

# Vesper

## 1. Gathering

A hymn, song, or instrumental prelude may be used.

Alleluia is omitted during Lent, starting from Ash Wednesday. "Glory to the Father..." is omitted during the last two weeks of Lent.

**Reader** O Lord, open my lips,  
**Assembly** and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.  
**R** God, come to my assistance.  
**A** Lord, make haste to help me.  
**R** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
**A** as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.  
Alleluia.

Instead of Alleluia, the following is used during Lent:

**A** Praise to you, O Christ, King of Eternal Glory!

## [2. Hymn]

[Parts in brackets may be omitted.]

## 3. Psalm

The psalm may be sung or read.

Instead of a psalm, the following New Testament Canticles may be used: Ephesians 1:3–10; Philippians 2:6–11; 1 Peter 2:21–24; Revelation 4:11; Revelation 15:3–4.

"Glory to the Father..." concludes the Psalm. It is omitted during the last two weeks of Lent.

– Psalm

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.

## 4. Scripture reading

A reading or Gospel suited to the time of the church year or to the time of the day is read. A silence may be kept after reading.

## [5. Response]

"Glory to the Father..." and the refrain that follows it is omitted during the last two weeks of Lent.

Instead of a Response, a hymn, song or instrumental music may be used.

**R** Your word is a lamp to my feet.

**A** Your word is a lamp to my feet.  
**R** You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in your word.  
**A** Your word is a lamp to my feet.  
**R** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
**A** Your word is a lamp to my feet.

## [6. Short homily or meditation]

## 7. The Song of Mary (Magnificat)

*"Glory to the Father..." is omitted during the last two weeks of Lent.*

### [Antiphon]

My heart exults in the Lord,  
and my soul proclaims God's greatness.

### Magnificat

My soul (+) proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
you, the Almighty, have done great things for me,  
and holy is your name.

You have mercy on those who fear you  
from generation to generation.

You have shown strength with your arm  
and scattered the proud in their conceit,  
casting down the mighty from their thrones  
and lifting up the lowly.

You have filled the hungry with good things  
and sent the rich away empty.

You have come to the aid of your servant Israel,  
to remember the promise of mercy,  
the promise made to our forebears,  
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 forever. Amen.

### [The antiphon is repeated:]

My heart exults in the Lord,  
and my soul proclaims God's greatness.

## 8. Prayers

### [Responsory prayer]

**R** O Lord God of hosts, restore us;

**A** let your face shine, that we may be saved.

**R** Christ, come to our help.

**A** Redeem us for the sake of your steadfast love.

**R** Hear my prayer, O Lord.

**A** Give ear to my supplications.

**R** Let us pray.

### [Prayer of intercession]

Prayer may be freely formulated. After each petition the assembly may respond »Lord, have mercy.«. A brief silent prayer may conclude the prayer of intercession.

**R** That the church may discover again the unity  
that is your gift, let us pray to the Lord.

**A** Lord, have mercy.

**R** For the people and nations of the world,  
for the peace of the whole world,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**A** Christ, have mercy.

**R** For deliverance of all afflicted, strifed and in need  
let us pray to the Lord

**A** Lord, have mercy.

### Prayer of the day

A prayer suited to the time of the church year or to the time of the day is read. Prayer may be freely formulated.

– prayer

**A** Amen.

### Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer is spoken or sung in unison.

Other accepted English wordings of the Lord's Prayer may be used.

**A** Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.

## 9. Praise

*Praise is omitted on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter eve.*

**R** Let us praise the Lord!

**A** Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

*During Lent from Ash Wednesday to the Wednesday of the Passion Week:*

**R** Let us praise the Lord!

**A** Thanks be to God! Amen.

## 10. Benediction

**R** May the almighty and gracious God bless us  
the Father, and the (+) Son and the Holy Spirit.

**A** Amen.

## [11. Concluding music]

*A hymn, song, or instrumental postlude may be used.*