

*st mary's catholic church
greenville, south carolina*



*solemn vespers
of the
first sunday of advent*

Throughout this celebration of Vespers, we will observe several prolonged periods of sacred silence, during which we are not simply waiting for the next thing to happen; we are, rather, waiting upon the LORD. Sacred silence is active and attentive — an invitation to deeper prayer and interior stillness.

✠ OPENING VERSE AND RESPONSE ✠

At the ringing of the bells, all stand as the procession enters the church. Upon reaching the chair the celebrant intones the opening verse, and all join in singing the response and doxology:

All make the sign of the cross.

Presiding minister: O God, ✠ come to my as - sis-tance. *Assembly:* Lord, make haste to help me.

All: 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.



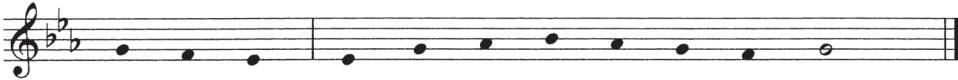
Creator of the Stars of Night



1. Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, Your peo - ple's
2. In sor - row that the an - cient curse Should doom to
3. When this old world drew on toward night, You came; but
4. At your great Name, O Je - sus, now All knees must



ev - er - last - ing light, O Christ, Re - deem - er
death a u - ni - verse, You came, O Sav - ior,
not in splen - dor bright, Not as a mon - arch,
bend, all hearts must bow: All things on earth with



of us all, We pray you hear us when we call.
to set free Your own in glo - rious lib - er - ty.
but the child Of Mar - y, blame - less moth - er mild.
one ac - cord, Like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.

5. Come in your holy might, we pray,
Redeem us for eternal day;
Defend us while we dwell below
From all assaults of our dread foe.

6. To God Creator, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Praise, honor, might, and glory be
From age to age eternally.

Text: *Conditor alme siderum*, Latin 9th C.; Tr. *The Hymnal 1982*. © 1985, The Church Pension Fund
Tune: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM, LM; Mode IV; Acc. by Gerard Farrell, OSB, b.1919, © 1986, GIA Publications, Inc.



Before each psalm the organist will introduce the psalm tone, and the schola will intone the antiphon. The people and the schola will sing the psalms in alternation, and each line of the psalms should be sung without pause for punctuation. Immediately following the doxology, the people and the schola sing the antiphon together.

✻ PSALMODY ✻



Antiphon: Rejoice, daughter of Zion; / shout for joy, daughter
Schola of Jerusalem, / alleluia.

Psalm 110.1-5, 7

Schola The Lord's revelation to my Master:
"Sit on my right:
your foes I will put beneath your feet."

People The Lord will wield from Zion
your scepter of power:
rule in the midst of all your foes.

Schola A prince from the day of your birth
on the holy mountains;
from the womb before the dawn I begot you.

People The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change.
"You are a priest for ever,
a priest like Melchizedek of old."

Schola The Master standing at your right hand
will shatter kings in the day of his great wrath.

People He shall drink from the stream by the wayside
and therefore he shall lift up his head.

All Glory 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.

Antiphon: Rejoice, daughter of Zion; / shout for joy daughter
All of Jerusalem, / alleluia.



Antiphon: Christ our King will come to us, / the Lamb of God
Schola foretold by John.

Psalm 114

Schola When Israel came forth from Egypt,
Jacob's sons from an alien people,
Judah became the Lord's temple,
Israel became his kingdom.

People The sea fled at the sight:
the Jordan turned back on its course,
the mountains leapt like rams
and the hills like yearling sheep.

Schola Why was it, sea, that you fled,
that you turned back, Jordan, on your course?
Mountains, that you leapt like rams,
hills, like yearling sheep?

People Tremble, O earth, before the Lord,
in the presence of the God of Jacob,
who turns the rock into a pool
and flint into a spring of water.

All Glory 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.

Antiphon: Christ our King will come to us, / the Lamb of God
All foretold by John.





Antiphon: I am coming soon, says the Lord; / I will give to everyone
Schola the reward his deeds deserve.

Revelation Canticle

Schola Alleluia. Salvation, glory, and power to our God:
Alleluia.
His judgments are honest and true.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

People Alleluia. Sing praise to our God, all you his servants;
Alleluia.
all who worship him reverently, great and small.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

Schola Alleluia. The Lord our all-powerful God is King,
Alleluia.
let us rejoice, sing praise, and give him glory.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

People Alleluia. The wedding feast of the Lamb has begun,
Alleluia.
and his bride is prepared to welcome him.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

All Glory 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.

Antiphon: I am coming soon, says the Lord; / I will give to everyone
All the reward his deeds deserve.



✠ READING ✠

Philippians 4.4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always! I say it again. Rejoice! Everyone should see how unselfish you are. The Lord is near. Dismiss all anxiety from your minds. Present your needs to God in every form of prayer and in petition full of gratitude. Then God's own peace, which is beyond all understanding, will stand guard over your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

✠ ANTHEM ✠

Redeemer of the Nations Come

arr. Robert Lee

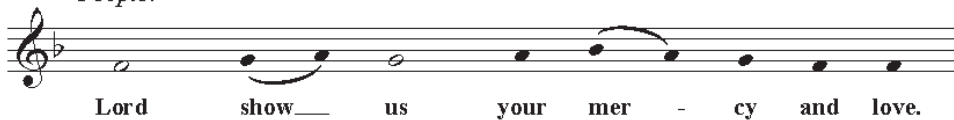
Redeemer of the nations, come; reveal yourself in virgin birth; the birth which ages all adore, a wondrous birth, befitting God. From human will you do not spring, but from the spirit of our God; O Word of God, come; take our flesh and grow as child in Mary's womb. With God the Father you are one, and one with us in human flesh. Oh fill our weak and dying frame with godly strength which never fails. Your cradle shines with glory's light; Its splendor pierces all our gloom, our faith reflects those radiant beams; no night shall overcome it now. All praise, O unbegotten God, all praise to you, eternal Word, all praise, life-giving Spirit, praise, all glory to our God triune. AMEN.



RESPONSORY

Schola: Lord, show us your mercy and love.

People:



Schola: And grant us your salvation,

People:



Schola: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

People:



✠ CANTICLE OF MARY ✠

Magnificat

Robert Lee

Antiphon: Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God; you will conceive and give birth to a Son, alleluia.

When Mary visited Elizabeth before their sons were born, Elizabeth proclaimed her faith in the Word made flesh, who then lived inside of His mother. Elizabeth cried out “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.” In response, Mary sang of her confidence in God’s love and providential plan for each of us, and this hymn of praise is known as the “Magnificat” from its first word in the Latin text. As the schola sings this canticle, all make the Sign of the Cross at the beginning of the text, which in the Revised Standard Version is rendered:

✠ My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden.
For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed;
for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
And his mercy is on those who fear him from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm,
He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts,
he has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted those of low degree.
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 posterity forever.
(Luke 1:46-55)

Antiphon: Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God; you will conceive and give birth to a Son, alleluia.

✠ INTERCESSIONS ✠

The celebrant introduces the intercessions, and after each petition all respond:



Come and stay with us, Lord.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us offer the prayer Christ himself taught us:

✠ OUR FATHER ✠

Pa - ter no - ster, qui es in cae - lis: san - cti - fi - cé - tur
no - men tu - um; ad - vé - ni - at re - gnum tu - um;
fi - at vo - lún - tas tu - a, si - cut in cae - lo, et in ter - ra.
Pa - nem no - strum co - ti - di - á - num da no - bis hó - di - e;
et di - mít - te no - bis dé - bi - ta no - stra, si - cut et nos di -
mít - ti - mus de - bi - tó - ri - bus no - stris; et ne nos in -
dú - cas in ten - ta - ti - ó - nem; sed lí - be - ra nos a ma - lo.

Concluding Prayer

Blessing and Dismissal

