

## **Fixed Hour Prayer Holy Saturday (April 11)**

### **The Morning Office      To be observed between 6 and 9 a.m.**

#### *The Call to Prayer*

But now thus says the Lord, He who created you, O Jacob, He who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. (Isaiah 43:1)

#### *The Request for Presence*

Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God, and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord. (Psalm 62: 11-12a)

#### *The Refrain for the Midday Lesson*

To Him indeed shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before Him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for Him. Posterity will serve Him; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim His deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that He has done it. (Psalm 22: 29-31)

#### *A Reading from St. Matthew 27: 62-66*

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, "Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would be worse than the first." Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can." So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

#### *The Refrain for the Midday Lesson*

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the Lord, and proclaim His deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that He has done it. (Psalm 22: 29-31)

*A Hymn: Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow*

Through the night of doubt and sorrow, onward goes the pilgrim band,  
singing songs of expectation, marching to the promised land.  
Clear before us through the darkness gleams and burns the  
guiding light;  
pilgrim clasps the hand of pilgrim stepping fearless through the  
night.

Onward, therefore, sisters, brothers; onward with the cross our  
aid.

Bear its shame and fight its battle till we rest beneath its shade.  
Soon shall come the great awakening; soon the rending of the  
tomb!

Then the scattering of all shadows, and the end of toil and gloom.

*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. Lead us not into  
temptation and deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and  
the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

*Concluding Prayer of the Day*

O God, you are the creator of the world, the liberator of your  
people, and the wisdom of the earth. By the resurrection of your  
Son free us from our fears, restore us in your image, and ignite us  
with your light, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who  
lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and  
forever. Amen.

## **The Midday Office**

**To be observed between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.**

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### *The Call to Prayer*

My God in His steadfast love will meet me; my God will let me look in triumph on my enemies (Psalm 59: 10)

### *The Request for Presence*

Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him and He will act. He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday. (Psalm 37: 5-6)

### *The Greeting*

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Lord is good to all, and His compassion is over all that He has made. (Psalm 145:8-9)

### *The Refrain for the Midday Lesson*

On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul. (Psalm 138:3)

### *A Reading from Romans 8: 31-39*

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*The Refrain for the Midday Lesson*

On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul. (Psalm 138:3)

*The Cry of the Church*

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever. (Psalm 136:1)

*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. Lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

*Concluding Prayer of the Day*

O God, you are the creator of the world, the liberator of your people, and the wisdom of the earth. By the resurrection of your Son free us from our fears, restore us in your image, and ignite us with your light, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



*The Call to Prayer*

Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore. From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised. (Psalm 113: 2-3)

*The Request for Presence*

O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. (Psalm 139: 1-3)

*The Hymn: Let All Things Now Living*

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
to God the creator triumphantly raise,  
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
who still guides us onto the end of our days.  
God's banners are o'er us, God's light goes before us,  
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished  
as forward we travel from light into light.

God rules all the forces: the stars in their courses  
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,  
the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.  
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;  
with glad adoration a song let us raise  
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:  
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"

*Vespers Psalm*

Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, who stand by night in the house of the Lord! Lift up your hands to the holy place, and bless the Lord. May the Lord, maker of heaven and earth, bless you from Zion. (Psalm 134)

### *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. Lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

### *The Concluding Prayer*

Eternal giver of life and light, this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your church with the Spirit given us in baptism, that we may worship you in sincerity and truth and may shine a light in the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



