

The Saint Bede's Breviary: Companions of St. Luke Edition

Vespers for Tuesday after the Second Sunday of Advent

([Ambrose of Milan, Bishop and Theologian, 397](#))

Opening Sentence

Worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him. *Psalm 96:9*

The Invitatory and Psalter

V: O God, make speed to save us.

R: O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.

Alleluia

O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron*

O gracious Light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

The Psalm or Psalms Appointed

Psalm 80 *Qui regis Israel*

O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

² In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.

³ Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

⁴ O LORD God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

⁶ You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

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.

O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

Psalm 80 (cont.)

Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven; behold and tend this vine.

⁸ You have brought a vine out of Egypt; *
you cast out the nations and planted it.

⁹ You prepared the ground for it; *
it took root and filled the land.

¹⁰ The mountains were covered by its shadow *
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

¹¹ You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea *
and its branches to the River.

¹² Why have you broken down its wall, *
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

¹³ The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, *
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

¹⁴ Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven; behold and tend this vine; *
preserve what your right hand has planted.

¹⁵ They burn it with fire like rubbish; *
at the rebuke of your countenance let them perish.

¹⁶ Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
and son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

¹⁷ And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

¹⁸ Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

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.

Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven; behold and tend this vine.

Psalm 126 *In convertendo*

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negev.

¹ When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.

² Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

³ Then they said among the nations, *
"The LORD has done great things for them."

⁴ The LORD has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.

⁵ Restore our fortunes, O LORD, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.

⁶ Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.

⁷ Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

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.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negev.

The Lessons

A reading from 'Matthew 22:34-46 (NRSV)'

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Here ends the Reading.

The Song of Mary *Magnificat*
Luke 1:46-55

Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in you, O God my Savior, *
for you 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 help of your servant Israel, *

for you have remembered your 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.

Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me.

The Prayers

V: The Lord be with you.

R: *And also with you.*

Let us pray.

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 forever. **Amen.**

Suffrages A

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. Your saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Collect of the Day

O God, who gave your servant Ambrose grace eloquently to proclaim your righteousness in the great congregation and fearlessly to bear reproach for the honor of your Name: Mercifully grant to all bishops and pastors such excellence in preaching and faithfulness in ministering your Word, that your people may be partakers with them of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Commemoration of Second Sunday of Advent

Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary, for your great faith; all that the Lord promised will come to pass through you, alleluia.

V. Drop down, heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down Righteous One.

R. Let the earth open, and bring forth a Savior.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Aid against Perils

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Prayer for Mission

O God, you manifest in your servants the signs of your presence: Send forth upon us the spirit of love, that in companionship with one another your abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[\[Include authorized intercessions or thanksgivings~opens new window\]](#)

Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus forever and ever. **Amen.**

Ephesians 3:20

The Supplication

O Lord, arise, help us;

And deliver us for your Name's sake.

O God, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have declared unto us, the noble works that you did in their days, and in the old time before them.

O Lord, arise, help us; and deliver us for your Name's sake.

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.

O Lord, arise, help us; and deliver us for your Name's sake.

V. From our enemies defend us, O Christ;

R. Graciously behold our afflictions.

V. With pity behold the sorrows of our hearts;

R. Mercifully forgive the sins of your people.

V. Favorably with mercy hear our prayers;

R. O Son of David, have mercy upon us.

V. Both now and ever vouchsafe to hear us, O Christ;

R. Graciously hear us, O Christ; graciously hear us, O Lord Christ.

Let us pray.

We humbly implore you, O Father, mercifully to look upon our infirmities; and, for the glory of your Name, turn from us all those evils that we most justly have deserved; and grant that in all our troubles we may put our whole trust and confidence in your mercy, and evermore serve you in holiness and pureness of living, to your honor and glory; through our only Mediator and Advocate, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Angelus

The Angel of the Lord announced to Mary

And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Behold the handmaid of the Lord

Be it unto me according to your word

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

And the Word was made flesh.

And dwelled among us.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

V: Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R: *That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

Let us pray:

Pour your grace into our hearts, O Lord, that we who have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, announced by an angel to the Virgin Mary, may by his cross and passion be brought to the glory of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***