

A LITURGY OF

Praise to God for Salvation

AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO (354–430)

Late have I loved thee, O thou
Eternal Truth and Goodness:
late have I sought thee, my Father!

But thou didst seek me, and when
thou shinedst forth upon me, then
I knew thee and learnt to love thee.

I thank thee, O my light, that thou
didst thus shine upon me; that thou
didst teach my soul what thou wouldst
be to me, and didst incline thy face in pity
unto me.

Thou, Lord, hast become my hope,
my comfort, my strength, my all! In thee
doth my soul rejoice. The darkness vanished
from before mine eyes, and I beheld thee,
the sun of righteousness.

When I loved darkness, I knew thee not,
but wandered on from night to night.
But thou didst lead me out of that blindness;
thou didst take me by the hand
 and call me to thee,
and now I can thank thee, and thy mighty voice
which hath penetrated to my inmost heart.

Amen.