

ADVENT

I. UNTIL DECEMBER 16th



VESPERS

On Sundays and ferial days, from Vespers I of the First Sunday of Advent until the 16th of December, inclusive:

Conditor alme siderum

Anonymous, 19th Century

H. IV

C REATOR of the stars of night, Thy people's ev-erlasting light, Jesu, Redeemer,

save us all, and hear Thy servants when they call.

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| <p>2. Thou, grieving that the ancient curse
should doom to death a universe,
hast found the med'cine, full of grace,
to save and heal a ruined race.</p> <p>3. Thou cam'st, the Bridegroom of
the Bride,
as drew the world to ev'ning tide,
proceeding from a virgin shrine,
the spotless Victim all divine.</p> <p>4. At whose dread Name, majestic now,
all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
and things celestial Thee shall own,
and things terrestrial Lord alone.</p> | <p>5. O Thou whose coming is with dread,
to judge and doom the quick and dead,
preserve us, while we dwell below,
from every insult of the foe.</p> <p>6. To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
laud, honor, might, and glory be
from age to age eternally.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Amen.</p> |
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COMPLINE

*Te lucis ante terminum**Ambrosian, 7th Century*

H. IV

To thee before the close of day cre-a- tor of the world, we pray, that with
Thy constant fa-vor, Thou wouldst be our guard and keeper now.

2. Of Thee, our hearts may dreaming be,
Of Thee, through sleep may
they perceive,
and of Thy constant glory, sing
in nearing dawn with unity.

3. Grant us, O Lord, a healthy life,
renew in us our fire and might;
And on the foul and gloom of night,
Thy brightness shine within our sight.

4. Great Father, what we ask be done,
Through Jesus Christ the Lord, thy Son,
Who with the Holy Ghost and Thee,
shall live and reign eternally.

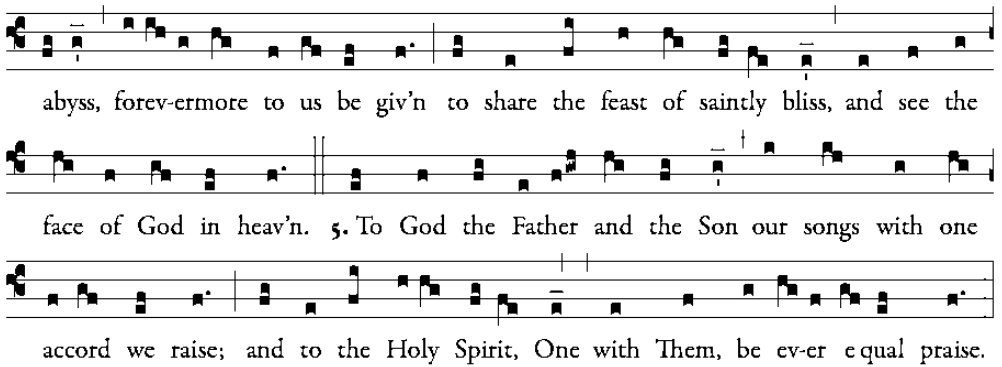
Amen.

OFFICE OF READINGS

*Verbum supernum prodiens**Anonymous, 7th Century*

H. II

CELESTIAL Word, to this our earth sent down from God's e-ternal clime,
to save mankind by mortal birth in-to a world of change and time; 2. Lighten
our hearts, vain hopes destroy; and in Thy love's consuming fire Fill all the soul
with heav'nly joy, and melt the dross of low desire. 3. So when the Judge of
quick and dead shall bid His awful summons come, to whelm the guilty soul
with dread, and call the blessed to their home. 4. Saved from the whirling black

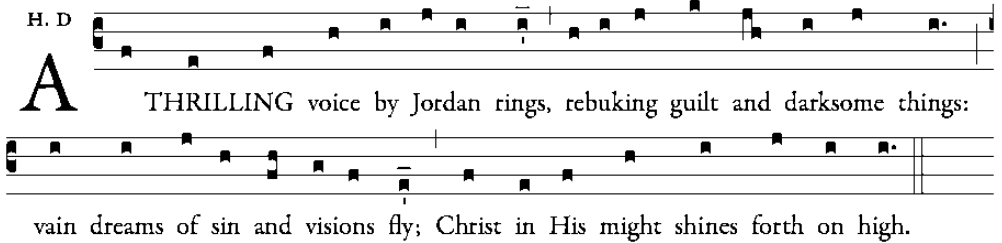


The hymn may optionally be sung to the melody of "A thrilling voice by Jordan rings" from the office of Lauds.

LAUDS

Vox clara ecce intonat

Anonymous, 6th Century



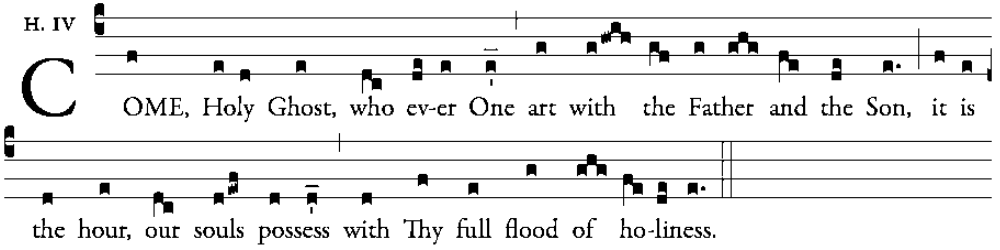
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| <p>2. Now let each torpid soul arise,
that sunk in guilt and wounded lies;
see, the new Star's refulgent ray
shall chase disease and sin away.</p> <p>3. The Lamb descends from heav'n above
to pardon sin with freest love:
for such indulgent mercy shewn
with tearful joy our thanks we own.</p> | <p>4. That when again He shines revealed,
and trembling worlds to terror yield.
He give not sin its just reward,
but in His love protect and guard.</p> <p>5. To our high Parent glory be
and to the Son be victory,
and to the Spirit praise is owed
from age to age eternally.</p> |
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Amen.

MIDMORNING

*Nunc, Sancte, nobis Spiritus**St. Ambrose*

H. IV



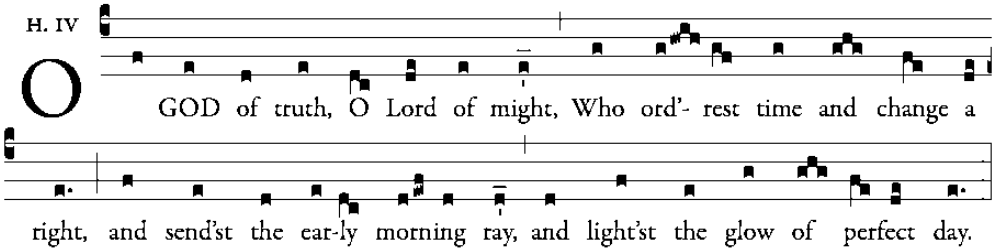
C OME, Holy Ghost, who ev-er One art with the Father and the Son, it is
the hour, our souls possess with Thy full flood of ho-liness.

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| <p>2. Let flesh, and heart, and lips, and mind,
sound forth our witness to mankind;
and love light up our mortal frame,
till others catch the living flame.</p> | <p>3. Grant that the Father we may know,
And through Thee come to know
the Son;
Thou Spirit who art of them both
May we believe throughout all time.</p> <p>Amen.</p> |
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MIDDAY

*Rector potens, venax Deus**St. Ambrose*

H. IV



O GOD of truth, O Lord of might, Who ord'- rest time and change a
right, and send'st the ear-ly morning ray, and light'st the glow of perfect day.

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| <p>2. Extinguish Thou each sinful fire,
and banish every ill desire:
and while Thou keep'st the body whole
shed forth Thy peace upon the soul.</p> | <p>3. Grant this, O Father, ever One
with Christ, Thy sole-begotten Son,
and Holy Ghost, whom all adore,
reigning and blest forevermore.</p> <p>Amen.</p> |
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MIDAFTERNOON

*Rerum, Deus, tenax vigor**St. Ambrose*

H. IV

O God, the strength of all that's made Thyself unmoved, thou stay the
 same, Thou fix the times by lights above And day by day its changes deign.

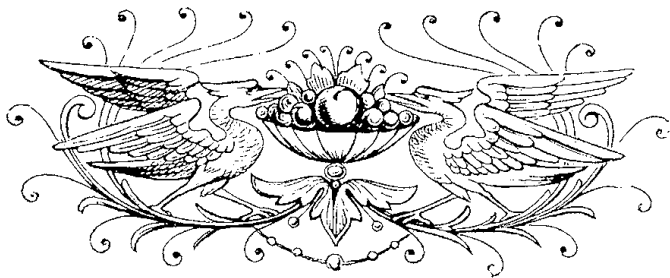
2. Grant to the ev'ning a clear night,
 A finer end to life's sweet light,
 And glory be eternally
 To holy death, a prize from Thee.

3. Grant this, O Father, ever One
 with Christ, Thy sole-begotten Son,
 and Holy Ghost, whom all adore,
 reigning and blest forevermore.

Amen.



ADVENT
II. AFTER DECEMBER 16th



VESPERS

On Sundays and ferial days, from the 17th of December until Vespers I of the Nativity, exclusive:

Verbum salutis omnium

Anonymous, 10th Century

H. IV

Recceive, O Holy Virgin blest, Chaste Mary, he who we profess The Saving
Word of all the Earth, Who from the Father's mouth processed.

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| <p>2. To you the Spirit's shadow comes,
His shade of fruitfulness and love,
That Christ our Lord for us be born,
Yet equal Son of Father stay.</p> <p>3. This is the sacred temple's gate,
The door which shut did always stay,
O happy threshold of the Lord,
Open ye doors unto the Prince.</p> <p>4. The promise given prophets once,
Was born before the morning star,
Now Gabriel announces first,
That Christ the Lord comes down
to Earth.</p> | <p>5. Rejoice all angels with one voice,
Exult all peoples of the earth,
The Most High humbly comes to reign,
That what was lost may now be saved.</p> <p>6. To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
laud, honor, might, and glory be
from age to age eternally.</p> <p>Amen.</p> |
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COMPLINE

*Chrite, qui, splendor et dies**Venerable Bede*

H.IV

CHRIST, thou who art the light and day, who chas- est nightly shades away,
thyself the Light of Light confessed, and promiser of radiance blest.

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| <p>2. O holy Lord, we pray to thee,
throughout the night our guardian be;
in thee vouchsafe us to repose,
all peaceful till the night shall close.</p> <p>3. O let our eyes due slumber take,
our hearts to thee forever wake:
and let thy right hand from above
shield us who turn to thee in love.</p> | <p>4. O strong defender, hear our prayers,
repel our foes and break their snares,
and govern thou thy servants here,
those ransomed with thy life-blood dear.</p> <p>5. Almighty Father, this accord
through Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord,
Who with the Holy Ghost and thee
doth reign through all eternity.</p> |
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Amen.

TRANSLATIONS

In order of appearance

Creator of the Stars of Night

tr. 19th century.

To Thee before the Close of Day

Verse 1: tr. J. M. Neale (1818-1866).

Verses 2-4*: tr. Aaron M. Williams (1992).

[Verse 4 based on a translation of J. M. Neale]

Celestial Word

tr. W. J. Courthope (1842-1917).

A Thrilling Voice by Jordan Rings

tr. J. M. Neale (1818-1866).

Come, Holy Ghost, who ever one

tr. Blessed John Henry Newman (1801-1890).

O God of Truth, O Lord of Might

tr. J. M. Neale (1818-1866).

O God the Strength of all thats made

tr. Aaron M. Williams (1992).

Recieve of Holy Virgin blest

tr. Aaron M. Williams (1992).

O Christ, thou who art the light and day

tr. R. F. Littledale (1833-1890).