



**Psalm 45:10-17; antiphon: v. 6**

P Hear, O daughter, and consider, and incline your ear:

forget your people and your father's house,  
and the king will desire your beauty.

C **Since he is your lord, bow to him. The people will seek favor  
with gifts, the richest of the people.**

P All glorious is the princess in her chamber,  
with robes interwoven with gold.

C **In many-colored robes she is led to the king,  
with her virgin companions following behind her.**

P With joy and gladness they are led along  
as they enter the palace of the king.

C **In place of your fathers shall be your sons;  
you will make them princes in all the earth.**

P I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations;

C **therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.**

**Old Testament Reading (prophecy of Jesus' birth) *Isaiah 7:10-17***

<sup>10</sup>Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup>“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” <sup>13</sup>And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup>For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. <sup>17</sup>The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

**Collect for Advent**

P Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

**Epistle Reading (Purpose of Jesus' birth) *Galatians 4:1-7***

<sup>1</sup>I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, <sup>2</sup>but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. <sup>3</sup>In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. <sup>4</sup>But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup>And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

**Gospel** (Story of Jesus' birth announcement to Mary) *Luke 1:26–38*

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" <sup>29</sup>But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup>and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

<sup>34</sup>And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

**Responsory**

- P Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth.  
C **Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**  
P Unite my heart to fear Your name that I may walk in Your truth.  
C **Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**  
P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
C **Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

**Hymn of the Day - What Child Is This**

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary!
- 2 Why lies He in such mean estate  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,  
The cross be borne for me, for you;  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

- 3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby;  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

**Sermon: The Faith of Mary - Luke 1:38**

- P Let my prayer rise before You as incense,  
and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

**Magnificat - Luke 1:46-55 (Song of Mary)**

- C **My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior; for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden. For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed. For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name; and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.**
- P He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.
- C **He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away. He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Hymn of Response - TLH 114 Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love**

- 1 Jesus! Name of wondrous love, Name all other names above,  
Unto which must ev'ry knee Bow in deep humility.
- 2 Jesus! Name decreed of old, To the maiden mother told,  
Kneeling in her lowly cell, By the angel Gabriel.
- 3 Jesus! Name of priceless worth To the fallen of the earth  
For the promise that it gave, "Jesus shall His people save."
- 4 Jesus! Name of mercy mild, Given to the holy Child  
When the cup of human woe First He tasted here below.
- 5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n Under all the mighty heav'n  
Whereby those to sin enslaved Burst their fetters and are saved.
- 6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love, Human name of God above;  
Pleading only this, we flee Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

## Prayers of the Day & Lord's Prayer

**C** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those  
who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

## Collects

**P** O Lord, hear my prayer.  
**C** And let my cry come to You.

## Collect of the Day

**P** Almighty God, You chose the virgin Mary to be the mother of Your only Son. Grant that we, who are redeemed by His blood, may share with her in the glory of Your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** Amen.

## Collect for Peace

**L** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** Amen.

**P** Let us bless the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C** Amen.

## Hymn to Depart- TLH 475 Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones vs. 1 & 2

- 1 Ye watchers and ye holy ones,  
Bright seraphs, cherubim, and thrones,  
Raise the glad strain: "Alleluia!"  
Cry out, dominions, principedoms, pow'rs,  
Virtues, archangels, angels' choirs:  
"Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!"
- 2 O higher than the cherubim,  
More glorious than the seraphim,  
Lead their praises: "Alleluia!"  
Thou bearer of the\_ eternal Word,  
Most gracious, magnify the Lord:  
"Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!"