Hymns for the Liturgy of the Hours

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with Chant from the Antiophonale Monasticum and Hymn Tunes by Columba Kelly, OSB

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As Daylight Fills the Morning Sky
Most Splendid and Resplendent Light
O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright

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Lauds Hymn in Ordinary Time: Week I

**The Heavens By Your Word**
Possible Lauds Hymn in Ordinary Time: Week I, Sunday

The heavens by your Word were made,
some billion galaxies,
whose fiery mass times light by light
explodes as energy.
When first you spoke, you struck the spark
that loosed this majesty:
a billion, billion racing stars
against the dark set free.

Orion's sword, Magellan's cloud,
the Milky Way in flight,
Andromeda's majestic swirl,
black holes, and bending light.
The planets held by gravity
move round our little sun
while all the universe expands
with time and space as one.

Lord, what are we that we can probe
the mystery of your ways?
And what shall we return to you
except this simple praise?
What vastness shall compare with you?
O True Infinity!
What height or depth shall measure you?
Most Blessed Trinity!

Text: HH, 2002
Music: Chant version of Tallis' Third Mode Hymn, 1567
The Heavens By Your Word
Lauds Hymn in Ordinary Time: Week I, Sunday

1. The heavens by your Word were made,
2. O-ri-on's sword, Magelan's cloud,
3. Lord, what are we that we can probe

1. some billion galaxies,
2. the Milky Way in flight,
3. the mystery of your ways?

1. whose fiery mass times light by light
2. Andromeda's majestic swirl,
3. And what shall we return to you

1. explodes as energy.
2. black holes, and bending light.
3. except this simple praise?

1. When first you spoke, you struck the spark
2. The planets held by gravity
3. What vastness shall compare with you?

1. that loosed this majesty:
2. move round our little sun
3. O True Infinity!

1. a billion, billion racing stars
2. while all the universe expands
3. What height or depth shall measure you?

1. against the dark set free.
2. with time and space as one.

Text: HH: 2002
Music: Chant version of Tallis' Third Mode Hymn, 1567
O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright (OCP)
Lauds Hymn in Ordinary Time: Week I, Monday

How Welcome, Break the Sun’s First Rays
Lauds Hymn in Ordinary Time: Week I, Tuesday

How welcome, break the sun’s first rays
that mark again the dawn of praise.
They clothe with color earth and sky:
In all things God be glorified!

O Christ, our ancient, living Light,
with fiery love our lives ignite.
Make your undying joy our guide:
In all things God be glorified!

You are the Father’s thought and word;
by you are all earth’s wonders stirred
to shine and draw us to your side:
In all things God be glorified!

From your clear light give us a share
that we as heirs may walk and dare
to let God’s grace pervade our lives:
In all things God be glorified!

Grant all that is entire and whole
from deep within us overflow.
Let truth by joy our hearts lift high:
In all things God be glorified!

To you, our good and godly King,
the Father’s glory we shall sing
that in your Spirit we may bide:
In all thing God be glorified!

_Pegrata mundo nuntiat_, tr. HH, 2009
_Music: Sun’s First Rays_, CK, 2010

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How Welcome Break the Sun’s First Rays
Lauds Hymn in Ordinary Time: Week I, Tuesday

1. How wel- come break the sun’s first rays
2. O Christ, our an- cient, liv- ing Light,
3. You are the Fa- ther’s thought and word;
4. From your clear light give us a share
5. Grant all that is en- tire and whole
6. To you, our good and god- ly King,

1. that mark a- gain the dawn of praise.
2. with fier- y love our lives igni- nite.
3. by you are all earth’s won- ders stirred
4. that we as heirs may walk and dare
5. from deep with- in us o- ver- flow.
6. the Fa- ther’s glo- ry we shall sing

1. They clothe with col- or earth and sky:
2. Make your un- dy- ing joy our guide:
3. to shine and draw us to your side
4. to let God’s grace per- vade our lives:
5. Let truth by joy our hearts lift high:
6. that in your Spir- it we may bide:


_Pegrata mundo nuntiat_, tr. HH, 2009
_Music: Sun’s First Rays_, CK, 2010
Antiphonale Monasticum, Lauds Summer Hymn, Mode 4g. alt. SMA.
Come, Christ, our Sun, in Gold Arise
Lauds Hymn in Ordinary Time: Week I, Thursday

Come Christ, our Sun, in gold arise
and blind the blindness of our eyes
until your clearer light remains
and you alone within us reign.

May your clear light such calm confer,
a purer self within us stir
that we may see each shade and hue
of every color found in you.

All color in your clear, bright light
from red to deepest blue unite
and joined as one in just one ray
reveal your life, your truth, your way.

In your clear light we take our stand
and pray our hearts with love expand.
Grant all we speak and breathe and feel
may radiate your holy zeal.

Praise God Almighty, Light of Light,
The unseen God who gives us sight.
To Father, Son and Spirit praise
who is, who was and is always.

Sol ecce surgit igneus, by Aurelius Prudentius Clements (348-c405),
tr. HH, 2008
Antiphonale Monasticum. Lauds Winter Hymn, Mode 1.
**Eternal Glory of the Skies**

**Eternal Glory of the Skies,**  
**Blest Hope for us that never dies,**  
**Resounding Word of God Most High:**  
**Chaste virgin's offspring, hear our cry.**

Give us your hand that we may rise  
with mind uplifted, calm and wise.  
Then we resplendent with your praise  
shall shine with thanks, our hearts ablaze.

The day star, risen bright and clear,  
announces that the dawn is near.  
As fades the darksome shroud of night,  
come, Holy Light, and make us light.

May light pervade our hearts and minds,  
expel the drear and gloom that binds.  
Lord, burn away all sin and shame,  
and make us beacons of your name.

Let faith within our hearts take root  
and bear for us the longed for fruit.  
Let joyful hope great love sustain  
till love of Christ alone shall reign.

How bright the morning majesty  
of God the Holy Trinity.  
Praise Father, Son and Spirit: One,  
in whom have life and love begun.

*Aeterna caeli gloria*, anon. 9th c. (?), tr. HH, 2007.  
**Music:** Resounding Word, CK, 2010.
Eternal Glory of the Skies
Lauds Hymn in Ordinary Time: Week I, Friday

1. Eternal Glory of the skies,
   2. Give us your hand that we may rise
   3. The day star, risen bright and clear,

1. Blest Hope for us that never dies,
   2. with mind uplifted, calm and wise.
   3. announces that the dawn is near.

1. Resounding Word of God Most High:
   2. Then we resplendent with your praise
   3. As fades the darksome shroud of night,

1. Chaste virgin’s offspring, hear our cry.
   2. shall shine with thanks, our hearts ablaze.
   3. come, Holy Light, and make us light.

4. May light pervade our hearts and minds,
5. Let faith within our hearts take root
6. How bright the morning majesty

4. expel the drear and gloom that binds.
5. and bear for us the longed for fruit.
6. of God the Holy Trinity.

4. Lord, burn away all sin and shame,
5. Let joyful hope great love sustain
6. Praise Father, Son and Spirit: One,

4. and make us beacons of your name.
5. till love of Christ alone shall reign.
6. in whom have life and love begun.

6. Amen.

Aeterna caeli gloria, anon. 9th c.(?), tr. HH, 2007.
The Early Dawn Spreads East to West
Lauds Hymn in Ordinary Time: Week I, Saturday

The early dawn spreads east to west, and in its light the earth is blest with nothing hidden from its rays, insisting all give thanks and praise.

Let all illusion’s form and charm be banished with its false alarm that we may see the true and real revealed in Christ, its pledge and seal.

The rising sun foretells the end when Christ in glory shall descend to flood the earth with light so clear that every truth must then appear.

All praise to God the Father be and to the Son eternally with God the Holy Paraclete in whom all joy shall be complete.

Aurora jam spargit, anon. 7-8th c., tr. HH, 2011.
Lauds Hymn in Ordinary Time: Week II

Most Splendid and Resplendent Light (OCP)
Lauds Hymn in Ordinary Time: Week II, Monday


See also: https://www.ocp.org/en-us/songs/51754
**Eternal Light and Source of Light**

Lauds Hymn in Ordinary Time: Week II, Tuesday

Eternal Light and Source of light,
All Light beyond this day and night,
You show the brightness of each thing,
And show yourself its source and spring.

No darkness shall your light subdue,
for darkness is not dark for you.
You shine with undimmed clarity
and radiate bright charity.

Lord, let us see the sin and hate,
The wrongs that wound and desecrate.
Then give us strength to bear the sight
and bring this sadness to your light.

May light this day reveal your face
To every eye of every race
that we with them from strife set free
may live in blameless harmony.

Praise God the Father of the Light.
Praise Christ whose glory gives us sight
and praise the Spirit, bold and bright,
One God in whom all worlds unite. Amen

*Aeterne lucis conditor*, 5-6th c., tr. HH, 2004
*Antiphonale Monasticum*, Prime for Ferial Days
Creator of the Morning Skies
Lauds Hymn in Ordinary Time: Week II, Wednesday

Creator of the morning skies:
earth turns so that the sun may rise,
and we now turn again toward you
that you may rise in us anew.

The palest light the night dispels
as day’s bright beauty it foretells
and brings new strength for heart and mind
to make us strong and ever kind.

Your praise the coming day demands
with love to fill your great command.
May daylight bring serenity,
the fruit of peace, to set us free.

As day grows bolder length by length
so may our faith find strength in strength.
Let hope new hope in us incite
and love with love for Christ unite.

Lord God, most good and ever kind!
How glorious the world’s design.
We praise you, Blessed Trinity,
who hold all in your unity.

*Fulgentis auctor ætheris*, tr. HH, 2011
*Antiphonale Monasticum*, Daytime Hours, Sundays per Annum
As Daylight Fills the Morning Sky (OCP)
Lauds Hymn in Ordinary Time: Week II, Thursday

Lord God, You Are the Heaven’s Light
Lauds Hymn in Ordinary Time: Week II, Friday

Lord God, You are the heaven’s light. You spread and span the starry night. Its countless worlds Your hand has spun: each galaxy and fiery sun.

These distant stars the sunrise hides with red that floods the eastern skies while earth alive appears anew as if baptized with morning dew.

Let shadows and despair disperse and with them Adam’s ancient curse, for Christ the Daystar rises clear and rouses day to purge all fear.

All Holy God and Day of Days, the Light of Light, beyond all praise. You hold all things in unity all one in your blest Trinity.

Good Savior, hear our prayer and plea, accept our oath of fealty whom with the Father we adore one with the Spirit evermore.

Deus, qui caeli lumen es, tr. HH, 2008
As Turns the Earth
Lauds Hymn in Ordinary Time: Week II, Saturday

As turns the earth, so day returns
and we who live and breathe and yearn
must turn again and sing God’s praise
confessing Christ and all his ways.

In Christ, the Father of all things
decreed the laws from which life springs:
the double helix of desire,
the spiral of the Spirit’s fire.

This chain of four repeats the bond
that links us to your life beyond;
its turning gyre records your trace:
bright image of our human race.

True Light are you, as we believe,
beyond the light that we perceive;
around your center we revolve
and in your timeless light resolve.

Grant, uncreated Father fair,
that we may gather all in prayer
and bend to Christ this day entire,
encircled by the Spirit’s fire.

Diei luce reddita, tr. HH, 2009
Music: Turning Gyre, CK, 2010
Come, Holy Spirit Ever One
Daytime Hour: Terce, Week I

Come, Holy Spirit ever one
with God the Father and the Son.
Our hearts encompass and possess;
our prayer and work sustain and bless.

May all our thoughts and speech proclaim,
our strength and feeling tell your name
while we by charity aspire
to set our neighbors’ love afire.

Through You may we this day receive
the strength to live as we believe
who with the Father and the Son
we worship as the Three in One.

Nunc Sancte, nobis, Spiritus, vs. 1 after John Henry Newman,
vss. 2-3, HH, 2012.
Antiphonale Monasticum, Daytime Hours, Sunday per Annum.
This Sacred Round of Prayer We Keep
Daytime Hour: Terce, Week 2

This sacred round of prayer we keep and ask that all we plant and reap be blest with glory at this hour by your transforming triune power.

Make us, your Church, a house of prayer that in your Spirit we may share the gifts poured out for all to see on your disciples’ ministry.

All things most splendid you have made, your kingdom here on earth displayed. Your gifts outshine the morning sun: O Father, Son and Spirit, One!

Certum tenentes ordinem, 6th c., tr. HH, 2012
Antiphonale Monasticum: Daytime, Weekdays in Festis Minoribus
To Offer Praise We Turn Once More
Daytime Hour: None: Week II

To offer praise we turn once more and sing as we have sung before to You the perfect One and Three:
All gifts flow from Your majesty.

As Peter saw the mystery of all creation’s dignity, may we Your saving signs behold as in our midst Your gifts unfold.

United with the Church, we sing and humbly ask our hymn may bring your blessing on all we have done: O Father, Son and Spirit: One.

*Ternis horarum terminis, 6th c., tr. HH, 2012
Antiphonale Monasticum, Daytime, Ferial Days*
To You, At This, the Close of Day
Compline Hymn

To You, at this, the close of day,
Creator of all things, we pray
that You, as You are ever kind,
may guard and keep both heart and mind.

Dispel the terror of the night,
and sleepless worry put to flight
that we may find our rest in You
and rise refreshed to serve anew.

Let God be blessed, who gives the night,
revealing ancient worlds of light.
To Father, Son, and Spirit praise:
the Source of all our nights and days.

Te lucis ante terminum, 7th cent., tr. HH, 2008
Antiphonale Monasticum, Prime on Weekdays for Minor Feasts