



CHRISTMASTIDE VESPERS

FRIDAY A

BENEDICTINE COMMUNITIES
TURVEY BEDFORDSHIRE

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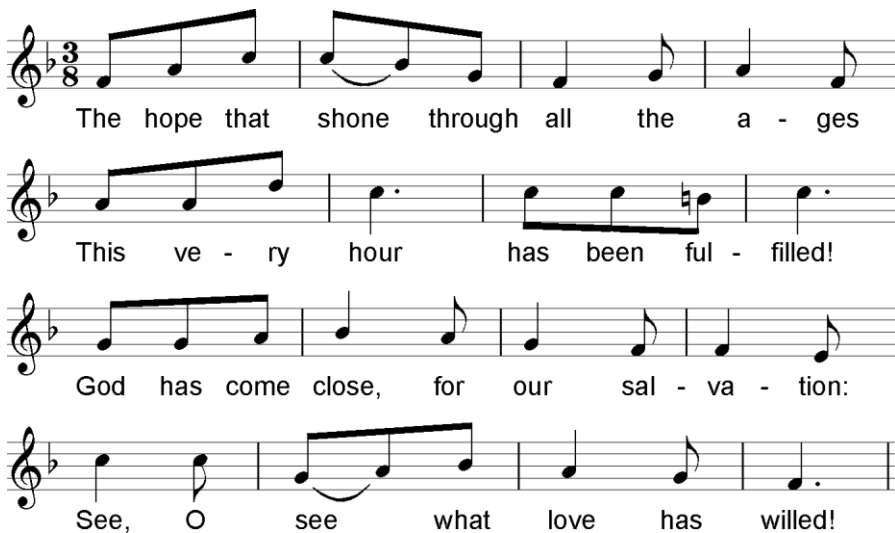
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CHRISTMASTIDE VESPERS

FRIDAY A

O God, come to our aid,
O Lord, make haste to help us.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be for ever, amen. Alleluia!

HYMN



The hope that shone through all the a - ges
This ve - ry hour has been ful - filled!
God has come close, for our sal - va - tion:
See, O see what love has willed!

David foretold in song prophetic
One day would come his Lord, his son:
Here in the manger lies the meaning,
Here the kingdom has begun.

Strange kings come riding, treasure-laden,
Called from the East, a world unknown:
Let your dull heart be touched to wonder,
Zion, city of God, his own.

Shepherds are running to behold him—
Tidings of joy, the last are first!—
Poor as themselves, a baby greets them,
So God wills to quench our thirst.

He sets his star in all our darkness,
Peace is his word in all our woe,
He is the end of all our longing:
Lord, to whom else shall we go?

Words: Huub Oosterhuis

Music: old French carol, Setting by Bernard Huijbers Translation: Turvey

ANTIPHON 1: All the earth * shall remember and return to the Lord.

Psalm 21 A



My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
You are far from my plea and the cry of my distress.
O my God, I call by day and you give no reply;
I call by night and I find no peace.

Yet you, O God, are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.
In you our fathers put their trust;
they trusted and you set them free.
When they cried to you, they escaped.
In you they trusted and never in vain.

But I am a worm and no man,
the butt of men, laughing-stock of the people.
All who see me deride me.
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;
let him release him if this is his friend.'

Yes, it was you who took me from the womb,
entrusted me to my mother's breast.
To you I was committed from my birth,
from my mother's womb you have been my God.
Do not leave me alone in my distress;
come close, there is none else to help.

Many bulls have surrounded me,
fierce bulls of Bashan close me in.
Against me they open wide their jaws,
like lions rending and roaring.

Like water I am poured out,
disjointed are all my bones.
My heart has become like wax,
it is melted within my breast.

Parched as burnt clay is my throat,
my tongue cleaves to my jaws.

Many dogs have surrounded me,
a band of the wicked beset me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet
and lay me in the dust of death.

I can count every óne of my bones,
These people stare at me and gloat;
they divide my clóthing among them.
They cast lots for my robe.

O Lord, do not léave me alone,
my strength, make haste to help me!
Rescue my sóul from the sword,
my life from the grip of these dogs.
Save my life from the jáws of these lions,
my poor soul from the horns of these oxen.

Psalm 21 B



I will téll of your náme to my brethren
and praise you where they are assembled.
('You who fear the Lord give him práise;
all sons of Jácob, give him glory.
Revere him, Israel's sons.

For hé has néver despised
nor scorned the poverty of the poor.
From him he has not hídden his face,
but he heard the poor man when he cried.'

You are my práise in the gréat assembly.
My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
(The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lórd, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever!

(All the earth shall remember and return to the Lórd,
all families of the nations wórship before him
for the kingdom is the Lord's; he is ruler of the nations.
They shall wórship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.

And my soul shall líve for him, my chíldren serve him.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his fáithfulness to péoples yet unborn:
'These things the Lord has done.'

Glory be to the Fátther, the Són and Holy Spirit,
both now and for ever, amen.

ANTIPHON 1: All the earth * shall remember and return to the Lord.

ANTIPHON 2



All the peoples * will come and a - dore you, O Lord!

NT Canticle 21

(Revelation 15:3–4)



Great and wonderful are your deeds,
O Lord God, the Almighty!
Just and true are your ways,
O King of the ages!

Who shall not fear and glorify your name, O Lord,
for you alone are holy!
All nations shall come and worship you,
for your judgements have been revealed.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be for ever, amen.

REPEAT ANTIPHON

ANTIPHON 3



Psalm 99



Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing for joy.

Know that he, the Lord, is God.
He made us, we belong to him,
we are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Go within his gates, giving thanks.
Enter his courts with songs of praise.
Give thanks to him and bless his name.

Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age.

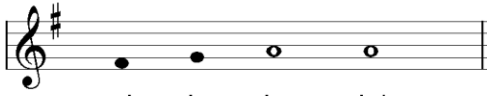
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
both now and for ever, amen.

ANTIPHON 3: Come * before the Lord, singing for joy!

RESPONSORY



CANTOR: The Word was made flesh, al - le - lu - ia,

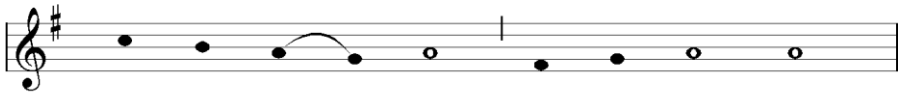


al - le - lu - ia!

ALL REPEAT



CANTOR: He dwelt a - mong us:



ALL: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



CANTOR: Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, the Son



and Ho - ly Spi - rit:

ALL: The word was made flesh, alleluia, alleluia!

MAGNIFICAT ANTIPHONS

3 January: I have not * come from myself, but I have come forth from God; my Father has sent me.

4 January: We have * found him of whom Moses and the prophets wrote: Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

MAGNIFICAT

Canticle of Mary

(Luke 1:46–55)

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength
and scatters the proud-hearted.
He casts the mighty from their thrones
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy,
the mercy promised to our fathers,
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be for ever, amen.

REPEAT ANTIPHON

INTERCESSIONS

OUR FATHER

(said by the Superior)

CONCLUDING PRAYER

LET US BLESS THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD

May the divine assistance remain always with us.
And with our absent brothers and sisters. Amen.

