



St. Charles  
Borromeo  
Church

# Vespers

Friday Evening Prayer  
December 8, 2023  
Immaculate Conception



## 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 122:** Holy city, Jerusalem

*You have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, heavenly Jerusalem*

(Hebrews 12:22)

## **Antiphon:**

*Leader:* You are all beautiful, O Mary;

*All:*       **in you there is no trace of original sin.**

*Leader:* I rejoiced when I heard them say:

“Let us go to God’s house.”

And now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

***All:* Jerusalem is built as a city  
strongly compact.**

**It is there that the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the Lord.**

For Israel’s law it is,  
there to praise the Lord’s name.

There were set the thrones of judgment  
of the house of David.

**For the peace of Jerusalem pray:**

**“Peace be to your homes!**

**May peace reign in your walls,  
in your palaces, peace!”**

For love of my brethren and friends

I say: “Peace upon you.”

For love of the house of the Lord

I will ask for your good.

**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:* You are all beautiful, O Mary;

*All:*       **in you there is no trace of original sin.**

## Psalm Prayer

*Leader:* When you rose from the dead, Lord Jesus, you formed the Church into your new body, and made of it the new Jerusalem, united in your Spirit. Give us peace in our day. Make all nations come to your Church to share in your gifts in fellowship, that they may render you thanks without end and come to your eternal city.

**Psalm 127:** Apart from God our labors are worthless  
*You are God's building* (1 Corinthians 3:9)

**Antiphon:**

*Leader:* You are the glory of Jerusalem, the joy of Israel;

*All:* **you are the fairest honor of our race.**

If the Lord does not build the house,  
in vain do its builders labor;  
if the Lord does not watch over the city,  
in vain do the watchers keep vigil.

**In vain is your earlier rising,  
your going later to rest,  
you who toil for the bread you eat,  
when he pours gifts on his beloved while they slumber.**

Truly sons are a gift from the Lord,  
a blessing, the fruit of the womb.  
The sons of youth  
are like arrows in the hand of a warrior.

**O the happiness of the man  
who has filled his quiver with these arrows.  
He will have no cause for shame  
when he disputes with his foes in the gateways.**

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:* You are the glory of Jerusalem, the joy of Israel;

*All:* **you are the fairest honor of our race.**

## Psalm Prayer

*Leader:* You command the seed to rise, Lord God, though the farmer is unaware. Grant that those who labor for you may trust not in their own work but in your help. Remembering that the land is brought to flower not with human tears but with those of your Son, may the Church rely only upon your gifts.

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

**Antiphon**

*Leader:* The robe you wear is white as spotless snow;

*All:* **your face is radiant like the sun.**

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:* The robe you wear is white as spotless snow;

*All:* **your face is radiant like the sun.**

**READING:** Romans 5:20–21

Despite the increase of sin, grace has far surpassed it, so that, as sin reigned through death, grace may reign by way of justice leading to eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**RESPONSORY**

*Reader:* By this I know you have chosen me.

— **By this I know you have chosen me.**

You have not let my enemy triumph over me.

— **You have chosen me.**

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

— **By this I know you have chosen me.**



## GOSPEL CANTICLE

**Canticle of Mary:** Luke 1:46-55

*The soul rejoices in the Lord*

*Leader:* Hail Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with you;

*All:* **blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, 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:* Hail Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with you;

*All:* **blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, alleluia.**

## INTERCESSIONS

*Reader:* Let us praise God our Almighty Father, who wished that Mary, his Son's mother, be celebrated by each generation. Now in need we ask:

**Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.**

O God, worker of miracles, you made the Immaculate Virgin Mary share body and soul in your Son's glory in heaven,  
– direct the hearts of your children to that same glory.

**Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.**

You made Mary our mother. Through her intercession grant strength to the weak, comfort to the sorrowing, pardon to sinners,  
– salvation and peace to all.

**Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.**

You made Mary full of grace,  
– grant to all men the joyful abundance of your grace.  
**Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.**

Make your Church of one mind and one heart in love,  
– and help all those who believe to be one in prayer with Mary, the mother of Jesus.  
**Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.**

You crowned Mary queen of heaven,  
– may all the dead rejoice in your kingdom with the saints for ever.  
**Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.**

## 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

Father, you prepared the Virgin Mary,  
to be the worthy mother of your Son.  
You let her share beforehand  
in the salvation Christ would bring by his death,  
and kept her sinless from the first moment of her conception.  
Help us by her prayers  
to live in your presence without sin.  
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your 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.**