

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

## Vespers for Thursday after the Seventh Sunday of Easter

[\(Bede, Priest and Historian, 735\)](#)

Commemoration of Seventh Sunday of Easter: The Sunday after Ascension Day

### Opening Sentence

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall. *Psalm 16:7,8*

### The Invitatory

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 for ever. 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 Psalms Appointed

### Psalm 124 *Nisi quia Dominus*

*We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler. hallelujah.*

- <sup>1</sup> If the LORD had not been on our side, \*  
let Israel now say;
- <sup>2</sup> If the LORD had not been on our side, \*  
when enemies rose up against us;
- <sup>3</sup> Then would they have swallowed us up alive \*  
in their fierce anger toward us;
- <sup>4</sup> Then would the waters have overwhelmed us \*  
and the torrent gone over us;
- <sup>5</sup> Then would the raging waters \*  
have gone right over us.
- <sup>6</sup> Blessed be the LORD! \*  
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
- <sup>7</sup> We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; \*  
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- <sup>8</sup> Our help is in the Name of the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and 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 for ever. Amen.

*We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler. hallelujah.*

### Psalm 136 *Confitemini*

*With a mighty hand and a stretched out arm, he brought Israel out of Egypt, hallelujah.*

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Give thanks to the God of gods, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 3 Give thanks to the Lord of lords, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 4 Who only does great wonders, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 5 Who by wisdom made the heavens, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 6 Who spread out the earth upon the waters, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 7 Who created great lights, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 8 The sun to rule the day, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 9 The moon and the stars to govern the night, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 10 Who struck down the firstborn of Egypt, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 11 And brought out Israel from among them, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 12 With a mighty hand and a stretched-out arm, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 13 Who divided the Red Sea in two, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 14 And made Israel to pass through the midst of it, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 15 But swept Pharaoh and his army into the Red Sea, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 16 Who led his people through the wilderness, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 17 Who struck down great kings, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;

- 18 And slew mighty kings, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 19 Sihon, king of the Amorites, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 20 And Og, the king of Bashan, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 21 And gave away their lands for an inheritance, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 22 An inheritance for Israel his servant, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 23 Who remembered us in our low estate, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 24 And delivered us from our enemies, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 25 Who gives food to all creatures, \*  
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 26 Give thanks to the God of heaven, \*  
for his mercy endures 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.

*With a mighty hand and a stretched out arm, he brought Israel out of Egypt, hallelujah.*

**Psalm 31** *In te, Domine, speravi*

*Love the LORD, all you who worship him; the LORD protects the faithful, hallelujah.*

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup> Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, O God of truth.

<sup>6</sup> I hate those who cling to worthless idols, \*  
and I put my trust in the LORD.

<sup>7</sup> I will rejoice and be glad because of your mercy; \*  
for you have seen my affliction; you know my distress.

<sup>8</sup> You have not shut me up in the power of the enemy; \*  
you have set my feet in an open place.

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.

*Love the LORD, all you who worship him; the LORD protects the faithful, hallelujah.*

## The Lessons

A reading from 'Luke 10:25-37 (NRSV)'

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Here ends the Reading.

The Song of Mary Magnificat Luke 1:46-55

*Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom, hallelujah.*

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 for ever. Amen.

*Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom, hallelujah.*

## 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 for ever. Amen.

## Suffrages B

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

*We entreat you, O Lord.*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

*We entreat you, O Lord.*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

*We entreat you, O Lord.*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,  
*We entreat you, O Lord.*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear,  
and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,  
*We entreat you, O Lord.*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in  
the communion of [the glorious and ever-blessed Virgin Mary,  
St. Michael the Defender, \_\_\_\_\_ and] all your saints,  
entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,  
*We entreat you, O Lord.*

### *Collect of the Day*

Almighty God, who has enriched your church with the learning and holiness of your servant Bede: Grant us to find in Scripture and disciplined prayer the image of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and to fashion our lives according to his likeness, to the glory of your great Name and to the benefit of your holy church; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### *Commemoration of Seventh Sunday of Easter: The Sunday after Ascension Day*

Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had before the world existed, alleluia.

V. The LORD has prepared~Alleluia.

**R. His throne in heaven~Alleluia.**

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

### *A Prayer of Self-Dedication*

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated unto you; and then use us, we pray you, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

### *Prayer for Mission*

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through

Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Pause and add prayers for healing, and intercessory and thanksgiving prayers here.*

*A 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. Alleluia, alleluia

*Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia*

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 for ever and ever. *Amen. Ephesians 3:20*

## **Regina Caeli**

O Queen of heaven, be joyful : *Alleluia*

For he who was born of your body : *Alleluia*

Has arisen as he promised : *Alleluia*

Pray for us to the Father : *Alleluia*

V: Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia.

R: *For the Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia.*

Let us pray:

O God, who by the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ gave gladness to the world: Grant, we pray, that we, aided by the prayers of the Virgin Mary his mother, may attain to the joys of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

---

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. The New Revised Standard Version Bible may be quoted and/or reprinted up to and inclusive of five hundred (500) verses without express written permission of the publisher, provided the verses quoted do not amount to a complete book of the Bible or account for fifty percent (50%) of the total work in which they are quoted.