

Salvation, glory, and power to our God:

(Alleluia).

his judgments are honest and true.

Alleluia (alleluia).

Alleluia.

Sing praise to our God, all you his servants,

(Alleluia).

all who worship him reverently, great and small.

Alleluia (alleluia).

Alleluia.

The Lord our all-powerful God is King;

(Alleluia).

Let us rejoice, sing praise, and give him glory.

Alleluia (alleluia).

Alleluia.

The wedding feast of the Lamb has begun,

(Alleluia).

and his bride is prepared to welcome him.

Alleluia (alleluia).

Alleluia.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,

(Alleluia).

and to the Holy Spirit:

Alleluia (alleluia).

Alleluia.

as it was in the beginning, is now,

(Alleluia).

and will be for ever. Amen.

Alleluia (alleluia).

Antiphon

Leader: Jesus said: Do not be afraid, Go and tell my brothers

to set out for Galilee;

All: there they will see me, alleluia.

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READING: Hebrews 5:8-10

Son though he was, Christ learned obedience from what he suffered; and when perfected, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, designated by God as high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Antiphon

Reader: This is the day the Lord has made;

All: let us rejoice and be glad, alleluia.

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Canticle of Mary: Luke 1:46-55

The soul rejoices in the Lord

Leader: The disciple whom Jesus loved said:

All: It is the Lord, alleluia.

My + soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty

He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.

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

Antiphon:

Leader: The disciple whom Jesus loved said:

All: It is the Lord, alleluia.

INTERCESSIONS

Reader: Christ is the way, the truth and the life. Let us praise him, and say:

All: Son of the living God, bless your people.

We pray to you, Lord Jesus, for all ministers of your Church,

– as they break for us the bread of life, may they themselves
receive nourishment and strength.

Son of the living God, bless your people.

We pray for the whole Christian people, that all may be worthy of their calling,

and safeguard their unity in the Spirit by the bond of peace.
 Son of the living God, bless your people.

We pray for those who govern us, that they may temper justice with mercy,

and promote harmony and peace throughout the world.

Son of the living God, bless your people.

We pray for ourselves, that our hearts may be purified to sing your praises in the communion of saints,

may we be reunited with our deceased brothers and sisters,
 whom we commend to your loving kindness.

Son of the living God, bless your people.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Eternal Father,
you gave us the Easter mystery
as our covenant of reconciliation.
May the new birth we celebrate
show its effects in the way we live.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

– Amen.

DISMISSAL

If a priest or deacon presides, he dismisses the people:

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

- Amen.

Go in peace.

Thanks be to God.

In the absence of a priest or deacon and in individual recitation, Evening Prayer concludes:

May the Lord + bless us, protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life.

– Amen.