

- 24 My tongue will proclaim your righteousness all day long, *
for they are ashamed and disgraced who sought to do
me harm.

72 *Deus, iudicium*

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be
no more.
- 8 He shall rule from sea to sea, *
and from the River to the ends of the earth.
- 9 His foes shall bow down before him, *
and his enemies lick the dust.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, *
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
- 11 All kings shall bow down before him, *
and all the nations do him service.
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, *
and the oppressed who has no helper.

- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; *
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, *
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.
- 15 Long may he live!
and may there be given to him gold from Arabia; *
may prayer be made for him always,
and may they bless him all the day long.
- 16 May there be abundance of grain on the earth,
growing thick even on the hilltops; *
may its fruit flourish like Lebanon,
and its grain like grass upon the earth.
- 17 May his Name remain for ever
and be established as long as the sun endures; *
may all the nations bless themselves in him and call
him blessed.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

Book Three

Fourteenth Day: Evening Prayer

73 *Quam bonus Israel!*

- 1 Truly, God is good to Israel, *
to those who are pure in heart.
- 2 But as for me, my feet had nearly slipped, *
I had almost tripped and fallen;

- 3 Because I envied the proud *
and saw the prosperity of the wicked:
- 4 For they suffer no pain, *
and their bodies are sleek and sound;
- 5 In the misfortunes of others they have no share; *
they are not afflicted as others are;
- 6 Therefore they wear their pride like a necklace *
and wrap their violence about them like a cloak.
- 7 Their iniquity comes from gross minds, *
and their hearts overflow with wicked thoughts.
- 8 They scoff and speak maliciously; *
out of their haughtiness they plan oppression.
- 9 They set their mouths against the heavens, *
and their evil speech runs through the world.
- 10 And so the people turn to them *
and find in them no fault.
- 11 They say, "How should God know? *
is there knowledge in the Most High?"
- 12 So then, these are the wicked; *
always at ease, they increase their wealth.
- 13 In vain have I kept my heart clean, *
and washed my hands in innocence.
- 14 I have been afflicted all day long, *
and punished every morning.
- 15 Had I gone on speaking this way, *
I should have betrayed the generation of your children.
- 16 When I tried to understand these things, *
it was too hard for me;

- 17 Until I entered the sanctuary of God *
and discerned the end of the wicked.
- 18 Surely, you set them in slippery places; *
you cast them down in ruin.
- 19 Oh, how suddenly do they come to destruction, *
come to an end, and perish from terror!
- 20 Like a dream when one awakens, O Lord, *
when you arise you will make their image vanish.
- 21 When my mind became embittered, *
I was sorely wounded in my heart.
- 22 I was stupid and had no understanding; *
I was like a brute beast in your presence.
- 23 Yet I am always with you; *
you hold me by my right hand.
- 24 You will guide me by your counsel, *
and afterwards receive me with glory.
- 25 Whom have I in heaven but you? *
and having you I desire nothing upon earth.
- 26 Though my flesh and my heart should waste away, *
God is the strength of my heart and my portion for
ever.
- 27 Truly, those who forsake you will perish; *
you destroy all who are unfaithful.
- 28 But it is good for me to be near God; *
I have made the LORD GOD my refuge.
- 29 I will speak of all your works *
in the gates of the city of Zion.

74 *Ut quid, Deus?*

- 1 O God, why have you utterly cast us off? *
why is your wrath so hot against the sheep of your
pasture?
- 2 Remember your congregation that you purchased long
ago, *
the tribe you redeemed to be your inheritance,
and Mount Zion where you dwell.
- 3 Turn your steps toward the endless ruins; *
the enemy has laid waste everything in your sanctuary.
- 4 Your adversaries roared in your holy place; *
they set up their banners as tokens of victory.
- 5 They were like men coming up with axes to a grove of
trees; *
they broke down all your carved work with hatchets and
hammers.
- 6 They set fire to your holy place; *
they defiled the dwelling-place of your Name
and razed it to the ground.
- 7 They said to themselves, "Let us destroy them
altogether." *
They burned down all the meeting-places of God in the
land.
- 8 There are no signs for us to see;
there is no prophet left; *
there is not one among us who knows how long.
- 9 How long, O God, will the adversary scoff? *
will the enemy blaspheme your Name for ever?
- 10 Why do you draw back your hand? *
why is your right hand hidden in your bosom?

- 11 Yet God is my King from ancient times, *
victorious in the midst of the earth.
- 12 You divided the sea by your might *
and shattered the heads of the dragons upon the waters;
- 13 You crushed the heads of Leviathan *
and gave him to the people of the desert for food.
- 14 You split open spring and torrent; *
you dried up ever-flowing rivers.
- 15 Yours is the day, yours also the night; *
you established the moon and the sun.
- 16 You fixed all the boundaries of the earth; *
you made both summer and winter.
- 17 Remember, O LORD, how the enemy scoffed, *
how a foolish people despised your Name.
- 18 Do not hand over the life of your dove to wild beasts; *
never forget the lives of your poor.
- 19 Look upon your covenant; *
the dark places of the earth are haunts of violence.
- 20 Let not the oppressed turn away ashamed; *
let the poor and needy praise your Name.
- 21 Arise, O God, maintain your cause; *
remember how fools revile you all day long.
- 22 Forget not the clamor of your adversaries, *
the unending tumult of those who rise up against you.

75 *Confitebimur tibi*

- 1 We give you thanks, O God, we give you thanks, *
calling upon your Name and declaring all your
wonderful deeds.
- 2 "I will appoint a time," says God; *
"I will judge with equity."
- 3 Though the earth and all its inhabitants are quaking, *
I will make its pillars fast.
- 4 I will say to the boasters, 'Boast no more,' *
and to the wicked, 'Do not toss your horns;
- 5 Do not toss your horns so high, *
nor speak with a proud neck.' "
- 6 For judgment is neither from the east nor from the west, *
nor yet from the wilderness or the mountains.
- 7 It is God who judges; *
he puts down one and lifts up another.
- 8 For in the Lord's hand there is a cup, *
full of spiced and foaming wine, which he pours out, *
and all the wicked of the earth shall drink and drain the
dregs.
- 9 But I will rejoice for ever; *
I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.
- 10 He shall break off all the horns of the wicked; *
but the horns of the righteous shall be exalted.

76 *Notus in Judaea*

- 1 In Judah is God known; *
his Name is great in Israel.
- 2 At Salem is his tabernacle, *
and his dwelling is in Zion.
- 3 There he broke the flashing arrows, *
the shield, the sword, and the weapons of battle.
- 4 How glorious you are! *
more splendid than the everlasting mountains!
- 5 The strong of heart have been despoiled; *
they sink into sleep; *
none of the warriors can lift a hand.
- 6 At your rebuke, O God of Jacob, *
both horse and rider lie stunned.
- 7 What terror you inspire! *
who can stand before you when you are angry?
- 8 From heaven you pronounced judgment; *
the earth was afraid and was still;
- 9 When God rose up to judgment *
and to save all the oppressed of the earth.
- 10 Truly, wrathful Edom will give you thanks, *
and the remnant of Hamath will keep your feasts.
- 11 Make a vow to the LORD your God and keep it; *
let all around him bring gifts to him who is worthy to
be feared.
- 12 He breaks the spirit of princes, *
and strikes terror in the kings of the earth.

77 *Voce mea ad Dominum*

- 1 I will cry aloud to God; *
I will cry aloud, and he will hear me.
- 2 In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord; *
my hands were stretched out by night and did not tire;
I refused to be comforted.
- 3 I think of God, I am restless, *
I ponder, and my spirit faints.
- 4 You will not let my eyelids close; *
I am troubled and I cannot speak.
- 5 I consider the days of old; *
I remember the years long past;
- 6 I commune with my heart in the night; *
I ponder and search my mind.
- 7 Will the Lord cast me off for ever? *
will he no more show his favor?
- 8 Has his loving-kindness come to an end for ever? *
has his promise failed for evermore?
- 9 Has God forgotten to be gracious? *
has he, in his anger, withheld his compassion?
- 10 And I said, "My grief is this: *
the right hand of the Most High has lost its power."
- 11 I will remember the works of the LORD, *
and call to mind your wonders of old time.
- 12 I will meditate on all your acts *
and ponder your mighty deeds.
- 13 Your way, O God, is holy; *
who is so great a god as our God?

- 14 You are the God who works wonders *
and have declared your power among the peoples.
- 15 By your strength you have redeemed your people, *
the children of Jacob and Joseph.
- 16 The waters saw you, O God;
the waters saw you and trembled; *
the very depths were shaken.
- 17 The clouds poured out water;
the skies thundered; *
your arrows flashed to and fro;
- 18 The sound of your thunder was in the whirlwind;
your lightnings lit up the world; *
the earth trembled and shook.
- 19 Your way was in the sea,
and your paths in the great waters, *
yet your footsteps were not seen.
- 20 You led your people like a flock *
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Fifteenth Day: Evening Prayer

78

Part I *Attendite, popule*

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.

- 4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, *
and the wonderful works he has done.
- 5 He gave his decrees to Jacob
and established a law for Israel, *
which he commanded them to teach their children;
- 6 That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
- 7 So that they might put their trust in God, *
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his commandments;
- 8 And not be like their forefathers,
a stubborn and rebellious generation, *
a generation whose heart was not steadfast,
and whose spirit was not faithful to God.
- 9 The people of Ephraim, armed with the bow, *
turned back in the day of battle;
- 10 They did not keep the covenant of God, *
and refused to walk in his law;
- 11 They forgot what he had done, *
and the wonders he had shown them.
- 12 He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, *
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
- 13 He split open the sea and let them pass through; *
he made the waters stand up like walls.
- 14 He led them with a cloud by day, *
and all the night through with a glow of fire.
- 15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness *
and gave them drink as from the great deep.

- 16 He brought streams out of the cliff, *
and the waters gushed out like rivers.
- 17 But they went on sinning against him, *
rebellious in the desert against the Most High.
- 18 They tested God in their hearts, *
demanding food for their craving.
- 19 They railed against God and said, *
"Can God set a table in the wilderness?"
- 20 True, he struck the rock,
the waters gushed out, and the gullies overflowed; *
but is he able to give bread
or to provide meat for his people?"
- 21 When the LORD heard this, he was full of wrath; *
a fire was kindled against Jacob,
and his anger mounted against Israel;
- 22 For they had no faith in God, *
nor did they put their trust in his saving power.
- 23 So he commanded the clouds above *
and opened the doors of heaven.
- 24 He rained down manna upon them to eat *
and gave them grain from heaven.
- 25 So mortals ate the bread of angels; *
he provided for them food enough.
- 26 He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens *
and led out the south wind by his might.
- 27 He rained down flesh upon them like dust *
and winged birds like the sand of the sea.
- 28 He let it fall in the midst of their camp *
and round about their dwellings.

- 29 So they ate and were well filled, *
for he gave them what they craved.
- 30 But they did not stop their craving, *
though the food was still in their mouths.
- 31 So God's anger mounted against them; *
he slew their strongest men
and laid low the youth of Israel.
- 32 In spite of all this, they went on sinning *
and had no faith in his wonderful works.
- 33 So he brought their days to an end like a breath *
and their years in sudden terror.
- 34 Whenever he slew them, they would seek him, *
and repent, and diligently search for God.
- 35 They would remember that God was their rock, *
and the Most High God their redeemer.
- 36 But they flattered him with their mouths *
and lied to him with their tongues.
- 37 Their heart was not steadfast toward him, *
and they were not faithful to his covenant.
- 38 But he was so merciful that he forgave their sins
and did not destroy them; *
many times he held back his anger
and did not permit his wrath to be roused.
- 39 For he remembered that they were but flesh, *
a breath that goes forth and does not return.

78

Part II *Quoties exacerbaverunt*

- 40 How often the people disobeyed him in the wilderness *
and offended him in the desert!

- 41 Again and again they tempted God *
and provoked the Holy One of Israel.
- 42 They did not remember his power *
in the day when he ransomed them from the enemy;
- 43 How he wrought his signs in Egypt *
and his omens in the field of Zoan.
- 44 He turned their rivers into blood, *
so that they could not drink of their streams.
- 45 He sent swarms of flies among them, which ate them
up, *
and frogs, which destroyed them.
- 46 He gave their crops to the caterpillar, *
the fruit of their toil to the locust.
- 47 He killed their vines with hail *
and their sycamores with frost.
- 48 He delivered their cattle to hailstones *
and their livestock to hot thunderbolts.
- 49 He poured out upon them his blazing anger: *
fury, indignation, and distress,
a troop of destroying angels.
- 50 He gave full rein to his anger;
he did not spare their souls from death; *
but delivered their lives to the plague.
- 51 He struck down all the firstborn of Egypt, *
the flower of manhood in the dwellings of Ham.
- 52 He led out his people like sheep *
and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.
- 53 He led them to safety, and they were not afraid; *
but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.

- 68 He chose instead the tribe of Judah *
and Mount Zion, which he loved.
- 69 He built his sanctuary like the heights of heaven, *
like the earth which he founded for ever.
- 70 He chose David his servant, *
and took him away from the sheepfolds.
- 71 He brought him from following the ewes, *
to be a shepherd over Jacob his people
and over Israel his inheritance.
- 72 So he shepherded them with a faithful and true heart *
and guided them with the skillfulness of his hands.

Sixteenth Day: Morning Prayer

79 Deus, venerunt

- 1 O God, the heathen have come into your inheritance;
they have profaned your holy temple; *
they have made Jerusalem a heap of rubble.
- 2 They have given the bodies of your servants as food for
the birds of the air, *
and the flesh of your faithful ones to the beasts of the
field.
- 3 They have shed their blood like water on every side of
Jerusalem, *
and there was no one to bury them.
- 4 We have become a reproach to our neighbors, *
an object of scorn and derision to those around us.
- 5 How long will you be angry, O LORD? *
will your fury blaze like fire for ever?

- 54 He brought them to his holy land, *
the mountain his right hand had won.
- 55 He drove out the Canaanites before them
and apportioned an inheritance to them by lot; *
he made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents.
- 56 But they tested the Most High God, and defied him, *
and did not keep his commandments.
- 57 They turned away and were disloyal like their fathers, *
they were undependable like a warped bow.
- 58 They grieved him with their hill-altars *
and provoked his displeasure with their idols.
- 59 When God heard this, he was angry *
and utterly rejected Israel.
- 60 He forsook the shrine at Shiloh, *
the tabernacle where he had lived among his people.
- 61 He delivered the ark into captivity, *
his glory into the adversary's hand.
- 62 He gave his people to the sword *
and was angered against his inheritance.
- 63 The fire consumed their young men; *
there were no wedding songs for their maidens.
- 64 Their priests fell by the sword, *
and their widows made no lamentation.
- 65 Then the LORD woke as though from sleep, *
like a warrior refreshed with wine.
- 66 He struck his enemies on the backside *
and put them to perpetual shame.
- 67 He rejected the tent of Joseph *
and did not choose the tribe of Ephraim;

- 6 Pour out your wrath upon the heathen who have not known you *
and upon the kingdoms that have not called upon your Name.
- 7 For they have devoured Jacob *
and made his dwelling a ruin.
- 8 Remember not our past sins;
let your compassion be swift to meet us; *
for we have been brought very low.
- 9 Help us, O God our Savior, for the glory of your Name; *
deliver us and forgive us our sins, for your Name's sake.
- 10 Why should the heathen say, "Where is their God?" *
Let it be known among the heathen and in our sight
that you avenge the shedding of your servants' blood.
- 11 Let the sorrowful sighing of the prisoners come before you, *
and by your great might spare those who are
condemned to die.
- 12 May the revilings with which they reviled you, O Lord, *
return seven-fold into their bosoms.
- 13 For we are your people and the sheep of your pasture; *
we will give you thanks for ever
and show forth your praise from age to age.

80 *Qui regis Israel*

- 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.
- 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, *
the 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.

81 *Exultate Deo*

- 1 Sing with joy to God our strength, *
and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.
- 2 Raise a song and sound the timbrel, *
the merry harp, and the lyre.
- 3 Blow the ram's-horn at the new moon, *
and at the full moon, the day of our feast.
- 4 For this is a statute for Israel, *
a law of the God of Jacob.

5 He laid it as a solemn charge upon Joseph, *
when he came out of the land of Egypt.

6 I heard an unfamiliar voice saying *
"I eased his shoulder from the burden;
his hands were set free from bearing the load."

7 You called on me in trouble, and I saved you; *
I answered you from the secret place of thunder
and tested you at the waters of Meribah.

8 Hear, O my people, and I will admonish you: *
O Israel, if you would but listen to me!

9 There shall be no strange god among you; *
you shall not worship a foreign god.

- 10 I am the LORD your God,
who brought you out of the land of Egypt and said, *
"Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."
- 11 And yet my people did not hear my voice, *
and Israel would not obey me.
- 12 So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their hearts, *
to follow their own devices.
- 13 Oh, that my people would listen to me! *
that Israel would walk in my ways!
- 14 I should soon subdue their enemies *
and turn my hand against their foes.
- 15 Those who hate the LORD would cringe before him, *
and their punishment would last for ever.
- 16 But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat *
and satisfy him with honey from the rock.

Sixteenth Day: *Evening Prayer*

82 *Deus stetit*

- 1 God takes his stand in the council of heaven, *
he gives judgment in the midst of the gods:
- 2 "How long will you judge unjustly, *
and show favor to the wicked?"
- 3 Save the weak and the orphan; *
defend the humble and needy;
- 4 Rescue the weak and the poor; *
deliver them from the power of the wicked.
- 5 They do not know, neither do they understand;
they go about in darkness; *
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

- 6 Now I say to you, 'You are gods, *
and all of you children of the Most High;
 - 7 Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, *
and fall like any prince.'
 - 8 Arise, O God, and rule the earth, *
for you shall take all nations for your own.
- 83 *Deus, quis similis?*
- 1 O God, do not be silent; *
do not keep still nor hold your peace, O God;
 - 2 For your enemies are in tumult, *
and those who hate you have lifted up their heads.
 - 3 They take secret counsel against your people *
and plot against those whom you protect.
 - 4 They have said, "Come, let us wipe them out from among
the nations; *
let the name of Israel be remembered no more."
 - 5 They have conspired together; *
they have made an alliance against you:
 - 6 The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites; *
the Moabites and the Hagarenes;
 - 7 Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; *
the Philistines and those who dwell in Tyre.
 - 8 The Assyrians also have joined them, *
and have come to help the people of Lot.
 - 9 Do to them as you did to Midian, *
to Sisera, and to Jabin at the river of Kishon:
 - 10 They were destroyed at Endor; *
they became like dung upon the ground.

- 11 Make their leaders like Oreb and Zeeb, *
and all their commanders like Zebah and Zalmunna,
- 12 Who said, "Let us take for ourselves *
the fields of God as our possession."
- 13 O my God, make them like whirling dust *
and like chaff before the wind;
- 14 Like fire that burns down a forest, *
like the flame that sets mountains ablaze.
- 15 Drive them with your tempest *
and terrify them with your storm;
- 16 Cover their faces with shame, O LORD,
that they may seek your Name.
- 17 Let them be disgraced and terrified for ever;
let them be put to confusion and perish.
- 18 Let them know that you, whose Name is YAHWEH, *
you alone are the Most High over all the earth.

84 *Quam dilecta!*

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the
LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in
my own room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; *
he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the LORD withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.
- 12 O LORD of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you!

85 *Benedixisti, Domine*

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.
- 3 You have withdrawn all your fury *
and turned yourself from your wrathful indignation.
- 4 Restore us then, O God our Savior; *
let your anger depart from us.

- 5 Will you be displeased with us for ever? *
will you prolong your anger from age to age?
- 6 Will you not give us life again, *
that your people may rejoice in you?
- 7 Show us your mercy, O LORD, *
and grant us your salvation.
- 8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

Seventeenth Day: Morning Prayer

86 *Inclina, Domine*

- 1 Bow down your ear, O LORD, and answer me, *
for I am poor and in misery.
- 2 Keep watch over my life, for I am faithful; *
save your servant who puts his trust in you.
- 3 Be merciful to me, O LORD, for you are my God; *
I call upon you all the day long.

- 4 Gladden the soul of your servant, *
for to you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
- 5 For you, O LORD, are good and forgiving, *
and great is your love toward all who call upon you.
- 6 Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer, *
and attend to the voice of my supplications.
- 7 In the time of my trouble I will call upon you, *
for you will answer me.
- 8 Among the gods there is none like you, O LORD, *
nor anything like your works.
- 9 All nations you have made will come and worship you,
O LORD, *
and glorify your Name.
- 10 For you are great;
you do wondrous things; *
and you alone are God.
- 11 Teach me your way, O LORD,
and I will walk in your truth; *
knit my heart to you that I may fear your Name.
- 12 I will thank you, O LORD my God, with all my heart, *
and glorify your Name for evermore.
- 13 For great is your love toward me; *
you have delivered me from the nethermost Pit.
- 14 The arrogant rise up against me, O God,
and a band of violent men seeks my life; *
they have not set you before their eyes.
- 15 But you, O LORD, are gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

- 16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; *
give your strength to your servant;
and save the child of your handmaid.
 - 17 Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be
ashamed; *
because you, O LORD, have helped me and comforted
me.
- 87 *Fundamenta ejus*
- 1 On the holy mountain stands the city he has founded; *
the LORD loves the gates of Zion
more than all the dwellings of Jacob.
 - 2 Glorious things are spoken of you, *
O city of our God.
 - 3 I count Egypt and Babylon among those who know me; *
behold Philistia, Tyre, and Ethiopia:
in Zion were they born.
 - 4 Of Zion it shall be said, "Everyone was born in her, *
and the Most High himself shall sustain her."
 - 5 The LORD will record as he enrolls the peoples, *
"These also were born there."
 - 6 The singers and the dancers will say, *
"All my fresh springs are in you."
- 88 *Domine, Deus*
- 1 O LORD, my God, my Savior, *
by day and night I cry to you.
 - 2 Let my prayer enter into your presence; *
incline your ear to my lamentation.

- 3 For I am full of trouble; *
my life is at the brink of the grave.
- 4 I am counted among those who go down to the Pit; *
I have become like one who has no strength;
- 5 Lost among the dead, *
like the slain who lie in the grave,
- 6 Whom you remember no more, *
for they are cut off from your hand.
- 7 You have laid me in the depths of the Pit, *
in dark places, and in the abyss.
- 8 Your anger weighs upon me heavily, *
and all your great waves overwhelm me.
- 9 You have put my friends far from me;
you have made me to be abhorred by them; *
I am in prison and cannot get free.
- 10 My sight has failed me because of trouble; *
LORD, I have called upon you daily;
I have stretched out my hands to you.
- 11 Do you work wonders for the dead? *
will those who have died stand up and give you thanks?
- 12 Will your loving-kindness be declared in the grave? *
your faithfulness in the land of destruction?
- 13 Will your wonders be known in the dark? *
or your righteousness in the country where all is
forgotten?
- 14 But as for me, O LORD, I cry to you for help; *
in the morning my prayer comes before you.
- 15 LORD, why have you rejected me? *
why have you hidden your face from me?

- 16 Ever since my youth, I have been wretched and at the
point of death; *
I have borne your terrors with a troubled mind.
- 17 Your blazing anger has swept over me; *
your terrors have destroyed me;
- 18 They surround me all day long like a flood; *
they encompass me on every side.
- 19 My friend and my neighbor you have put away from me, *
and darkness is my only companion.

Seventeenth Day: Evening Prayer

89

Part I Misericordias Domini

- 1 Your love, O LORD, for ever will I sing; *
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your
faithfulness.
- 2 For I am persuaded that your love is established for
ever; *
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
- 3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; *
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
4 'I will establish your line for ever, *
and preserve your throne for all generations.'"
- 5 The heavens bear witness to your wonders, O LORD, *
and to your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy
ones;
- 6 For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD? *
who is like the LORD among the gods?

- 7 God is much to be feared in the council of the holy ones; *
great and terrible to all those round about him.
- 8 Who is like you, LORD God of hosts? *
O mighty LORD, your faithfulness is all around you.
- 9 You rule the raging of the sea *
and still the surging of its waves.
- 10 You have crushed Rahab of the deep with a deadly wound; *
you have scattered your enemies with your mighty arm.
- 11 Yours are the heavens; the earth also is yours; *
you laid the foundations of the world and all that is in it.
- 12 You have made the north and the south; *
Tabor and Hermon rejoice in your Name.
- 13 You have a mighty arm; *
strong is your hand and high is your right hand.
- 14 Righteousness and justice are the foundations of your throne; *
love and truth go before your face.
- 15 Happy are the people who know the festal shout! *
they walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.
- 16 They rejoice daily in your Name; *
they are jubilant in your righteousness.
- 17 For you are the glory of their strength, *
and by your favor our might is exalted.
- 18 Truly, the LORD is our ruler; *
the Holy One of Israel is our King.

Part II *Tunc locutus es*

- 19 You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: *
"I have set the crown upon a warrior
and have exalted one chosen out of the people.
- 20 I have found David my servant; *
with my holy oil have I anointed him.
- 21 My hand will hold him fast *
and my arm will make him strong.
- 22 No enemy shall deceive him, *
nor any wicked man bring him down.
- 23 I will crush his foes before him *
and strike down those who hate him.
- 24 My faithfulness and love shall be with him, *
and he shall be victorious through my Name.
- 25 I shall make his dominion extend *
from the Great Sea to the River.
- 26 He will say to me, 'You are my Father, *
my God, and the rock of my salvation.'
- 27 I will make him my firstborn *
and higher than the kings of the earth.
- 28 I will keep my love for him for ever, *
and my covenant will stand firm for him.
- 29 I will establish his line for ever *
and his throne as the days of heaven."
- 30 "If his children forsake my law *
and do not walk according to my judgments;

- 31 If they break my statutes *
and do not keep my commandments;
- 32 I will punish their transgressions with a rod *
and their iniquities with the lash;
- 33 But I will not take my love from him, *
nor let my faithfulness prove false.
- 34 I will not break my covenant, *
nor change what has gone out of my lips.
- 35 Once for all I have sworn by my holiness: *
'I will not lie to David.'
- 36 His line shall endure for ever *
and his throne as the sun before me;
- 37 It shall stand fast for evermore like the moon, *
the abiding witness in the sky.'
- 38 But you have cast off and rejected your anointed; *
you have become enraged at him.
- 39 You have broken your covenant with your servant, *
defiled his crown, and hurled it to the ground.
- 40 You have breached all his walls *
and laid his strongholds in ruins.
- 41 All who pass by despoil him; *
he has become the scorn of his neighbors.
- 42 You have exalted the right hand of his foes *
and made all his enemies rejoice.
- 43 You have turned back the edge of his sword *
and have not sustained him in battle.
- 44 You have put an end to his splendor *
and cast his throne to the ground.

- 45 You have cut short the days of his youth *
and have covered him with shame.
- 46 How long will you hide yourself, O LORD?
will you hide yourself for ever? *
how long will your anger burn like fire?
- 47 Remember, LORD, how short life is,
how frail you have made all flesh.
- 48 Who can live and not see death? *
who can save himself from the power of the grave?
- 49 Where, Lord, are your loving-kindnesses of old, *
which you promised David in your faithfulness?
- 50 Remember, Lord, how your servant is mocked, *
how I carry in my bosom the taunts of many peoples,
- 51 The taunts your enemies have hurled, O LORD, *
which they hurled at the heels of your anointed.
- 52 Blessed be the LORD for evermore! *
Amen, I say, Amen.

Book Four

Eighteenth Day: Morning Prayer

90 Domine, refugium

- 1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.
- 3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
'Go back, O child of earth.'

- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday
when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
- 6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
- 7 For we consume away in your displeasure; *
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.
- 8 Our iniquities you have set before you, *
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
- 9 When you are angry, all our days are gone; *
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
- 10 The span of our life is seventy years,
perhaps in strength even eighty; *
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.
- 11 Who regards the power of your wrath? *
who rightly fears your indignation?
- 12 So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.
- 13 Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry? *
be gracious to your servants.
- 14 Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; *
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.
- 15 Make us glad by the measure of the days that you
afflicted us *
and the years in which we suffered adversity.
- 16 Show your servants your works *
and your splendor to their children.

- 17 May the graciousness of the LORD our God be upon us; *
prosper the work of our hands;
prosper our handiwork.

91 *Qui habitat*

- 1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, *
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2 He shall say to the LORD,
"You are my refuge and my stronghold, *
my God in whom I put my trust."
- 3 He shall deliver you from the snare of the hunter *
and from the deadly pestilence.
- 4 He shall cover you with his pinions,
and you shall find refuge under his wings; *
his faithfulness shall be a shield and buckler.
- 5 You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, *
nor of the arrow that flies by day;
- 6 Of the plague that stalks in the darkness, *
nor of the sickness that lays waste at mid-day.
- 7 A thousand shall fall at your side
and ten thousand at your right hand, *
but it shall not come near you.
- 8 Your eyes have only to behold *
to see the reward of the wicked.
- 9 Because you have made the LORD your refuge, *
and the Most High your habitation,
- 10 There shall no evil happen to you, *
neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.
- 11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, *
to keep you in all your ways.

- 12 They shall bear you in their hands, *
lest you dash your foot against a stone.
- 13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; *
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under
your feet.
- 14 Because he is bound to me in love, *
therefore will I deliver him; *
I will protect him, because he knows my Name.
- 15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; *
I am with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and bring him to honor.
- 16 With long life will I satisfy him, *
and show him my salvation.

92 *Bonum est confiteri*

- 1 It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD, *
and to sing praises to your Name, O Most High;
- 2 To tell of your loving-kindness early in the morning *
and of your faithfulness in the night season;
- 3 On the psaltery, and on the lyre, *
and to the melody of the harp.
- 4 For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD; *
and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.
- 5 LORD, how great are your works! *
your thoughts are very deep.
- 6 The dullard does not know, *
nor does the fool understand, *
that though the wicked grow like weeds,
and all the workers of iniquity flourish,

- 7 They flourish only to be destroyed for ever; *
but you, O LORD, are exalted for evermore.
- 8 For lo, your enemies, O LORD,
lo, your enemies shall perish, *
and all the workers of iniquity shall be scattered.
- 9 But my horn you have exalted like the horns of wild
bulls; *
I am anointed with fresh oil.
- 10 My eyes also gloat over my enemies, *
and my ears rejoice to hear the doom of the wicked
who rise up against me.
- 11 The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, *
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.
- 12 Those who are planted in the house of the LORD, *
shall flourish in the courts of our God;
- 13 They shall still bear fruit in old age; *
they shall be green and succulent;
- 14 That they may show how upright the LORD is, *
my Rock, in whom there is no fault.

Eighteenth Day: Evening Prayer

93 *Dominus regnavit*

- 1 The LORD is King;
he has put on splendid apparel; *
the LORD has put on his apparel
and girded himself with strength.
- 2 He has made the whole world so sure *
that it cannot be moved;

- 3 Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; *
you are from everlasting.
 - 4 The waters have lifted up, O LORD,
the waters have lifted up their voice; *
the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.
 - 5 Mightier than the sound of many waters,
mightier than the breakers of the sea, *
mightier is the LORD who dwells on high.
 - 6 Your testimonies are very sure, *
and holiness adorns your house, O LORD,
for ever and for evermore.
- 94 *Deus ultionum*
- 1 O LORD God of vengeance, *
O God of vengeance, show yourself.
 - 2 Rise up, O Judge of the world; *
give the arrogant their just deserts.
 - 3 How long shall the wicked, O LORD, *
how long shall the wicked triumph?
 - 4 They bluster in their insolence; *
all evildoers are full of boasting.
 - 5 They crush your people, O LORD, *
and afflict your chosen nation.
 - 6 They murder the widow and the stranger *
and put the orphans to death.
 - 7 Yet they say, "The LORD does not see, *
the God of Jacob takes no notice."
 - 8 Consider well, you dullards among the people; *
when will you fools understand?

- 9 He that planted the ear, does he not hear? *
he that formed the eye, does he not see?
- 10 He who admonishes the nations, will he not punish? *
he who teaches all the world, has he no knowledge?
- 11 The LORD knows our human thoughts; *
how like a puff of wind they are.
- 12 Happy are they whom you instruct, O Lord! *
whom you teach out of your law;
- 13 To give them rest in evil days, *
until a pit is dug for the wicked.
- 14 For the LORD will not abandon his people, *
nor will he forsake his own.
- 15 For judgment will again be just, *
and all the true of heart will follow it.
- 16 Who rose up for me against the wicked? *
who took my part against the evildoers?
- 17 If the LORD had not come to my help, *
I should soon have dwelt in the land of silence.
- 18 As often as I said, "My foot has slipped," *
your love, O LORD, upheld me.
- 19 When many cares fill my mind, *
your consolations cheer my soul.
- 20 Can a corrupt tribunal have any part with you, *
one which frames evil into law?
- 21 They conspire against the life of the just *
and condemn the innocent to death.
- 22 But the LORD has become my stronghold, *
and my God the rock of my trust.

- 23 He will turn their wickedness back upon them
and destroy them in their own malice; *
the LORD our God will destroy them.

Nineteenth Day: Morning Prayer

95 *Venite, exultemus*

- 1 Come, let us sing to the LORD; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
- 3 For the LORD is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are his also.
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
- 6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.
- 7 For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his
hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!
- 8 Harden not your hearts,
as your forebears did in the wilderness, *
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,
when they tempted me.
- 9 They put me to the test, *
though they had seen my works.

- 10 Forty years long I detested that generation and said, *
"This people are wayward in their hearts;
they do not know my ways."
- 11 So I swore in my wrath, *
"They shall not enter into my rest."

96 *Cantate Domino*

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, *
sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to
day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."

- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
 - 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the LORD when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.
 - 13 He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.
- 97 *Dominus regnavit*
- 1 The LORD is King;
let the earth rejoice; *
let the multitude of the isles be glad.
 - 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, *
righteousness and justice are the foundations of his
throne.
 - 3 A fire goes before him *
and burns up his enemies on every side.
 - 4 His lightnings light up the world; *
the earth sees it and is afraid.
 - 5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the
LORD, *
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
 - 6 The heavens declare his righteousness, *
and all the peoples see his glory.
 - 7 Confounded be all who worship carved images
and delight in false gods! *
Bow down before him, all you gods.
 - 8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments, O LORD.

- 9 For you are the LORD,
most high over all the earth; *
you are exalted far above all gods.
- 10 The LORD loves those who hate evil; *
he preserves the lives of his saints
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
- 11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, *
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.
- 12 Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, *
and give thanks to his holy Name.

Nineteenth Day: Evening Prayer

98 *Cantate Domino*

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of
the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of
Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of
our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.

- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
 - 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.
 - 11 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.
- 99 Dominus regnavit**
- 1 The LORD is King;
let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.
 - 2 The LORD is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.
 - 3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and
awesome; *
he is the Holy One.
 - 4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."
 - 5 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.
 - 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.
 - 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave
them.

- 8 O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.
 - 9 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the LORD our God is the Holy One.
- 100 Jubilate Deo**
- 1 Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; *
serve the LORD with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.
 - 2 Know this: The LORD himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
 - 3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
 - 4 For the LORD is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.
- 101 Misericordiam et iudicium**
- 1 I will sing of mercy and justice; *
to you, O LORD, will I sing praises.
 - 2 I will strive to follow a blameless course;
oh, when will you come to me? *
I will walk with sincerity of heart within my house.
 - 3 I will set no worthless thing before my eyes; *
I hate the doers of evil deeds;
they shall not remain with me.

- 4 A crooked heart shall be far from me; *
I will not know evil.
- 5 Those who in secret slander their neighbors I will
destroy; *
those who have a haughty look and a proud heart I
cannot abide.
- 6 My eyes are upon the faithful in the land, that they may
dwell with me; *
and only those who lead a blameless life shall be my
servants.
- 7 Those who act deceitfully shall not dwell in my house, *
and those who tell lies shall not continue in my sight.
- 8 I will soon destroy all the wicked in the land, *
that I may root out all evildoers from the city of the
LORD.

Twentieth Day: Morning Prayer

102 Domine, exaudi

- 1 LORD, hear my prayer, and let my cry come before you; *
hide not your face from me in the day of my trouble.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; *
when I call, make haste to answer me,
- 3 For my days drift away like smoke, *
and my bones are hot as burning coals.
- 4 My heart is smitten like grass and withered, *
so that I forget to eat my bread.
- 5 Because of the voice of my groaning *
I am but skin and bones.
- 6 I have become like a vulture in the wilderness, *
like an owl among the ruins.

- 7 I lie awake and groan; *
I am like a sparrow, lonely on a house-top.
- 8 My enemies revile me all day long, *
and those who scoff at me have taken an oath against
me.
- 9 For I have eaten ashes for bread *
and mingled my drink with weeping.
- 10 Because of your indignation and wrath *
you have lifted me up and thrown me away.
- 11 My days pass away like a shadow, *
and I wither like the grass.
- 12 But you, O LORD, endure for ever, *
and your Name from age to age.
- 13 You will arise and have compassion on Zion,
for it is time to have mercy upon her; *
indeed, the appointed time has come.
- 14 For your servants love her very rubble, *
and are moved to pity even for her dust.
- 15 The nations shall fear your Name, O LORD, *
and all the kings of the earth your glory.
- 16 For the LORD will build up Zion, *
and his glory will appear.
- 17 He will look with favor on the prayer of the homeless; *
he will not despise their plea.
- 18 Let this be written for a future generation, *
so that a people yet unborn may praise the LORD.
- 19 For the LORD looked down from his holy place on high; *
from the heavens he beheld the earth;

- 20 That he might hear the groan of the captive *
and set free those condemned to die;
- 21 That they may declare in Zion the Name of the LORD, *
and his praise in Jerusalem;
- 22 When the peoples are gathered together, *
and the kingdoms also, to serve the LORD.
- 23 He has brought down my strength before my time; *
he has shortened the number of my days;
- 24 And I said, "O my God,
do not take me away in the midst of my days; *
your years endure throughout all generations.
- 25 In the beginning, O LORD, you laid the foundations of the
earth, *
and the heavens are the work of your hands;
- 26 They shall perish, but you will endure;
they all shall wear out like a garment; *
as clothing you will change them,
and they shall be changed;
- 27 But you are always the same, *
and your years will never end.
- 28 The children of your servants shall continue, *
and their offspring shall stand fast in your sight."

103 *Benedic, anima mea*

- 1 Bless the LORD, O my soul, *
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
- 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, *
and forget not all his benefits.
- 3 He forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;

- 4 He redeems your life from the grave *
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;
- 5 He satisfies you with good things, *
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- 6 The LORD executes righteousness *
and judgment for all who are oppressed.
- 7 He made his ways known to Moses *
and his works to the children of Israel.
- 8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- 13 As a father cares for his children, *
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.
- 14 For he himself knows whereof we are made; *
he remembers that we are but dust.
- 15 Our days are like the grass; *
we flourish like a flower of the field;
- 16 When the wind goes over it, it is gone, *
and its place shall know it no more.
- 17 But the merciful goodness of the LORD endures for ever
on those who fear him, *
and his righteousness on children's children;

- 18 On those who keep his covenant *
and remember his commandments and do them.
- 19 The LORD has set his throne in heaven, *
and his kingship has dominion over all.
- 20 Bless the LORD, you angels of his,
you mighty ones who do his bidding, *
and hearken to the voice of his word.
- 21 Bless the LORD, all you his hosts, *
you ministers of his who do his will.
- 22 Bless the LORD, all you works of his,
in all places of his dominion; *
bless the LORD, O my soul.

Twentieth Day: Evening Prayer

104 *Benedic, anima mea*

- 1 Bless the LORD, O my soul; *
O LORD my God, how excellent is your greatness!
you are clothed with majesty and splendor.
- 2 You wrap yourself with light as with a cloak *
and spread out the heavens like a curtain.
- 3 You lay the beams of your chambers in the waters above; *
you make the clouds your chariot;
you ride on the wings of the wind.
- 4 You make the winds your messengers *
and flames of fire your servants.
- 5 You have set the earth upon its foundations, *
so that it never shall move at any time.
- 6 You covered it with the Deep as with a mantle; *
the waters stood higher than the mountains.

- 7 At your rebuke they fled; *
at the voice of your thunder they hastened away.
- 8 They went up into the hills and down to the valleys
beneath, *
to the places you had appointed for them.
- 9 You set the limits that they should not pass; *
they shall not again cover the earth.
- 10 You send the springs into the valleys; *
they flow between the mountains.
- 11 All the beasts of the field drink their fill from them, *
and the wild asses quench their thirst.
- 12 Beside them the birds of the air make their nests *
and sing among the branches.
- 13 You water the mountains from your dwelling on high; *
the earth is fully satisfied by the fruit of your works.
- 14 You make grass grow for flocks and herds *
and plants to serve mankind;
- 15 That they may bring forth food from the earth, *
and wine to gladden our hearts,
- 16 Oil to make a cheerful countenance, *
and bread to strengthen the heart.
- 17 The trees of the LORD are full of sap, *
the cedars of Lebanon which he planted,
- 18 In which the birds build their nests, *
and in whose tops the stork makes his dwelling.
- 19 The high hills are a refuge for the mountain goats, *
and the stony cliffs for the rock badgers.
- 20 You appointed the moon to mark the seasons, *
and the sun knows the time of its setting.

- 21 You make darkness that it may be night, *
in which all the beasts of the forest prowl.
- 22 The lions roar after their prey *
and seek their food from God.
- 23 The sun rises, and they slip away *
and lay themselves down in their dens.
- 24 Man goes forth to his work *
and to his labor until the evening.
- 25 O LORD, how manifold are your works! *
in wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
- 26 Yonder is the great and wide sea
with its living things too many to number, *
creatures both small and great.
- 27 There move the ships,
and there is that Leviathan, *
which you have made for the sport of it.
- 28 All of them look to you *
to give them their food in due season.
- 29 You give it to them; they gather it; *
you open your hand, and they are filled with good
things.
- 30 You hide your face, and they are terrified; *
you take away their breath,
and they die and return to their dust.
- 31 You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; *
and so you renew the face of the earth.
- 32 May the glory of the LORD endure for ever; *
may the LORD rejoice in all his works.

- 33 He looks at the earth and it trembles; *
he touches the mountains and they smoke.
- 34 I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; *
I will praise my God while I have my being.
- 35 May these words of mine please him; *
I will rejoice in the LORD.
- 36 Let sinners be consumed out of the earth, *
and the wicked be no more.
- 37 Bless the LORD, O my soul. *
Hallelujah!
- Twenty-first Day: Morning Prayer*
- 105 Part I Confitemini Domino**
- 1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- 4 Search for the LORD and his strength; *
continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 7 He is the LORD our God; *
his judgments prevail in all the world.
- 8 He has always been mindful of his covenant, *
the promise he made for a thousand generations:

- 9 The covenant he made with Abraham, *
the oath that he swore to Isaac,
- 10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob, *
an everlasting covenant for Israel,
- 11 Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan *
to be your allotted inheritance."
- 12 When they were few in number, *
of little account, and sojourners in the land,
- 13 Wandering from nation to nation *
and from one kingdom to another,
- 14 He let no one oppress them *
and rebuked kings for their sake,
- 15 Saying, "Do not touch my anointed *
and do my prophets no harm."
- 16 Then he called for a famine in the land *
and destroyed the supply of bread.
- 17 He sent a man before them, *
Joseph, who was sold as a slave.
- 18 They bruised his feet in fetters; *
his neck they put in an iron collar.
- 19 Until his prediction came to pass, *
the word of the LORD tested him.
- 20 The king sent and released him; *
the ruler of the peoples set him free.
- 21 He set him as a master over his household, *
as a ruler over all his possessions,
- 22 To instruct his princes according to his will *
and to teach his elders wisdom.

105

Part II *Et intravit Israel*

- 23 Israel came into Egypt, *
and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of Ham.
- 24 The LORD made his people exceedingly fruitful; *
he made them stronger than their enemies;
- 25 Whose heart he turned, so that they hated his people, *
and dealt unjustly with his servants.
- 26 He sent Moses his servant, *
and Aaron whom he had chosen.
- 27 They worked his signs among them, *
and portents in the land of Ham.
- 28 He sent darkness, and it grew dark; *
but the Egyptians rebelled against his words.
- 29 He turned their waters into blood *
and caused their fish to die.
- 30 Their land was overrun by frogs, *
in the very chambers of their kings.
- 31 He spoke, and there came swarms of insects *
and gnats within all their borders.
- 32 He gave them hailstones instead of rain, *
and flames of fire throughout their land.
- 33 He blasted their vines and their fig trees *
and shattered every tree in their country.
- 34 He spoke, and the locust came, *
and young locusts without number,
- 35 Which ate up all the green plants in their land *
and devoured the fruit of their soil.

- 36 He struck down the firstborn of their land, *
the first fruits of all their strength.
- 37 He led out his people with silver and gold; *
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.
- 38 Egypt was glad of their going, *
because they were afraid of them.
- 39 He spread out a cloud for a covering *
and a fire to give light in the night season.
- 40 They asked, and quails appeared, *
and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.
- 41 He opened the rock, and water flowed, *
so the river ran in the dry places.
- 42 For God remembered his holy word *
and Abraham his servant.
- 43 So he led forth his people with gladness, *
his chosen with shouts of joy.
- 44 He gave his people the lands of the nations, *
and they took the fruit of others' toil,
- 45 That they might keep his statutes *
and observe his laws.
Hallelujah!

Twenty-first Day: Evening Prayer

106

Part I Confitemini Domino

- 1 Hallelujah! Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Who can declare the mighty acts of the LORD ORD, with
the favor you have for your people, *
and visit me with your saving help;
- 5 That I may see the prosperity of your elect
and be glad with the gladness of your people, *
that I may glory with your inheritance.
- 6 We have sinned as our forebears did; *
we have done wrong and dealt wickedly.
- 7 In Egypt they did not consider your marvelous works,
nor remember the abundance of your love; *
they defied the Most High at the Red Sea.
- 8 But he saved them for his Name's sake, *
to make his power known.
- 9 He rebuked the Red Sea, and it dried up, *
and he led them through the deep as through a desert.
- 10 He saved them from the hand of those who hated them *
and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.
- 11 The waters covered their oppressors; *
not one of them was left.
- 12 Then they believed his words *
and sang him songs of praise.
- 13 But they soon forgot his deeds *
and did not wait for his counsel.

- 14 A craving seized them in the wilderness, *
and they put God to the test in the desert.
- 15 He gave them what they asked, *
but sent leanness into their soul.
- 16 They envied Moses in the camp, *
and Aaron, the holy one of the LORD.
- 17 The earth opened and swallowed Dathan *
and covered the company of Abiram.
- 18 Fire blazed up against their company, *
and flames devoured the wicked.
- 106
- Part II *Et fecerunt vitulum*
- 19 Israel made a bull-calf at Horeb *
and worshiped a molten image;
- 20 And so they exchanged their Glory *
for the image of an ox that feeds on grass.
- 21 They forgot God their Savior, *
who had done great things in Egypt,
- 22 Wonderful deeds in the land of Ham, *
and fearful things at the Red Sea.
- 23 So he would have destroyed them,
had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the
breach, *
to turn away his wrath from consuming them.
- 24 They refused the pleasant land *
and would not believe his promise.
- 25 They grumbled in their tents *
and would not listen to the voice of the LORD.

- 26 So he lifted his hand against them, *
to overthrow them in the wilderness,
- 27 To cast out their seed among the nations, *
and to scatter them throughout the lands.
- 28 They joined themselves to Baal-Peor *
and ate sacrifices offered to the dead.
- 29 They provoked him to anger with their actions, *
and a plague broke out among them.
- 30 Then Phinehas stood up and interceded, *
and the plague came to an end.
- 31 This was reckoned to him as righteousness *
throughout all generations for ever.
- 32 Again they provoked his anger at the waters of Meribah, *
so that he punished Moses because of them;
- 33 For they so embittered his spirit *
that he spoke rash words with his lips.
- 34 They did not destroy the peoples *
as the LORD had commanded them.
- 35 They intermingled with the heathen *
and learned their pagan ways,
- 36 So that they worshiped their idols, *
which became a snare to them.
- 37 They sacrificed their sons *
and their daughters to evil spirits.
- 38 They shed innocent blood,
the blood of their sons and daughters, *
which they offered to the idols of Canaan,
and the land was defiled with blood.
- 39 Thus they were polluted by their actions *
and went whoring in their evil deeds.

- 40 Therefore the wrath of the LORD was kindled against his people *
and he abhorred his inheritance.
- 41 He gave them over to the hand of the heathen, *
and those who hated them ruled over them.
- 42 Their enemies oppressed them, *
and they were humbled under their hand.
- 43 Many a time did he deliver them, *
but they rebelled through their own devices, *
and were brought down in their iniquity.
- 44 Nevertheless, he saw their distress, *
when he heard their lamentation.
- 45 He remembered his covenant with them *
and relented in accordance with his great mercy.
- 46 He caused them to be pitied *
by those who held them captive.
- 47 Save us, O LORD our God,
and gather us from among the nations, *
that we may give thanks to your holy Name
and glory in your praise.
- 48 Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
from everlasting and to everlasting; *
and let all the people say, "Amen!"
Hallelujah!

Book Five

Twenty-second Day: Morning Prayer

107

Part I *Confitemini Domino*

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
and his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed proclaim *
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
- 3 He gathered them out of the lands; *
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
- 4 Some wandered in desert wastes; *
they found no way to a city where they might dwell.
- 5 They were hungry and thirsty; *
their spirits languished within them.
- 6 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, *
and he delivered them from their distress.
- 7 He put their feet on a straight path *
to go to a city where they might dwell.
- 8 Let them give thanks to the LORD for his mercy *
and the wonders he does for his children.
- 9 For he satisfies the thirsty *
and fills the hungry with good things.
- 10 Some sat in darkness and deep gloom, *
bound fast in misery and iron;
- 11 Because they rebelled against the words of God *
and despised the counsel of the Most High.