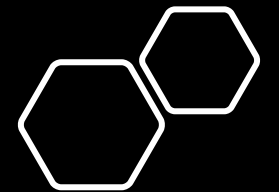


St. Charles
Borromeo
Church

Vespers

Friday Evening Prayer
December 31, 2021



INTRODUCTION

Leader: God, + come to my assistance.

All: Lord, make haste to help me.

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

All: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

PSALMODY

Psalm 113 Praise the name of the Lord

He has cast down the mighty and has lifted up the lowly.

(Luke 1:52)

Antiphon:

Leader: O marvelous exchange! Man's Creator has become man, born of a virgin.

All: **We have been made sharers in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity.**

Leader: Praise, O servants of the Lord,
praise the name of the Lord!
May the name of the Lord be blessed
both now and for evermore!
From the rising of the sun to its setting
praised be the name of the Lord!

All: **High above all nations is the Lord,
above the heavens his glory.
Who is like the Lord, our God,
who has risen on high to his throne
yet stoops from the heights to look down,
to look down upon heaven and earth?**

From the dust he lifts up the lowly,
from his misery he raises the poor
to set him in the company of princes,
yes, with the princes of his people.
To the childless wife he gives a home
and gladdens her heart with children.

**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.**

Antiphon:

Leader: O marvelous exchange! Man's Creator has become man, born of a virgin.

All: **We have been made sharers in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity.**

Psalm Prayer

Leader: Lord Jesus, Word of God, surrendering the brightness of your glory you became man so that we may be raised from the dust to share your very being. May there be innumerable children of the Church to offer homage to your name from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Psalm 147:12-20: The restoration of Jerusalem
Come, I will show you the bride of the Lamb
(Revelation 21:9)

Antiphon:

Leader: By your miraculous birth of the Virgin you have fulfilled the Scriptures:

All: **like a gentle rain falling upon the earth you have come down to save your people. O God, we praise you.**

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!
Zion, praise your God!

**He has strengthened the bars of your gates,
he has blessed the children within you.
He established peace on your borders,
he feeds you with finest wheat.**

He sends out his word to the earth
and swiftly runs his command.
He showers down snow white as wool,
he scatters hoar-frost like ashes.

**He hurls down hailstones like crumbs.
The waters are frozen at his touch;
he sends forth his word and it melts them:
at the breath of his mouth the waters flow.**

He makes his word known to Jacob,
to Israel his laws and decrees.
He has not dealt thus with other nations;
he has not taught them his decrees.

**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.**

Antiphon:

Leader: By your miraculous birth of the Virgin you have fulfilled the Scriptures:

All: **like a gentle rain falling upon the earth you have come down to save your people. O God, we praise you.**

Psalm Prayer

Leader: Lord you established peace within the borders of Jerusalem. Give the fullness of peace to your faithful people. May peace rule us in this life and possess us in eternal life. You are about to fill us with the best of wheat; grant that what we see dimly now as in a mirror, we may come to perceive clearly in the brightness of your truth.

Canticle: Ephesians 1:3-10: God our savior

Antiphon

Leader: Your blessed and fruitful virginity is like the bush, flaming yet unburned,

All: **which Moses saw on Sinai. Pray for us, Mother of God.**

Praised be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has bestowed on us in Christ every spiritual blessing in the heavens.

God chose us in him before the world began to be holy and blameless in his sight.

He predestined us to be his adopted sons through Jesus Christ, such was his will and pleasure, that all might praise the glorious favor he has bestowed on us in his beloved.

In him and through his blood, we have been redeemed, and our sins forgiven, so immeasurably generous is God's favor to us.

God has given us the wisdom to understand fully the mystery, the plan he was pleased to decree in Christ.

A plan to be carried out in Christ, in the fullness of time, to bring all things into one in him, in the heavens and on earth.

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.

Antiphon

Leader: Your blessed and fruitful virginity is like the bush, flaming yet unburned,

All: **which Moses saw on Sinai. Pray for us, Mother of God.**

READING: Galatians 4:4-5

When the designated time had come, God sent forth his Son born of a woman, born under the law, to deliver from the law those who were subjected to it, so that we might receive our status as adopted sons.

RESPONSORY

Reader: The Word was made man, alleluia, alleluia.

All: **The Word was made man, alleluia, alleluia.**

He lived among us.

– **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

– **The Word was made man, alleluia, alleluia.**

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Canticle of Mary: Luke 1:46-55

The soul rejoices in the Lord

Leader: In his great love for us, God sent his Son in the likeness of our sinful nature,

All: **born of a woman and subject to the law, alleluia.**

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.

Antiphon:

Leader: In his great love for us, God sent his Son in the likeness of our sinful nature,

All: **born of a woman and subject to the law, alleluia.**

INTERCESSIONS

Reader: Blessed be the Lord Jesus, our Peace, who came to unite man with God. Let us pray to him in humility:

Lord, grant your peace to all.

When you were born you showed your kindness and gentleness,
– help us always to be grateful for all your blessings.

Lord, grant your peace to all.

You made Mary, your Mother, full of grace,
– give all people the fullness of grace.

Lord, grant your peace to all.

You came to announce God's good news to the world,
– increase the number of preachers and hearers of your word.
Lord, grant your peace to all.

You desired to become our brother by being born of the Virgin Mary,
– teach men and women to love each other in mutual brotherhood.

Lord, grant your peace to all.

You came as the Sun rising over the earth,
– show the light of your countenance to those who have died.
Lord, grant your peace to all.

THE 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.**

CONCLUDING PRAYER

God our Father,
may we always profit by the prayers
of the Virgin Mother Mary,
for you bring us life and salvation
through Jesus Christ her Son
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
– **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

If a priest or deacon presides, he dismisses the people:

The Lord be with you.
– **And with your spirit.**

May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
– **Amen.**

Go in peace.
– **Thanks be to God.**

*In the absence of a priest or deacon and in individual recitation,
Evening Prayer concludes:*

Leader: May the Lord + bless us,
protect us from all evil
and bring us to everlasting life.
– **Amen.**