

Evensong for the Feast of the Annunciation

March 25th, 2020 from St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Spirit Lake



Annunciation, work by unknown artist, c. 1420, [Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya, Barcelona](#)

Opening Sentence

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike. *Psalm 139:10,11*

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant

O God, make speed to save us.

People

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spi - rit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. A - men.

Except in Lent, add:

Al - le - lu - ia.

O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron*

1. O gra - cious Light, pure bright - ness of the ev - er - liv - ing
Fa - ther in hea - ven, O Je - sus Christ, ho - ly and bless - ed!

2. Now as we come to the set - ting of the sun, and our
eyes be - hold the ves - per light, we sing your prais - es, O God:
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit. 3. You are wor - thy at all times
to be praised by hap - py voic - es, O Son of God, O Giv - er
of life, and to be glo - ri - fied through all the worlds.

110 Dixit Domin

- 1 The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, *
until I make your enemies your footstool."
- 2 The LORD will send the scepter of your power out of Zion, *
saying, "Rule over your enemies round about you."
- 3 Princely state has been yours from the day of your birth; *
in the beauty of holiness have I begotten you,
like dew from the womb of the morning."
- 4 The LORD has sworn and he will not recant: *
"You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek."
- 5 The Lord who is at your right hand
will smite kings in the day of his wrath; *
he will rule over the nations.

132 Memento, Domine

- 1 LORD, remember David, *
and all the hardships he endured;
- 2 How he swore an oath to the LORD *
and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:
- 3 "I will not come under the roof of my house, *
nor climb up into my bed;
- 4 I will not allow my eyes to sleep, *
nor let my eyelids slumber;
- 5 Until I find a place for the LORD, *
a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob."
- 6 "The ark! We heard it was in Ephratah; *
we found it in the fields of Jearim.
- 7 Let us go to God's dwelling place; *
let us fall upon our knees before his footstool."

- 8 Arise, O LORD, into your resting-place, *
you and the ark of your strength.
- 9 Let your priests be clothed with righteousness; *
let your faithful people sing with joy.
- 10 For your servant David's sake, *
do not turn away the face of your Anointed.
- 11 The LORD has sworn an oath to David; *
in truth, he will not break it:
- 12 "A son, the fruit of your body *
will I set upon your throne.
- 13 If your children keep my covenant
and my testimonies that I shall teach them, *
their children will sit upon your throne for evermore."
- 14 For the LORD has chosen Zion; *
he has desired her for his habitation:
- 15 "This shall be my resting-place for ever; *
here will I dwell, for I delight in her.
- 16 I will surely bless her provisions, *
and satisfy her poor with bread.
- 17 I will clothe her priests with salvation, *
and her faithful people will rejoice and sing.
- 18 There will I make the horn of David flourish; *
I have prepared a lamp for my Anointed.
- 19 As for his enemies, I will clothe them with shame; *
but as for him, his crown will shine."

1st Reading

Wisdom 9:1-12 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

Solomon's Prayer for Wisdom

“O God of my ancestors and Lord of mercy,
who have made all things by your word,
and by your wisdom have formed humankind
to have dominion over the creatures you have made,
and rule the world in holiness and righteousness,
and pronounce judgment in uprightness of soul,
give me the wisdom that sits by your throne,
and do not reject me from among your servants.
For I am your servant the son of your serving girl,
a man who is weak and short-lived,
with little understanding of judgment and laws;
for even one who is perfect among human beings
will be regarded as nothing without the wisdom that comes from you.
You have chosen me to be king of your people
and to be judge over your sons and daughters.
You have given command to build a temple on your holy mountain,
and an altar in the city of your habitation,
a copy of the holy tent that you prepared from the beginning.
With you is wisdom, she who knows your works
and was present when you made the world;
she understands what is pleasing in your sight
and what is right according to your commandments.
Send her forth from the holy heavens,
and from the throne of your glory send her,
that she may labor at my side,
and that I may learn what is pleasing to you.
For she knows and understands all things,
and she will guide me wisely in my actions
and guard me with her glory.
Then my works will be acceptable,
and I shall judge your people justly,
and shall be worthy of the throne of my father.

[New Revised Standard Version](#) (NRSV)

The Song of Mary

Antiphon

Unison or harmony



1. My soul pro - claims the great - ness



1. My soul pro -



of the Lord, my spi - rit re - joic - es in



claims the great - ness of the Lord, my



God my Sa - vior; for he has looked

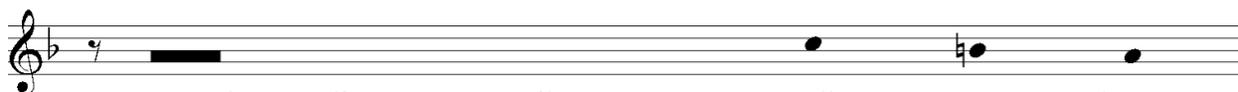


spi - rit re - joic - es in God



with fa - vor on his low - ly ser - vant.





2 From this day all generations will call me blessed:
3 He has mercy on those who fear him
4 He has shown the strength of his arm,
5 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
6 He has filled the hungry with good things,
7 He has come to the help of his servant Israel,
8 The promise he made to our fathers,
9 Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
10 As it was in the beginning, is now,



2 the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.
3 in every generation. [Ant.]
4 he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
5 and has lifted up the lowly. [Ant.]
6 and the rich he has sent away empty.
7 for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
8 to Abraham and his children for ever. [Ant.]
9 and to the Holy Spirit:
10 and will be for ever. Amen. [Ant.]

The antiphon may be sung in unison, with the counter-melody played by an instrument, or it may be sung in three parts.

Second Reading

John 1:9-14 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Here ends the reading.

Antiphon

These eyes of mine have seen the Sa - vior,
 whom you have pre - pared for all the world to see.
 1. Lord, you now have set your ser - vant free to go in peace as you
 have prom - ised; 2. For these eyes of mine have seen the Sa - vior,
 whom you have prepared for all the world to see:
 3. A Light to enlight - en the na - tions, and the glory of your
 peo - ple Is - ra - el. [Ant.] 4. Glo - ry to the Father, and
 to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spi - rit: 5. As it
 was in the begin - ning, is now, and will be for ev - er. A - men. [Ant.]

The Apostles' Creed

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Cantor or Officiant

That this evening may be holy, good, and peace-ful,

People

We en - treat you, O Lord.

(This response is sung after each petition)

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and good-will,

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and of - fen - ses,

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear,

and not be condemned before the great judg - ment seat of Christ,

That we may be bound together by thy Holy Spirit in the communion of

[_____ and] all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

The Collects

The Annunciation *March 25*

Pour your grace into our hearts, O Lord, that we who have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, announced by an angel to the Virgin Mary, may by his cross and passion be brought to the glory of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Collect for Protection

O God, the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank you for the blessings of the day that is past, and humbly ask for your protection through the coming night. Bring us in safety to the morning hours; through him who died and rose again for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

A Collect for Mission

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. *Amen.*



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,
2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,
thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say-



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!



Authorized intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.

Before the close of the Office one or both of the following may be used

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

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.*

Then may be said

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in
believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Romans 15:13