

Vespers

(Evening Prayer)

August 11, 2022

✠ God, come to my assistance.
— Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
— as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

God, come to my as - sis - tance, Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ev - er. A - men. Al - le - lu - ia.

HYMN – O Crown of Virgins, Jesus Lord

O Crown of Virgins, Jesus Lord,
Whom once a Virgin pure conceived,
Whom Virgin Mary bore with joy,
In mercy now receive our prayer.

As Spouse, of beauty past compare,
You feed among the lilies fair,
Surrounded by those virgin souls
Who dedicated all to you.

They follow in a happy band
Wherever you may choose to go,
And sing a canticle of joy,
A melody no others know.

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH

PSALM 132 (Chanted)

Cantor: Let your holy people *rejoice*, O Lord, as they enter *your dwelling place*.



O Lord, *remember David*
and all the many hardships *he endured*,
the oath he swore *to the Lord*,
his vow to the Strong *One of Jacob*.

“I will not enter the house *where I live*
nor go to the bed *where I rest*.
I will give no sleep *to my eyes*,
to my eyelids I will *give no slumber*
till I find a place *for the Lord*,
a dwelling for the Strong *One of Jacob*.”

At Ephrathah we heard *of the ark*;
we found it in the *plains of Yearim*.
“Let us go to the place *of his dwelling*;
let us go to kneel *at his footstool*.”

Go up, Lord, to the place *of your rest*,
you and the ark *of your strength*.
Your priests shall be *clothed with holiness*:
your faithful shall ring *out their joy*.
For the sake of David *your servant*
do not reject *your anointed*.

Glory to the Father, and *to the Son*, and to the Holy **Spirit**:
— as it was in *the beginning*, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.

ALL: Let your holy people *rejoice*, O Lord, as they enter
your dwelling place.

PSALM 132 (Chanted)

Cantor: The Lord has *chosen Zion* as his *sanctuary*.



The Lord swore an *oath to David*;
he will not go back on *his word*;
“A son, the fruit of *your body*,
will I set upon *your throne*.”

If they keep my covenant *in truth*
and my laws that *I have taught them*,
their sons also *shall rule*
on your throne from age *to age*.”

For the Lord has *chosen Zion*;
he has desired it for *his dwelling*:
“This is my resting-*place for ever*,
here have I chosen *to live*.”

I will greatly *bless her produce*,
I will fill her poor *with bread*.
I will clothe her priests *with salvation*
and her faithful shall ring out *their joy*.

There David’s *stock will flower*:
I will prepare a lamp for *my anointed*.
I will cover his enemies *with shame*
but on him my crown *shall shine*.”

Glory to the Father, and *to the Son*, and to the Holy **Spirit**:
— as it was in *the beginning*, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.

ALL: The Lord has *chosen Zion* as his *sanctuary*.

PSALM-PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, you chose to suffer and be overwhelmed by death in order to open the gates of death in triumph. Stay with us to help us on our pilgrimage; free us from all evil by the power of your resurrection. In the company of your saints, and constantly remembering your love for us, may we sing of your wonders in our Father’s house.

CANTICLE – Revelation 11:17-18; 12:10b-12a (Chanted)

Cantor: The Father has given *Christ all power*, honor and kingship; all people will **obey him**.



We praise you, the Lord *God Almighty*,
who is and *who was*.
You have assumed *your great power*,
you have begun *your reign*.

The nations have *raged in anger*,
but then came your day of *wrath*
and the moment to *judge the dead*:
The time to reward your servants *the prophets*
and the holy ones *who revere you*,
the great and the small *alike*.

Now have salvation and *power come*,
the reign of our God and the authority
of his **Anointed One**.
For the accuser of our brothers *is cast out*,
who night and day accused them *before God*.

They defeated him by the blood of *the Lamb*
and by the word of *their testimony*;
love for life did not deter *them from death*.
So rejoice, you heavens,
and you that dwell *therein!*

Glory to the Father, and *to the Son*, and to the Holy **Spirit**:
— as it was in *the beginning*, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.

ALL: The Father has given *Christ all power*, honor and kingship; all people will **obey him**.

READING – 1 Corinthians 7:32b, 34

The unmarried man is busy with the Lord's affairs,
concerned with pleasing the Lord. The virgin—indeed, any
unmarried woman—is concerned with things of the Lord, in
pursuit of holiness in body and spirit.

RESPONSORY

The virgins are led into the presence of the King, amid gladness
and joy.
— **The virgins are led into the presence of the King, amid
gladness and joy.**

They are brought into the King's dwelling-place,
— **amid gladness and joy.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
— **The virgins are led into the presence of the King, amid
gladness and joy.**

CANTICLE OF MARY – Luke 1:46-55 (Chanted)

Cantor: Come, *spouse of Christ*, receive the crown the Lord
has prepared for you from *all eternity*.



✠ My soul proclaims the greatness of *the Lord*,
my spirit rejoices in *God my Savior*
for he has *looked with favor* on his *lowly servant*.

From this day all generations will *call me blessed*:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy *is his Name*.

He has mercy on *those who fear him*
in every *generation*.

He has shown the strength of *his arm*,
he has scattered the proud in *their conceit*.

He has cast down the mighty *from their thrones*,
and has lifted *up the lowly*.

He has filled the hungry *with good things*,
and the rich he has sent *away empty*.

He has come to the help of his *servant Israel*
for he has remembered his promise of *mercy*,
the promise he made *to our fathers*,
to Abraham and his children *for ever*.

Glory to the Father, and *to the Son*, and to the Holy **Spirit**:
— as it was in *the beginning*, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.

ALL: Come, *spouse of Christ*, receive the crown the Lord has
prepared for you from *all eternity*.

INTERCESSIONS

Christ extolled those who practiced virginity for the sake of the
kingdom. Let us praise him joyfully and pray to him:
Jesus, example of virgins, hear us.

Christ, you presented the Church to yourself as a chaste virgin
to her spouse,
— **keep her holy and inviolate.**
Jesus, example of virgins, hear us.

Christ, the holy virgins went out to meet you with their lamps
alight,
— **keep the fidelity of your consecrated handmaids burning
brightly.**

Jesus, example of virgins, hear us.

Lord, your virgin Church has always kept its faith whole and
untarnished,

— **grant all Christians a whole and untarnished faith.**

Jesus, example of virgins, hear us.

You have given your people joy in celebrating the feast of your
holy virgin,

— **give us constant joy through her intercession.**

Jesus, example of virgins, hear us.

You have admitted the holy virgins to your marriage banquet,
— **in your mercy lead the dead to your heavenly feast.**

Jesus, example of virgins, hear us.

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.

Concluding Prayer

O God,
who in your mercy
led Saint Clare to a love of poverty,
grant, through her intercession, that,
following Christ in poverty of spirit,
we may merit to contemplate you
one day in the heavenly Kingdom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
— Amen.

BENEDICTION

Tantum Ergo

Tantum ergo Sacramentum, veneremur cernui:
Et antiquum documentum. Novo cedat ritui:
Praestet fides supplementum Sensuum defectui.

Genitori, Genitoque Laus et jubilatio,
Salus, honor, virtus quoque Sit et benedictio:
Procedenti ab utroque Comparset laudatio. Amen

Text: Thomas Aquinas, 1227–1274; tr. by James Quinn, SJ, b. 1919, ©1969.
Tune: ST. THOMAS, 8 7 8 7 8 7; John F. Wade, 1711–1786. §

You have given them bread from Heaven.

Having all sweetness within it.

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, You gave us the Eucharist as a memorial of
Your suffering and death.

May our worship of this sacrament of Your body and blood

Help us to experience the salvation You won for us

And the peace of the kingdom

Where You live with the Father and the Holy Spirit

One God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Blessed be God.

Blessed be His Holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.

Blessed be the Name of Jesus.

Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.

Blessed be His Most Precious Blood.

Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most Holy.

Blessed be her Holy and Immaculate Conception.

Blessed be her Glorious Assumption.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be St. Joseph, her most chaste spouse.

Blessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints. Amen.

DISMISSAL

May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil and
bring us to everlasting life.

— Amen.

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

Holy God, we praise thy name; Lord of all, we bow before thee!
All on earth thy scepter claim, All in heav'n above adore thee;
Infinite, thy vast domain, Everlasting is thy reign.

Hark! the loud celestial hymn Angel choirs above are raising;
Cherubim and Seraphim, In unceasing chorus praising; Fill the
heav'ns with sweet accord: "Holy, holy, holy Lord!"

Text: 78 78 77 with repeat; *Te Deum laudamus*; attr. to St. Nicetas, ca. 335–414; *Grosser Gott, wir loben
dich*; tr. ascr. to Ignaz Franz, 1719–1790; tr. by Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900. Music: *Allgemeines
Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, ca. 1774. §

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