



**March 25, 2020**  
**The Annunciation of Our Lord**

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## LENT VERSICLES

P: O Lord, open my lips,

**C: and my mouth will declare Your praise.**

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

**C: make haste to help me, O Lord.**

**C: 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. Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.**

## PSALMODY

*Psalm 45:7–17 (antiphon: v.6)*

P: Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;

**C: You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.**

P: Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;

**C: your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.**

P: From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad;

**C: daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor; at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.**

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

**C: forget your people and your father's house,**

P: and the king will desire your beauty.

**C: Since he is your lord, bow to him.**

P: The people of Tyre will seek your favor with gifts,

**C: 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

**C: as they enter the palace of the king.**

P: In place of your fathers shall be your sons;

**C: 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.**

P: Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;

**C: You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.**

**All: 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.**

**OFFICE HYMN "Of the Father's Love Begotten" No. 384**

**FIRST READING**

***Isaiah 7:10–14***

<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.

P: O Lord have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING**

***Hebrews 10:4–10***

<sup>4</sup>For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

<sup>5</sup>Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me;

<sup>6</sup>in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.

<sup>7</sup>Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.'"

<sup>8</sup>When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup>then he

added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup>And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

P: O Lord have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **THIRD READING**

***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.

P: O Lord have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

## **COLLECT**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C: And with your spirit.**

## **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P:** O Lord, as we have known the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, by the message of the angel to the virgin Mary, so by the message of His cross and passion bring us to the glory of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **ADDITIONAL COLLECTS**

**P:** ... through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** ... through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** ... through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **COLLECT FOR PEACE**

**P:** O God, ... one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **BENEDICAMUS**

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.**

## **CLOSING HYMN**

**No. 356**

### **"The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"**

† † †

The midweek services during Lent this year will draw on the Old Testament lesson for each preceding Sunday. Christ is always the author and the content of the Scriptures, and this is no less true in the Old Testament. Thus these readings all speak of Christ, some more obviously, and some less, but all of them can only be correctly interpreted when Christ and His atoning death for sinners is seen as the key that unlocks the mystery.

There will be one notable exception to this pattern. This year, Lent falls such that March 25 is on a Wednesday during Lent. March 25 is precisely nine months before Christmas. On December 25, we celebrate the birth of Christ, but on March 25, we celebrate His incarnation in the womb of the virgin Mary. This is the day when the angel Gabriel announced (*the Annunciation*) that the Holy Spirit would come upon her, and she would be the mother of the Lord and bear a Son, and His name would be called Jesus. And although Lent is normally a solemn time, it is most proper to celebrate the Annunciation of Our Lord with all its joy, even in the midst of Lent. Make a special effort to join us on this most joyous occasion, the feast of God becoming man, man to deliver.



**March 25** – “Let It Be to Me, According to Your Word”  
(The Annunciation of Our Lord)

**April 1** – “Standing on Their Feet”

**April 9** – “The Blood of the Lamb”

**April 10** – “Behold! Your King!”

Join us each Wednesday of Lent for psalms, readings, hymns, and prayers.

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