

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord,
be merciful to your people.
Fill us with your gifts
and make us always eager to serve you
in faith, hope, and love.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

BLESSING

Let us praise the Lord.
— And give him thanks.

SUNDAY MIDAFTERNOON PRAYER for ORDINARY TIME WEEK IV



INTROIT

God, come to my assistance.
— Lord, make haste to help me.

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

HYMN

Lord of all being, enthroned afar,
Thy glory flames from sun and star;
Center and soul of every sphere,
Yet to each loving heart how near!

Sun of our life, Thy quickening ray,
Sheds on our path the glow of day;
Star of our hope, Thy softened light
Cheers the long watches of the night.

Lord of all life, below, above,
Whose light is truth, whose warmth is love,
Before Thy ever-blazing throne
We ask no luster of our own.

Grant us Thy truth to make us free,
And kindling hearts that burn for Thee,
Till all Thy living altars claim
One holy light, one heavenly flame.

Text: Oliver Wendell Holmes; Melody: Uffingham L.M., Jeremiah Clark, 1707; Midi: Cyberhymnal

PSALMODY

Psalm 23: The Good Shepherd

The lamb himself will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living waters. (Revelation 7:17)

Antiphon 1: *He who eats this bread will live forever, alleluia.*

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and 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 forever. Amen.

Antiphon 1: *He who eats this bread will live forever, alleluia.*

Psalm 76: Thanksgiving for Victory

They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven. (Matthew 24:30)

Antiphon 2: *The Lord will come in glory and show himself wonderful in his saints, alleluia.*

God, you are made known in Judah;
in Israel your name is great.
You set up your tent in Jerusalem
and your dwelling place in Zion.
It was there you broke the flashing arrows,
the shield, the sword, the armor.

You, O Lord, are resplendent,
more majestic than the everlasting mountains.
The warriors, despoiled, slept in death;
the hands of the soldiers were powerless.
At your threat, O God of Jacob,
horse and rider lay stunned.

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

Antiphon 2: *The Lord will come in glory and show himself wonderful in his saints, alleluia.*

Antiphon 3: *Pay your vows and bring offerings to the Lord our God, alleluia.*

You, you alone, strike terror.
Who shall stand when your anger is roused?
You uttered your sentence from the heavens;
the earth in terror was still
when you arose to judge,
to save the humble of the earth.

Men's anger will serve to praise you;
its survivors surround you with joy.
Make vows to your God and fulfill them.
Let all pay tribute to him who strikes terror,
who cuts short the breath of princes,
who strikes terror in the kings of the earth.

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

Antiphon 3: *Pay your vows and bring offerings to the Lord our God, alleluia.*

READING

Song of Songs 8:6b-7a

Stern as death is love,
relentless as the nether world is devotion;
its flames are a blazing fire.
Deep waters cannot quench love,
nor floods sweep it away.

SACRED SILENCE

I love you, Lord; you are my strength.
— You keep me safe; your mighty power protects me.