

The Prayer Book Office

A form of the Daily Office for use in the Rivendell Community

Christmastide

The Twelve Days of Christmas

Epiphany and the Baptism of Our Lord

along with

The last days of Advent (December 22-24) and
Weekdays between Epiphany and the following Sunday

Morning and Evening Prayer

THE DAILY OFFICE FOR CHRISTMASTIDE

Like the eight Rivendell Office volumes, this supplement for Christmastide is based on *The Prayer Book Office*, edited by Howard Galley, which is no longer in print. It includes the seasonal antiphons, the extrabiblical third readings for the Evensongs of Christmas, Holy Name, Epiphany, and the First Sunday after Epiphany, and the Memorial of Baptism for the latter feast. This volume contains all the liturgical material needed except for the Scripture readings.

This version simplifies the intricacies of the Calendar for this season, taking into account the major feasts and their transfers in some years and precedence of First Evensongs. **The chart on the following page shows the office for each calendar date, based on the *day of the week on which Christmas falls*. The user simply refers to the appropriate column, or to one of the seven bookmarks, throughout the season.**

When Evensong for a particular day is not in sequence with Morning Prayer, two page numbers are given, the second one referring to Evensong. (For example, when the First Sunday after Christmas falls on December 31, the morning office is for Christmas 1, whereas the evening office is the First Evensong of Holy Name. This is indicated by two page numbers: 20/39.)

On Christmas Day, the three feasts which follow immediately, the First and Second Sundays after Christmas, Holy Name, Epiphany and the First Sunday after Epiphany, the *Benedictus* is used at Morning Prayer. The *Te Deum* is used daily throughout the Twelve Days of Christmas and Epiphany. On other weekdays of Christmastide, a different Canticle may be used following the first reading; for convenience, this version assigns Canticles, with their Christmastide antiphons, to calendar dates rather than days of the week. On feasts which have a First Evensong, the Canticle which follows the first reading is included. A brief silence follows the second reading, and the *Magnificat* is used after the third (extrabiblical) reading.

The Appendix contains the Psalms appointed for the days immediately before December 24, and for calendar dates between the Epiphany and the First Sunday after the Epiphany, which differ from the regular cycle of the Daily Office lectionary. In no one year are all these offices used. Where the regular cycle is used, the chart refers to the appropriate volume of the Rivendell Office, IV (for the week of Advent 4) or I (week of 1 Epiphany).

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* *These are used on weekdays: On Sunday, the First or Second Sunday after Christmas is celebrated.*

With the First Sunday after Epiphany, the Office returns to its regular cycle (Week One).

When Christmas Day is	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 22	72	III, 49	III, 59	4 Advent IV, 1	St. Thomas, tr Holy Days, 3	IV, 19	IV, 29
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December 26	St. Stephen 23	St. Stephen 23	St. Stephen 23	St. Stephen 23	St. Stephen 23	St. Stephen 23	Christmas 1 20
December 27	St. John 26	St. John 26	St. John 26	St. John 26	St. John 26	Christmas 1 20	St. Stephen, tr 23
December 28	Holy Innocents 28	Holy Innocents 28	Holy Innocents 28	Holy Innocents 28	Christmas 1 20	St. John, tr 26	St. John, tr 26
December 29	31	31	31	Christmas 1 20	Holy Innocents, tr 28	Holy Innocents, tr 28	Holy Innocents, tr 28
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January 2	46	46	46	46	46	46/43	Christmas 2 43
January 3	50	50	50	50	50	Christmas 2 43	50
January 4	53	53	53	53	Christmas 2 43	53	53
January 5	55/ 57	55/ 57	55/ 57	Christmas 2 43/57	55/ 57	55/ 57	55/ 57
JANUARY 6	EPIPHANY 61	EPIPHANY 61	EPIPHANY 61	EPIPHANY 61	EPIPHANY 61	EPIPHANY 61	EPIPHANY 61
January 7	77/ 63	1 Epiphany 68	77	77	77	77	77
January 8	1 Epiphany 68	I, 12	80	80	80	80	80/ 63
January 9	I, 12		82	82	82	82/ 63	1 Epiphany 68
January 10			85	85	85/ 63	1 Epiphany 68	I, 12
January 11			88	88/ 63	1 Epiphany 68	I, 12	
January 12			90/ 63	1 Epiphany 68	I, 12		
January 13			1 Epiphany 68	I, 12			

Red numbers (in colored spaces) refer to pages in this volume.

For days in the regular cycle, volumes of the Rivendell Office and page numbers are given in black; e.g., III, 49 signifies Week Three, page 49.

Christmastide

Morning Prayer

The Officiant begins with a sentence of Scripture, or with the versicle "Lord, open our lips" which follows.

Christmas

Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. *Luke 2:10, 11*

Behold, the dwelling of God is with humankind. God will dwell with them, and they shall be God's people, and God will be with them, and be their God. *Revelation 21:3*

Epiphany

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. *Isaiah 60:3*

I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth. *Isaiah 49:6b*

From the rising of the sun to its setting my Name shall be great among the nations, and in every place incense shall be offered to my Name, and a pure offering; for my Name shall be great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts. *Malachi 1:11*

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People

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.*

Alleluia.

Antiphon on Jubilate

On the Twelve Days of Christmas

Alleluia. To us a child is born: Come let us adore him. Alleluia

From the Epiphany through the Baptism of Christ

The Lord has shown forth his glory: Come let us adore him.

Jubilate *Psalm 100*

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
Go into his courts with praise; *
Give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
For the Lord is good;
His mercy is everlasting; *
And his faithfulness endures from age to age.

The Psalm or Psalms appointed

At the end of the Psalms is said

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.*

The Lessons

Silence may be kept after each Reading. A Canticle is sung or said after each Reading.

After the first Reading:

16 The Song of Zechariah *Benedictus Dominus Deus*

Luke 1:68-79

Christmas antiphon

God has raised up for us a mighty savior, born of the house of his servant David, alleluia.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
born of the house of his servant David.
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies, *
from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God *
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
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.*

After the second Reading:

Canticle 21

We Praise You, O God

Te Deum laudamus

We praise you, O God,
we acclaim you as Lord;
all creation worships you,
the Father everlasting.
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
the cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
The glorious company of apostles praise you.
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:
Father, of majesty unbounded,
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.
You, Christ, are the king of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father.
When you took our flesh to set us free
you humbly chose the Virgin's womb.
You overcame the sting of death
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come to be our judge.
Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. *Amen.*

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.

V. Day by day we bless you;

R. We praise your Name for ever.

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

R. For we put our trust in you.

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;

R. And we shall never hope in vain.

The Officiant then says the Collect of the Day, and adds one of the Prayers for Mission:

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. *Amen.*

Here may be sung a hymn or carol.

Intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Evening Prayer

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.
People O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant and People

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.*
Alleluia.

The following, or some other suitable hymn may be sung or said

O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron*

O gracious Light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!
Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

The Psalm or Psalms appointed

At the end of the Psalms is said

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.*

The Lesson or Lessons

Silence may be kept after the Reading.

[If more than one Reading is used, the Canticle appointed, with its antiphon, follows the first Lesson, and the Magnificat is said following the last Lesson.]

The Song of Mary *Magnificat*

Luke 1:46-55

Christmas antiphon

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, 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.*

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. *Amen.*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and see you at last face to face,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of [____ and]all your
saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,
We entreat you, O Lord.

*The Officiant then says the **Collect of the Day**, followed by one of these prayers for mission:*

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you,
all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love
you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your
angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the
dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake.
Amen.

O God, you manifest in your servants the signs of your presence: Send forth upon us the Spirit
of love, that in companionship with one another your abounding grace may increase among us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Here may be sung a hymn or carol.

Intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

December 24

At Morning Prayer

45 *Eructavit cor meum*

Antiphon

Grace flows from your lips, O king, because God has blessed you for ever.

My heart is stirring with a noble song; let me recite what I have fashioned for the king; *
my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer.

You are the fairest of men; *
grace flows from your lips, because God has blessed you for ever.

Strap your sword upon your thigh, O mighty warrior, *
in your pride and in your majesty.

Ride out and conquer in the cause of truth *
and for the sake of justice.

Your right hand will show you marvelous things; *
your arrows are very sharp, O mighty warrior.

The peoples are falling at your feet, *
and the king's enemies are losing heart.

Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever, *
a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom; you love righteousness and hate iniquity.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you *
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and cassia, *
and the music of strings from ivory palaces makes you glad.

Kings' daughters stand among the ladies of the court; *
on your right hand is the queen, adorned with the gold of Ophir.

"Hear, O daughter; consider and listen closely; *
forget your people and your father's house.

The king will have pleasure in your beauty; *
he is your master; therefore do him honor.

The people of Tyre are here with a gift; *
the rich among the people seek your favor."

All glorious is the princess as she enters; *
her gown is cloth-of-gold.

In embroidered apparel she is brought to the king; *
after her the bridesmaids follow in procession.

With joy and gladness they are brought, *
and enter into the palace of the king.

"In place of fathers, O king, you shall have sons; *
you shall make them princes over all the earth.

I will make your name to be remembered from one generation to another; *
therefore nations will praise you for ever and ever."

46 *Deus noster refugium*

Antiphon

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

God is our refuge and strength, *
a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, *
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;

Though its waters rage and foam, *
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.

The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, *
the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown; *
God shall help her at the break of day.

The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; *
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.

The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, *
what awesome things he has done on earth.

It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; *
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

"Be still, then, and know that I am God; *
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Following the First Reading

Canticle CC **A Song of the Messiah**

Isaiah 9:2-7

Antiphon To us a child is born, to us a son is given; who is called Mighty God and Prince of Peace.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;*
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
upon them the light has dawned.

You have increased their joy and given them great gladness;*
they rejoiced before you as with joy at the harvest.

For you have shattered the yoke that burdened them;*
the collar that lay heavy on their shoulders.

For to us a child is born and to us a son is given,*
and the government will be upon his shoulder.

And his name will be called: Wonderful Counselor; the Mighty God;*
the Everlasting Father; the Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace*
there will be no end,
Upon the throne of David and over his kingdom,*
to establish and uphold it with justice and righteousness.
From this time forth and for evermore;*
the zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Antiphon on Benedictus

In the tender compassion of our God, the dawn from on high shall break upon us.

The Nativity of Our Lord

At First Evensong (Christmas Eve)

89 *Misericordias Domini*

Antiphon for Christmas He will say to me: You are my Father; hallelujah.

Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing; *
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; *
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
"I have made a covenant with my chosen one; *
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
'I will establish your line for ever, *
and preserve your throne for all generations.'"
The heavens bear witness to your wonders, O Lord, *
and to your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones;
For who in the skies can be compared to the Lord? *
who is like the Lord among the gods?
God is much to be feared in the council of the holy ones, *
great and terrible to all those round about him.
Who is like you, Lord God of hosts? *
O mighty Lord, your faithfulness is all around you.
You rule the raging of the sea *
and still the surging of its waves.
You have crushed Rahab of the deep with a deadly wound; *
you have scattered your enemies with your mighty arm.
Yours are the heavens; the earth also is yours; *
you laid the foundations of the world and all that is in it.
You have made the north and the south; *
Tabor and Hermon rejoice in your Name.

You have a mighty arm; *
strong is your hand and high is your right hand.
Righteousness and justice are the foundations of your throne; *
love and truth go before your face.
Happy are the people who know the festal shout! *
they walk, O Lord, in the light of your presence.
They rejoice daily in your Name; *
they are jubilant in your righteousness.
For you are the glory of their strength, *
and by your favor our might is exalted.
Truly, the Lord is our ruler; *
the Holy One of Israel is our King.
You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: *
"I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out of the people.
I have found David my servant; *
with my holy oil have I anointed him.
My hand will hold him fast *
and my arm will make him strong.
No enemy shall deceive him, *
nor any wicked man bring him down.
My faithfulness and love shall be with him, *
and he shall be victorious through my Name.

Following the First Reading (Isaiah 59:15b-21):

11 The Third Song of Isaiah *Surge, illuminare*

Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19

Antiphon for Christmas

The Lord will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.

Arise, shine, for your light has come, *
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.
For behold, darkness covers the land; *
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.
But over you the Lord will rise, *
and his glory will appear upon you.
Nations will stream to your light, *
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.
Your gates will always be open; *
by day or night they will never be shut.
They will call you, The City of the Lord, *
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.
Violence will no more be heard in your land, *
ruin or destruction within your borders.

You will call your walls, Salvation, *
and all your portals, Praise.
The sun will no more be your light by day; *
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.
The Lord will be your everlasting light, *
and your God will be your glory.
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.*

Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

*Third Reading: **From a sermon by Leo the Great***

Dearly beloved, today our Savior is born; let us rejoice. Sadness should have no place on the birthday of life. The fear of death has been swallowed up; life brings us joy with the promise of eternal happiness.

No one is shut out from this joy; all share the same reason for rejoicing. Our Lord, victor over sin and death, finding no human being free from sin, came to free us all. Let the saints rejoice as they see the palm of victory at hand. Let the sinners be glad as they receive the offer of forgiveness. Let the pagans take courage as they are summoned to life.

In the fullness of time, chosen in the unfathomable depths of God's wisdom, the Son of God took for himself our common humanity in order to reconcile it with its creator. He came to overthrow the devil, the origin of death, in that very nature by which he had overthrown mankind.

And so at the birth of our Lord the angels sing in joy: *Glory to God in the highest*, and they proclaim *peace to his people on earth*, as they see the heavenly Jerusalem being built from all the nations of the world. When the angels on high are so exultant at this marvelous work of God's goodness, what joy should it not bring to the lowly hearts of human beings?

Beloved, let us give thanks to God the Father, through his Son, in the Holy Spirit, because in his great love for us he took pity on us, *and when we were dead in our sins he brought us to life with Christ*, so that in him we might be a new creation. Let us throw off our old nature and all its ways and, as we have come to birth in Christ, let us renounce the works of the flesh.

Christian, remember your dignity, and now that you share in God's own nature, do not return by sin to your former base condition. Bear in mind who is your head and of whose body you are a member. Do not forget that you have been rescued from the power of darkness and brought into the light of God's kingdom.

Through the sacrament of baptism you have become a temple of the Holy Spirit. Do not drive away so great a guest by evil conduct and become again a slave to the devil, for your liberty was bought by the blood of Christ.

Antiphon on Magnificat:

To us a child is born, to us a son is given; and he shall be called the Prince of Peace, alleluia.

Collect

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Morning Prayer

85 *Benedixisti, Domine*

Antiphon for Christmas Truth has sprung up from the earth,
and righteousness has looked down from heaven.

You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.

Show us your mercy, O Lord, *
and grant us your salvation.

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.

Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

Antiphon on Benedictus

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth, alleluia.

Collect

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

At Second Evensong

110 *Dixit Dominus*

Antiphon for Christmas Princely state has been yours from the day of your birth;
in the beauty of holiness have I begotten you, like dew from the womb of the morning.

The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, *
until I make your enemies your footstool."

The Lord will send the scepter of your power out of Zion, *
saying, "Rule over your enemies round about you.

Princely state has been yours from the day of your birth; *
in the beauty of holiness have I begotten you, like dew from the womb of the morning."

The Lord has sworn and he will not recant: *
"You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek."

The Lord who is at your right hand will smite kings in the day of his wrath; *
he will rule over the nations.

132 *Memento, Domine*

Antiphon for Christmas A son, the fruit of your body, will I set upon your throne.

Lord, remember David, *
and all the hardships he endured;
How he swore an oath to the Lord *
and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:

"I will not come under the roof of my house," *
nor climb up into my bed;
I will not allow my eyes to sleep, *
nor let my eyelids slumber;

Until I find a place for the Lord, *
a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob."

"The ark! We heard it was in Ephratah; *
we found it in the fields of Jearim.

Let us go to God's dwelling place; *
let us fall upon our knees before his footstool."

Arise, O Lord, into your resting-place, *
you and the ark of your strength.

Let your priests be clothed with righteousness; *
let your faithful people sing with joy.

For your servant David's sake, *
do not turn away the face of your Anointed.

The Lord has sworn an oath to David; *
in truth, he will not break it:

"A son, the fruit of your body *
will I set upon your throne.

If your children keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them, *
their children will sit upon your throne for evermore."

For the Lord has chosen Zion; *
he has desired her for his habitation:

"This shall be my resting-place for ever; *
here will I dwell, for I delight in her.

I will surely bless her provisions, *
and satisfy her poor with bread.

I will clothe her priests with salvation, *
and her faithful people will rejoice and sing.

There will I make the horn of David flourish; *
I have prepared a lamp for my Anointed.

As for his enemies, I will clothe them with shame; *
but as for him, his crown will shine."

Antiphon on Magnificat

Today the Christ is born; today the Savior has appeared; today on earth angels are singing,
archangels rejoicing; today the righteous exult and say: Glory to God in the highest, alleluia.

First Sunday after Christmas

At First Evensong

This Evensong is used only when Christmas Day is Monday or Tuesday.

23 *Dominus regit me*

Antiphon for Christmas He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and gently lead those that are with young.

The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

27 *Dominus illuminatio*

Antiphon for Christmas The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?+

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? *
+ the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

Though an army should encamp against me, *
yet my heart shall not be afraid;

And though war should rise up against me, *
yet will I put my trust in him.

One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I seek; *
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;

To behold the fair beauty of the Lord *
and to seek him in his temple.

For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.

Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness; *
I will sing and make music to the Lord.

Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; *
have mercy on me and answer me.

You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, Lord, will I seek.

Hide not your face from me, *
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.

You have been my helper; cast me not away; *
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

Though my father and my mother forsake me, *
the Lord will sustain me.

What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the Lord *
in the land of the living!

O tarry and await the Lord's pleasure;
be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; *
wait patiently for the Lord.

Antiphon on Magnificat

When all things were in quiet silence, and the night was in the midst of its swift course, your
almighty Word, O Lord, leaped down out of your royal throne, alleluia.

Collect

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this
light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who
lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*

At Morning Prayer

93 *Dominus regnavit*

Antiphon for Christmas Ever since the world began, your throne, O Lord, has been established.

The Lord is King; he has put on splendid apparel; *
the Lord has put on his apparel and girded himself with strength.

He has made the whole world so sure *
that it cannot be moved;

Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; *
you are from everlasting.

The waters have lifted up, O Lord, the waters have lifted up their voice; *
the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, *
mightier is the Lord who dwells on high.

Your testimonies are very sure, *
and holiness adorns your house, O Lord, for ever and for evermore.

96 *Cantate Domino*

Antiphon for Christmas Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad before the Lord, for he has come.

Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.

Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

At Second Evensong

34 *Benedicam Dominum*

Antiphon for Christmas Look upon the Lord and be radiant; happy are they who trust in him.

I will bless the Lord at all times; *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.

I will glory in the Lord; *
let the humble hear and rejoice.

Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;
let us exalt his Name together.

I sought the Lord, and he answered me *
and delivered me out of all my terror.

Look upon him and be radiant, *
and let not your faces be ashamed.

I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me *
and saved me from all my troubles.

The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him, *
and he will deliver them.

Taste and see that the Lord is good; *
happy are they who trust in him!

Fear the Lord, you that are his saints, *
for those who fear him lack nothing.

The young lions lack and suffer hunger, *
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.

Come, children, and listen to me; *
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

Who among you loves life *
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?

Keep your tongue from evil-speaking *
and your lips from lying words.

Turn from evil and do good; *
seek peace and pursue it.

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, *
and his ears are open to their cry.

The face of the Lord is against evil, *
to root out the remembrance of it from the earth.

The righteous cry, and the Lord hears them *
and delivers them from all their troubles.

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted *
and will save those whose spirits are crushed.

Many are the troubles of the righteous, *
but the Lord will deliver him out of them all.

He will keep safe all his bones; *
not one of them shall be broken.

The Lord ransoms the life of his servants, *
and none will be punished who trust in him.

Antiphon on Magnificat

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; and from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace, alleluia.

St. Stephen *December 26*

(Transferred to December 27 when Christmas Day is Saturday)

At Morning Prayer

28 *Ad te, Domine*

Antiphon

The Lord is the strength of his people, a safe refuge for his anointed.

O Lord, I call to you; my Rock, do not be deaf to my cry; *
lest, if you do not hear me, I become like those who go down to the Pit.

Hear the voice of my prayer when I cry out to you, *
when I lift up my hands to your holy of holies.

Blessed is the Lord! *
for he has heard the voice of my prayer.

The Lord is my strength and my shield; *
my heart trusts in him, and I have been helped;

Therefore my heart dances for joy, *
and in my song will I praise him.

The Lord is the strength of his people, *
a safe refuge for his anointed.

Save your people and bless your inheritance; *
shepherd them and carry them for ever.

30 *Exaltabo te, Domine*

Antiphon

O Lord, my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lifted me up *
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

O Lord my God, I cried out to you, *
and you restored me to health.

You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead; *
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

Sing to the Lord, you servants of his; *
give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.

For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, *
his favor for a lifetime.

Weeping may spend the night, *
but joy comes in the morning.

While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never be disturbed. *
You, Lord, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains."

Then you hid your face, *
and I was filled with fear.

I cried to you, O Lord; *
I pleaded with the Lord, saying,
"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit? *
will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?

Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me; *
O Lord, be my helper."

You have turned my wailing into dancing; *
you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy.

Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; *
O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

Collect

We give you thanks, O Lord of glory, for the example of the first martyr Stephen, who looked up to heaven and prayed for his persecutors to your Son Jesus Christ, who stands at your right hand; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

Amen.

At Evensong

118 *Confitemini Domino*

Antiphon

The Lord is at my side, therefore I will not fear.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.

Let Israel now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."

Let the house of Aaron now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."

Let those who fear the Lord now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."

I called to the Lord in my distress; *
the Lord answered by setting me free.

The Lord is at my side, therefore I will not fear; *
what can anyone do to me?

The Lord is at my side to help me; *
I will triumph over those who hate me.

It is better to rely on the Lord *
than to put any trust in flesh.

It is better to rely on the Lord *
than to put any trust in rulers.

All the ungodly encompass me; *
in the name of the Lord I will repel them.

They hem me in, they hem me in on every side; *
in the name of the Lord I will repel them.

They swarm about me like bees; they blaze like a fire of thorns; *
in the name of the Lord I will repel them.

I was pressed so hard that I almost fell, *
but the Lord came to my help.

The Lord is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.

There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:

“The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! *
the right hand of the Lord is exalted! The right hand of the Lord has triumphed!”

I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the Lord.

The Lord has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.

Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.

“This is the gate of the Lord; *
he who is righteous may enter.”

I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.

The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord’s doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

On this day the Lord has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Hosannah, Lord, hosannah! *
Lord, send us now success.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; *
we bless you from the house of the Lord.

God is the Lord; he has shined upon us; *
form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.

“You are my God, and I will thank you; *
you are my God, and I will exalt you.”

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.

St. John December 27

(Transferred to December 28 when Christmas Day is Friday or Saturday)

At Morning Prayer

97 *Dominus regnavit*

Antiphon

The Lord preserves the lives of his saints, and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

The Lord is King; let the earth rejoice; *
let the multitude of the isles be glad.

Clouds and darkness are round about him, *
righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.

His lightnings light up the world; *
the earth sees it and is afraid.

The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

The heavens declare his righteousness, *
and all the peoples see his glory.

Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! *
Bow down before him, all you gods.

Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments, O Lord.

For you are the Lord, most high over all the earth; *
you are exalted far above all gods.

The Lord loves those who hate evil; *
he preserves the lives of his saints and delivers them from wickedness.

Light has sprung up for the righteous, *
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, *
and give thanks to his holy Name.

98 *Cantate Domino*

Antiphon

Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. +

Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.

+ With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.

The Lord has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

Collect

Shed upon your Church, O Lord, the brightness of your light, that we, being illumined by the teaching of your apostle and evangelist John, may so walk in the light of your truth, that at length we may attain to the fullness of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

At Evensong

145 *Exaltabo te, Deus*

Antiphon

They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts; they shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness.

I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.

Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.

One generation shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.

I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.

They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.

They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

The Lord is loving to everyone *
and his compassion is over all his works.

All your works praise you, O Lord, *
and your faithful servants bless you.

They make known the glory of your kingdom *
and speak of your power;

That the peoples may know of your power *
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; *
your dominion endures throughout all ages.

The Lord is faithful in all his words *
and merciful in all his deeds.

The Lord upholds all those who fall; *
he lifts up those who are bowed down.

The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, *
and you give them their food in due season.

You open wide your hand *
and satisfy the needs of every living creature.

The Lord is righteous in all his ways *
and loving in all his works.

The Lord is near to those who call upon him, *
to all who call upon him faithfully.

He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; *
he hears their cry and helps them.

The Lord preserves all those who love him, *
but he destroys all wickedness.

My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord; *
let all flesh bless his holy Name for ever and ever.

Holy Innocents *December 28*

(Transferred to December 29 when Christmas Day is Thursday, Friday, Saturday)

At Morning Prayer

2 *Quare fremuerunt gentes?*

Antiphon

The kings of the earth rise up against the Lord and against his anointed.

Why are the nations in an uproar? *
Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, *
against the Lord and against his Anointed?

“Let us break their yoke,” they say; *
“let us cast off their bonds from us.”

He whose throne is in heaven is laughing; *
the Lord has them in derision.

Then he speaks to them in his wrath, *
and his rage fills them with terror.

“I myself have set my king *
upon my holy hill of Zion.”

Let me announce the decree of the Lord: *
he said to me, “You are my Son; this day have I begotten you.

Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance *
and the ends of the earth for your possession.

You shall crush them with an iron rod *
and shatter them like a piece of pottery.”

And now, you kings, be wise; *
be warned, you rulers of the earth.

Submit to the Lord with fear, *
and with trembling bow before him;

Lest he be angry and you perish; *
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

Happy are they all *
who take refuge in him!

26 *Judica me, Domine*

Antiphon

I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord, that I may go in procession round your altar.

Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity; *
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

Test me, O Lord, and try me; *
examine my heart and my mind.

For your love is before my eyes; *
I have walked faithfully with you.

I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord, *
that I may go in procession round your altar,

Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving *
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

Lord, I love the house in which you dwell *
and the place where your glory abides.

As for me, I will live with integrity; *
redeem me, O Lord, and have pity on me.

My foot stands on level ground; *
in the full assembly I will bless the Lord.

Collect

We remember today, O God, the slaughter of the holy innocents of Bethlehem by King Herod. Receive, we pray, into the arms of your mercy all innocent victims; and by your great might frustrate the designs of evil tyrants and establish your rule of justice, love, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

At Evensong

19 *Cæli enarrant*

Antiphon

Their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world.

The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.

One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.

Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,

Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.

In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

126 *In convertendo*

Antiphon

Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations, *
"The Lord has done great things for them."

The Lord has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.

Restore our fortunes, O Lord, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.

Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Weekdays of Christmas:

December 29

This office is used in years when Christmas Day falls on Sunday, Monday or Tuesday.

(When Christmas Day is Wednesday, today is the First Sunday after Christmas. Holy Innocents is transferred to December 29 when Christmas Day is Thursday, Friday or Saturday.)

At Morning Prayer

18 *Diligam te, Domine*

Antiphon for Christmas The Lord shows loving-kindness to his anointed,
to David and his descendants for ever.

I love you, O Lord my strength, *
O Lord my stronghold, my crag, and my haven.
My God, my rock in whom I put my trust, *
my shield, the horn of my salvation, and my refuge; you are worthy of praise.

I will call upon the Lord, *
and so shall I be saved from my enemies.

The breakers of death rolled over me, *
and the torrents of oblivion made me afraid.

The cords of hell entangled me, *
and the snares of death were set for me.

I called upon the Lord in my distress *
and cried out to my God for help.

He heard my voice from his heavenly dwelling; *
my cry of anguish came to his ears.

The earth reeled and rocked; *
the roots of the mountains shook; they reeled because of his anger.

Smoke rose from his nostrils and a consuming fire out of his mouth; *
hot burning coals blazed forth from him.

He parted the heavens and came down *
with a storm cloud under his feet.

He mounted on cherubim and flew; *
he swooped on the wings of the wind.

He wrapped darkness about him; *
he made dark waters and thick clouds his pavilion.
From the brightness of his presence, through the clouds, *
burst hailstones and coals of fire.
The Lord thundered out of heaven; *
the Most High uttered his voice.
The beds of the seas were uncovered, and the foundations of the world laid bare, *
at your battle cry, O Lord, at the blast of the breath of your nostrils.
He reached down from on high and grasped me; *
he drew me out of great waters.
He brought me out into an open place; *
he rescued me because he delighted in me.
As for God, his ways are perfect; the words of the Lord are tried in the fire; *
he is a shield to all who trust in him.
For who is God, but the Lord? *
who is the Rock, except our God?
It is God who girds me about with strength *
and makes my way secure.
He makes me sure-footed like a deer *
and lets me stand firm on the heights.

Following the First Reading:

9 The First Song of Isaiah *Ecce, Deus*

Isaiah 12:2-6

Antiphon for Christmas Cry aloud, O Zion; the Holy One of Israel is in the midst of you.

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.
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.*

Following the Second Reading, Te Deum is used throughout the Twelve Days of Christmas

At Evensong

93 *Dominus regnavit*

Antiphon for Christmas Ever since the world began, your throne, O Lord, has been established.

The Lord is King; he has put on splendid apparel; *
the Lord has put on his apparel and girded himself with strength.

He has made the whole world so sure *
that it cannot be moved;

Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; *
you are from everlasting.

The waters have lifted up, O Lord, the waters have lifted up their voice; *
the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, *
mightier is the Lord who dwells on high.

Your testimonies are very sure, *
and holiness adorns your house, O Lord, for ever and for evermore.

96 *Cantate Domino*

Antiphon for Christmas Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad before the Lord, for he has come.

Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.

Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

December 30

At Morning Prayer

20 *Exaudiat te Dominus*

Antiphon for Christmas We will shout for joy at the victory of our God.

May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble, *
the Name of the God of Jacob defend you;
Send you help from his holy place *
and strengthen you out of Zion;

Remember all your offerings *
and accept your burnt sacrifice;

Grant you your heart's desire *
and prosper all your plans.

We will shout for joy at your victory and triumph in the Name of our God; *
may the Lord grant all your requests.

Now I know that the Lord gives victory to his anointed; *
he will answer him out of his holy heaven, with the victorious strength of his right hand.

Some put their trust in chariots and some in horses, *
but we will call upon the Name of the Lord our God.

They collapse and fall down, *
but we will arise and stand upright.

O Lord, give victory to the king *
and answer us when we call.

21 *Domine, in virtute tua*

Antiphon for Christmas He asked you for life, and you gave it to him: length of days for ever and ever.

The king rejoices in your strength, O Lord; *
how greatly he exults in your victory!

You have given him his heart's desire; *
you have not denied him the request of his lips.

For you meet him with blessings of prosperity, *
and set a crown of fine gold upon his head.

He asked you for life, and you gave it to him: *
length of days, for ever and ever.

His honor is great, because of your victory; *
splendor and majesty have you bestowed upon him.

For you will give him everlasting felicity *
and will make him glad with the joy of your presence.

For the king puts his trust in the Lord; *
because of the loving-kindness of the Most High, he will not fall.

Be exalted, O Lord, in your might; *
we will sing and praise your power.

Following the First Reading

10 The Second Song of Isaiah *Quaerite Dominum*

Isaiah 55:6-11

Antiphon for Christmas You shall go out with joy, and be led forth in peace.

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; *
call upon him when he draws near.
Let the wicked forsake their ways *
and the evil ones their thoughts;
And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion, *
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts, *
nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, *
so are my ways higher than your ways,
and my thoughts than your thoughts.
For as rain and snow fall from the heavens *
and return not again, but water the earth,
Bringing forth life and giving growth, *
seed for sowing and bread for eating,
So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; *
it will not return to me empty;
But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, *
and prosper in that for which I sent it.
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.*

At Evensong

23 *Dominus regit me*

Antiphon for Christmas He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and gently lead those that are with young.

The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

27 *Dominus illuminatio*

Antiphon for Christmas The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?+

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? *
+ the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

Though an army should encamp against me, *
yet my heart shall not be afraid;

And though war should rise up against me, *
yet will I put my trust in him.

One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I seek; *
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;

To behold the fair beauty of the Lord *
and to seek him in his temple.

For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.

Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness; *
I will sing and make music to the Lord.

Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; *
have mercy on me and answer me.

You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, Lord, will I seek.

Hide not your face from me, *
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.

You have been my helper; cast me not away; *
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

Though my father and my mother forsake me, *
the Lord will sustain me.

What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the Lord *
in the land of the living!

O tarry and await the Lord's pleasure; be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; *
wait patiently for the Lord.

December 31

At Morning Prayer

46 *Deus noster refugium*

Antiphon for Christmas His name shall be called Emmanuel: God with us.

God is our refuge and strength, *
a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, *
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;

Though its waters rage and foam, *
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.

The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, *
the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown; *
God shall help her at the break of day.

The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; *
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.

The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, *
what awesome things he has done on earth.

It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; *
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

"Be still, then, and know that I am God; *
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

48 *Magnus Dominus*

Antiphon for Christmas Let Mount Zion be glad, and let the cities of Judah rejoice, for the Lord has come.

Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised; *
in the city of our God is his holy hill.

Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth, is the hill of Zion, *
the very center of the world and the city of the great King.

God is in her citadels; *
he is known to be her sure refuge.

Behold, the kings of the earth assembled *
and marched forward together.

They looked and were astounded; *
they retreated and fled in terror.

Trembling seized them there; *
they writhed like a woman in childbirth, like ships of the sea when the east wind shatters them.

As we have heard, so have we seen, in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God; *
God has established her for ever.

We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, O God, *
in the midst of your temple.

Your praise, like your Name, O God, reaches to the world's end; *
your right hand is full of justice.

Let Mount Zion be glad and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments.

Make the circuit of Zion; walk round about her; *
count the number of her towers.

Consider well her bulwarks; examine her strongholds; *
that you may tell those who come after.

This God is our God for ever and ever; *
he shall be our guide for evermore.

Following the First Reading

11 The Third Song of Isaiah *Surge, illuminare*

Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19

Antiphon for Christmas The Lord will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.

Arise, shine, for your light has come, *
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.
For behold, darkness covers the land; *
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.
But over you the Lord will rise, *
and his glory will appear upon you.
Nations will stream to your light, *
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.
Your gates will always be open; *
by day or night they will never be shut.
They will call you, The City of the Lord, *
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.
Violence will no more be heard in your land, *
ruin or destruction within your borders.
You will call your walls, Salvation, *
and all your portals, Praise.
The sun will no more be your light by day; *
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.
The Lord will be your everlasting light, *
and your God will be your glory.
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.*

The Holy Name of Our Lord *January 1*

At First Evensong

90 *Domine, refugium*

Antiphon

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end, says the Lord.

Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.

You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."

For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.

You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty; *
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.

So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry? *
be gracious to your servants.

Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; *
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us *
and the years in which we suffered adversity.

Show your servants your works *
and your splendor to their children.

May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; *
prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.

Following the First Reading (Isaiah 65:15b-25)

13 A Song of Praise *Benedictus es, Domine*

Song of the Three Young Men, 29-34

Antiphon

Glory to you, O Lord, for the radiance of your holy Name.

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; *
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; *
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
Glory to you, beholding the depths; *
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.
Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Third Reading: From a sermon by John Donne (Christmas Day, 1624)

The air is not so full of motes, of atoms, as the Church is of mercies; and as we can suck in no part of air, but we take in those motes, those atoms, so here in the congregation we cannot suck in a word from the preacher, we cannot speak, we cannot sigh a prayer to God, but that that whole breath and air is made of mercy. But we call not upon you to consider God's ordinary mercy, that which he exhibits to all in the ministry of his Church; nor his miraculous mercy, his extraordinary deliverances of States and Churches; but we call upon particular consciences to call to mind God's occasional mercies to them: such mercies as a regenerate man will call mercies, though a natural man would call them accidents, or occurrences, or contingencies...

If I should declare what God hath done (done occasionally) for my soul, where he instructed me for fear of falling, where he raised me when I was fallen, perchance you would rather fix your thoughts upon my illness, and wonder at that, than at God's goodness, and glorify him in that; rather wonder at my sins, than at his mercies; rather consider how ill a man I was, than how good a God he is. If I should inquire upon what occasion God elected me, and writ my name in the Book of Life, I should sooner be afraid that it were not so, than find a reason why it should be so. God made sun and moon to distinguish seasons, and day and night, and we cannot have the fruit of the earth but in their seasons; but God hath made no decree to distinguish the seasons of his mercies. In paradise, the fruits were ripe the first minute, and in heaven it is always autumn, his mercies are ever in their maturity. We ask *panem quotidianum*, our daily bread, and God never says you should have come yesterday, he never says you must again tomorrow, but *today if you will hear his voice*, today he will hear you.

If some king of the earth have so large an extent of dominion, in north, and south, as that he hath winter and summer together in his dominions; so large an extent east and west, as that he hath day and night together in his dominions; much more hath God mercy and judgment together. He brought light out of darkness, not out of a lesser light; he can bring thy summer out of winter, though thou have no spring. Though in the ways of fortune, or understanding, or conscience, thou have been benighted till now, wintered and frozen, clouded and eclipsed, damped and benumbed, smother and stupified till now--now God comes to thee, not as in the

dawning of the day, not as in the bud of the spring, but as the sun at noon to illustrate all shadows, as the sheaves in harvest to fill all penuries. All occasions invite his mercies, and all times are his seasons.

Antiphon on Magnificat

You shall call his name Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins, alleluia.

Collect

Eternal Father, you gave to your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation: Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

At Morning Prayer

103 *Benedic, anima mea*

Antiphon

Let all that is within me bless God's holy Name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, *
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, *
and forget not all his benefits.

He forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;

He redeems your life from the grave *
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;

He satisfies you with good things, *
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

The Lord executes righteousness *
and judgment for all who are oppressed.

He made his ways known to Moses *
and his works to the children of Israel.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.

As a father cares for his children, *
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

For he himself knows whereof we are made; *
he remembers that we are but dust.

Our days are like the grass; *
we flourish like a flower of the field;

When the wind goes over it, it is gone, *
and its place shall know it no more.

But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever
on those who fear him, *
and his righteousness on children's children;

On those who keep his covenant *
and remember his commandments and do them.

The Lord has set his throne in heaven, *
and his kingship has dominion over all.

Bless the Lord, you angels of his, you mighty ones who do his bidding, *
and hearken to the voice of his word.

Bless the Lord, all you his hosts, *
you ministers of his who do his will.

Bless the Lord, all you works of his, in all places of his dominion; *
bless the Lord, O my soul.

At Second Evensong

148 *Laudate Dominum*

Antiphon

Young men and maidens, old and young together, praise the Name of the Lord, for his Name only is exalted, hallelujah.

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; *
praise him in the heights.

Praise him, all you angels of his; *
praise him, all his host.

Praise him, sun and moon; *
praise him, all you shining stars.

Praise him, heaven of heavens, *
and you waters above the heavens.

Let them praise the Name of the Lord; *
for he commanded, and they were created.

He made them stand fast for ever and ever; *
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth, *
you sea-monsters and all deeps;

Fire and hail, snow and fog, *
tempestuous wind, doing his will;

Mountains and all hills, *
fruit trees and all cedars;

Wild beasts and all cattle, *
creeping things and winged birds;

Kings of the earth and all peoples, *
princes and all rulers of the world;

Young men and maidens, *
old and young together.

Let them praise the Name of the Lord, *
for his Name only is exalted, his splendor is over earth and heaven.

He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, *
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.

Antiphon on Magnificat

To us a child is born, to us a son is given; and he shall be called the Prince of Peace, alleluia.

Second Sunday after Christmas

At First Evensong

(The Psalms for the calendar date are used with the Christmas antiphons. On January 1, the Second Evensong of Holy Name takes precedence over this one.)

Antiphon on Magnificat

While all things were in quiet silence, and the night was in the midst of its swift course, your almighty Word, O Lord, leaped down out of your royal throne, alleluia.

Collect

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

At Morning Prayer

66 *Jubilate Deo*

Antiphon for Christmas All the earth bows down before you, sings to you, sings out your Name.

Be joyful in God, all you lands; *
sing the glory of his Name; sing the glory of his praise.

All the earth bows down before you, *
sings to you, sings out your Name."

Come now and see the works of God, *
how wonderful he is in his doing toward all people.

He turned the sea into dry land, so that they went through the water on foot, *
and there we rejoiced in him.

In his might he rules for ever; his eyes keep watch over the nations; *
let no rebel rise up against him.

Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;

Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.

For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows, *
which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.

Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what he has done for me.

I called out to him with my mouth, *
and his praise was on my tongue.

If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;

But in truth God has heard me; *
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld his love from me.

67 *Deus misereatur*

Antiphon for Christmas Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

May God be merciful to us and bless us, *
show us the light of his countenance and come to us.

Let your ways be known upon earth, *
your saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has brought forth her increase; *
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.

May God give us his blessing, *
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

At Second Evensong

145 *Exaltabo te, Deus*

Antiphon One generation shall praise your works to another, O Lord, and shall declare your power.

I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.

Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.

One generation shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.

I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.

They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.

They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

The Lord is loving to everyone *
and his compassion is over all his works.

All your works praise you, O Lord, *
and your faithful servants bless you.

They make known the glory of your kingdom *
and speak of your power;

That the peoples may know of your power *
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; *
your dominion endures throughout all ages.

The Lord is faithful in all his words *
and merciful in all his deeds.

The Lord upholds all those who fall; *
he lifts up those who are bowed down.

The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, *
and you give them their food in due season.

You open wide your hand *
and satisfy the needs of every living creature.

The Lord is righteous in all his ways *
and loving in all his works.

The Lord is near to those who call upon him, *
to all who call upon him faithfully.

He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; *
he hears their cry and helps them.

The Lord preserves all those who love him, *
but he destroys all wickedness.

My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord; *
let all flesh bless his holy Name for ever and ever.

Antiphon on Magnificat

The child Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man, alleluia.

Weekdays of Christmas

January 2

At Morning Prayer

34 *Benedicam Dominum*

Antiphon for Christmas Look upon the Lord and be radiant; happy are they who trust in him.

I will bless the Lord at all times; *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.

I will glory in the Lord; *
let the humble hear and rejoice.

Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;
let us exalt his Name together.

I sought the Lord, and he answered me *
and delivered me out of all my terror.

Look upon him and be radiant, *
and let not your faces be ashamed.

I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me *
and saved me from all my troubles.

The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him, *
and he will deliver them.

Taste and see that the Lord is good; *
happy are they who trust in him!

Fear the Lord, you that are his saints, *
for those who fear him lack nothing.

The young lions lack and suffer hunger, *
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.

Come, children, and listen to me; *
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

Who among you loves life *
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?

Keep your tongue from evil-speaking *
and your lips from lying words.

Turn from evil and do good; *
seek peace and pursue it.

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, *
and his ears are open to their cry.

The face of the Lord is against evil, *
to root out the remembrance of it from the earth.

The righteous cry, and the Lord hears them *
and delivers them from all their troubles.

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted *
and will save those whose spirits are crushed.

Many are the troubles of the righteous, *
but the Lord will deliver him out of them all.

He will keep safe all his bones; *
not one of them shall be broken.

The Lord ransoms the life of his servants, *
and none will be punished who trust in him.

Following the First Reading

12 A Song of Creation *Benedicite, omnia opera Domini*

Song of the Three Young Men, 35-65

One or more sections of this Canticle may be used. Whatever the selection, it begins with the Invocation and concludes with the Doxology.

Antiphon for Christmas In him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible; all things were created in him and for him.

Invocation

Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

I The Cosmic Order

Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord, *
O heavens and all waters above the heavens.
Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew, *
all winds and fire and heat.
Winter and summer, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
Glorify the Lord, O chill and cold, *
drops of dew and flakes of snow.
Frost and cold, ice and sleet, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
Glorify the Lord, O nights and days, *
O shining light and enfolding dark.
Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

II The Earth and its Creatures

Let the earth glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O mountains and hills,
and all that grows upon the earth, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
Glorify the Lord, O springs of water, seas, and streams, *
O whales and all that move in the waters.
All birds of the air, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
Glorify the Lord, O beasts of the wild, *
and all you flocks and herds.
O men and women everywhere, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

III The People of God

Let the people of God glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
Glorify the Lord, O priests and servants of the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
Glorify the Lord, O spirits and souls of the righteous, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
You that are holy and humble of heart, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Doxology

Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

The Collect for the preceding Sunday is used until Saturday evening.

At Evensong

33 *Exultate, justi*

Antiphon for Christmas Praise the Lord with the harp; sing for him a new song.

Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous; *
it is good for the just to sing praises.
Praise the Lord with the harp; *
play to him upon the psaltery and lyre.
Sing for him a new song; *
sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet.
For the word of the Lord is right, *
and all his works are sure.
He loves righteousness and justice; *
the loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole earth.

By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, *
by the breath of his mouth all the heavenly hosts.

He gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a water-skin *
and stores up the depths of the sea.

Let all the earth fear the Lord; *
let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of him.

For he spoke, and it came to pass; *
he commanded, and it stood fast.

The Lord brings the will of the nations to naught; *
he thwarts the designs of the peoples.

But the Lord's will stands fast for ever, *
and the designs of his heart from age to age.

Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord! *
happy the people he has chosen to be his own!

The Lord looks down from heaven, *
and beholds all the people in the world.

From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze *
on all who dwell on the earth.

He fashions all the hearts of them *
and understands all their works.

There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army;
a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.

The horse is a vain hope for deliverance; *
for all its strength it cannot save.

Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those who fear him, *
on those who wait upon his love,

To pluck their lives from death, *
and to feed them in time of famine.

Our soul waits for the Lord; *
he is our help and our shield.

Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, *
for in his holy Name we put our trust.

Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us, *
as we have put our trust in you.

January 3

At Morning Prayer

68 *Exurgat Deus*

Antiphon for Christmas Let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;
let them also be merry and joyful.

Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; *
let those who hate him flee before him.

But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *
let them also be merry and joyful.

Sing to God, sing praises to his Name; exalt him who rides upon the heavens; *
Yahweh is his Name, rejoice before him!

Father of orphans, defender of widows, *
God in his holy habitation!

God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; *
but the rebels shall live in dry places.

O God, when you went forth before your people, *
when you marched through the wilderness,

The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *
you refreshed the land when it was weary.

Your people found their home in it; *
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.

The Lord gave the word; *
great was the company of women who bore the tidings:

"Kings with their armies are fleeing away; *
the women at home are dividing the spoils."

Though you lingered among the sheepfolds, *
you shall be like a dove whose wings are covered with silver, whose feathers are like green gold.

When the Almighty scattered kings, *
it was like snow falling in Zalmon.

O mighty mountain, O hill of Bashan! *
O rugged mountain, O hill of Bashan!

Why do you look with envy, O rugged mountain, at the hill which God chose for his resting place? *
truly, the Lord will dwell there for ever.

The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of thousands; *
the Lord comes in holiness from Sinai.

You have gone up on high and led captivity captive;
you have received gifts even from your enemies,*
that the Lord God might dwell among them.

Blessed be the Lord day by day, *
the God of our salvation, who bears our burdens.

He is our God, the God of our salvation; *
God is the Lord, by whom we escape death.
They see your procession, O God, *
your procession into the sanctuary, my God and my King.
The singers go before, musicians follow after, *
in the midst of maidens playing upon the hand-drums.
Bless God in the congregation; *
bless the Lord, you that are of the fountain of Israel.
There is Benjamin, least of the tribes, at the head; the princes of Judah in a company; *
and the princes of Zebulon and Naphtali.
Send forth your strength, O God; *
establish, O God, what you have wrought for us.
Kings shall bring gifts to you, *
for your temple's sake at Jerusalem.
Let tribute be brought out of Egypt; *
let Ethiopia stretch out her hands to God.
Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; *
sing praises to the Lord.
He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; *
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.
Ascribe power to God; *
his majesty is over Israel; his strength is in the skies.
How wonderful is God in his holy places! *
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people! Blessed be God!

Following the First Reading

13 A Song of Praise *Benedictus es, Domine*

Song of the Three Young Men, 29-34

Antiphon for Christmas The Lord God has given him the throne of his father David,
and he will reign for ever and ever.

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; *
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; *
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
Glory to you, beholding the depths; *
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.
Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

At Evensong

72 *Deus, iudicium*

Antiphon for Christmas The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute;
the kings of Arabia and Saba shall offer gifts.

Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;

That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.

He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.

In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

He shall rule from sea to sea, *
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, *
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.

All kings shall bow down before him, *
and all the nations do him service.

For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, *
and the oppressed who has no helper.

He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; *
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.

He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, *
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

Long may he live! and may there be given to him gold from Arabia; *
may prayer be made for him always, and may they bless him all the day long.

May there be abundance of grain on the earth, growing thick even on the hilltops; *
may its fruit flourish like Lebanon, and its grain like grass upon the earth.

May his Name remain for ever and be established as long as the sun endures; *
may all the nations bless themselves in him and call him blessed.

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!

And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.

January 4

At Morning Prayer

85 *Benedixisti, Domine*

Antiphon for Christmas Truth has sprung up from the earth,
and righteousness has looked down from heaven.

You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.

Show us your mercy, O Lord, *
and grant us your salvation.

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.

Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

87 *Fundamenta ejus*

Antiphon for Christmas The Most High has founded a city,
and all people shall be enrolled as her children.

On the holy mountain stands the city he has founded; *
the Lord loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.

Glorious things are spoken of you, *
O city of our God.

I count Egypt and Babylon among those who know me; *
behold Philistia, Tyre, and Ethiopia: in Zion were they born.

Of Zion it shall be said, "Everyone was born in her, *
and the Most High himself shall sustain her."

The Lord will record as he enrolls the peoples, *
"These also were born there."

The singers and the dancers will say, *
"All my fresh springs are in you."

Following the First Reading

Canticle CC **A Song of the Messiah**

Isaiah 9:2-7

Antiphon To us a child is born, to us a son is given; who is called Mighty God and Prince of Peace.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;*
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
upon them the light has dawned.
You have increased their joy and given them great gladness;*
they rejoiced before you as with joy at the harvest.
For you have shattered the yoke that burdened them;*
the collar that lay heavy on their shoulders.
For to us a child is born and to us a son is given,*
and the government will be upon his shoulder.
And his name will be called: Wonderful Counselor; the Mighty God;*
the Everlasting Father; the Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace*
there will be no end,
Upon the throne of David and over his kingdom,*
to establish and uphold it with justice and righteousness.
From this time forth and for evermore,*
the zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

At Evensong

89 *Misericordias Domini*

Antiphon for Christmas He will say to me: You are my Father; hallelujah.

Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing; *
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; *
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
"I have made a covenant with my chosen one; *
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
'I will establish your line for ever, *
and preserve your throne for all generations.'"
The heavens bear witness to your wonders, O Lord, *
and to your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones;
For who in the skies can be compared to the Lord? *
who is like the Lord among the gods?
God is much to be feared in the council of the holy ones, *
great and terrible to all those round about him.

Who is like you, Lord God of hosts? *
O mighty Lord, your faithfulness is all around you.
You rule the raging of the sea *
and still the surging of its waves.
You have crushed Rahab of the deep with a deadly wound; *
you have scattered your enemies with your mighty arm.
Yours are the heavens; the earth also is yours; *
you laid the foundations of the world and all that is in it.
You have made the north and the south; *
Tabor and Hermon rejoice in your Name.
You have a mighty arm; *
strong is your hand and high is your right hand.
Righteousness and justice are the foundations of your throne; *
love and truth go before your face.
Happy are the people who know the festal shout! *
they walk, O Lord, in the light of your presence.
They rejoice daily in your Name; *
they are jubilant in your righteousness.
For you are the glory of their strength, *
and by your favor our might is exalted.
Truly, the Lord is our ruler; *
the Holy One of Israel is our King.
You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: *
"I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out of the people.
I have found David my servant; *
with my holy oil have I anointed him.
My hand will hold him fast *
and my arm will make him strong.
No enemy shall deceive him, *
nor any wicked man bring him down.
My faithfulness and love shall be with him, *
and he shall be victorious through my Name.

January 5

At Morning Prayer

2 *Quare fremuerunt gentes?*

Antiphon

The kings of the earth rise up against the Lord and against his anointed.

Why are the nations in an uproar? *
Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?
Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, *
against the Lord and against his Anointed?
"Let us break their yoke," they say; *
"let us cast off their bonds from us."

He whose throne is in heaven is laughing; *
the Lord has them in derision.

Then he speaks to them in his wrath, *
and his rage fills them with terror.

"I myself have set my king *
upon my holy hill of Zion."

Let me announce the decree of the Lord: *
he said to me, "You are my Son; this day have I begotten you.

Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance *
and the ends of the earth for your possession.

You shall crush them with an iron rod *
and shatter them like a piece of pottery."

And now, you kings, be wise; *
be warned, you rulers of the earth.

Submit to the Lord with fear, *
and with trembling bow before him;

Lest he be angry and you perish; *
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

Happy are they all *
who take refuge in him!

110 *Dixit Dominus*

Antiphon for Christmas Princely state has been yours from the day of your birth; in the beauty of holiness have I begotten you, like dew from the womb of the morning.

The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, *
until I make your enemies your footstool."

The Lord will send the scepter of your power out of Zion, *
saying, "Rule over your enemies round about you.

Princely state has been yours from the day of your birth; *
in the beauty of holiness have I begotten you, like dew from the womb of the morning."

The Lord has sworn and he will not recant: *
"You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek."

The Lord who is at your right hand will smite kings in the day of his wrath; *
he will rule over the nations.

Following the First Reading

8 **The Song of Moses** *Cantemus Domino*

Exodus 15:1-6, 11-13, 17-18

Antiphon for Christmas Out of Egypt have I called my Son.

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; *
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my refuge; *
the Lord has become my Savior.
This is my God and I will praise him, *
the God of my people and I will exalt him.
The Lord is a mighty warrior; *
Yahweh is his Name.
The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea; *
the finest of those who bear armor have been
drowned in the Red Sea.
The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; *
they sank into the depths like a stone.
Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; *
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.
Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? *
who is like you, glorious in holiness,
awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?
You stretched forth your right hand; *
the earth swallowed them up.
With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; *
with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.
You will bring them in and plant them *
on the mount of your possession,
The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, *
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.
The Lord shall reign *
for ever and 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.*

The Epiphany of Our Lord *January 6*

At First Evensong

29 *Afferte Domino*

Antiphon

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, *
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; *
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; *
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; *
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; *
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; *
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe *
and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the Lord *
all are crying, "Glory!"

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; *
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.

The Lord shall give strength to his people; *
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

98 *Cantate Domino*

Antiphon

All nations you have made will come and worship you, O Lord.

Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.

With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.

The Lord has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

Following the First Reading (Isaiah 66:18-23)

11 The Third Song of Isaiah *Surge, illuminare*

Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19

Antiphon

Your light has come, O Jerusalem; and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you; and the nations will stream to your light, hallelujah.

Arise, shine, for your light has come, *
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.
For behold, darkness covers the land; *
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.
But over you the Lord will rise, *
and his glory will appear upon you.
Nations Will stream to your light, *
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.
Your gates will always be open; *
by day or night they will never be shut.
They will call you, The City of the Lord, *
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.
Violence will no more be heard in your land, *
ruin or destruction within your borders.
You will call your walls, Salvation, *
and all your portals, Praise.
The sun will no more be your light by day; *
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.
The Lord will be your everlasting light, *
and your God will be your glory.
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.*

Third Reading: From a sermon by Leo the Great

The loving providence of God determined that in the last days he would aid the world, set on its course to destruction. He decreed that all nations should be saved in Christ.

A promise had been made to the holy patriarch Abraham in regard to these nations. He was to have countless progeny, born not from his body but from the seed of faith. His descendants are therefore compared with the array of the stars. The father of all nations was to hope not in an earthly progeny but in a progeny from above.

Let the full number of the nations now take their place in the family of the patriarchs. Let the children of the promise now receive the blessing in the seed of Abraham... In the person of the

Magi let all people adore the Creator of the universe; let God be known, not in Judea only, but in the whole world, so that *his name may be great in all Israel*.

Dear friends, now that we have received instruction in this revelation of God's grace, let us celebrate with spiritual joy the day of our first harvesting, of the first calling of the Gentiles. Let us give thanks to the merciful God, *who has made us worthy*, in the words of the Apostle, *to share the position of the saints in light; who has rescued us from the power of darkness, and brought us into the kingdom of his beloved Son*. As Isaiah prophesied: *The people of the Gentiles, who sat in darkness, have seen a great light, and for those who dwell in the region of the shadow of death a light has dawned*. He spoke of them to the Lord: *The Gentiles, who do not know you, will invoke you, and the peoples, who knew you not, will take refuge in you*.

This is *the day that Abraham saw, and rejoiced to see*, when he knew that the children born of his faith would be blessed in his seed, that is, in Christ. Believing that he would be the father of the nations, he looked into the future, *giving glory to God, in full awareness that God is able to do what he has promised*.

This is the day that David prophesied in the psalms, when he said: *All the nations that you have brought into being will come and fall down in adoration in your presence, Lord, and glorify your name*. Again, *the Lord has made known his salvation; in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice*.

This came to be fulfilled, as we know, from the time when the star beckoned the three wise men out of their distant country and led them to recognize and adore the King of heaven and earth. The obedience of the star calls us to imitate its humble service: to be servants, as best we can, of the grace that invites all humanity to find Christ.

Dear friends, you must have the same zeal to be of help to one another; then, in the kingdom of God, to which faith and good works are the way, you will shine as children of the light: through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with God the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

Antiphon on Magnificat

From the East there came wise men to Bethlehem to worship the Lord; and when they had opened their treasures, they presented to him precious gifts: gold as to a mighty King, incense as to the true God, and myrrh to foreshow his burial, alleluia.

Collect

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

At Morning Prayer

46 *Deus noster refugium*

Antiphon

I will be exalted among the nations, says the Lord, and I will be exalted in the earth, hallelujah.

God is our refuge and strength, *
a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, *
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;

Though its waters rage and foam, *
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.

The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, *
the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown; *
God shall help her at the break of day.

The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; *
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.

The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, *
what awesome things he has done on earth.

It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; *
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

"Be still, then, and know that I am God; *
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

97 *Dominus regnavit*

Antiphon

Bow down before him, all you gods, hallelujah.

The Lord is King; let the earth rejoice; *
let the multitude of the isles be glad.

Clouds and darkness are round about him, *
righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.

His lightnings light up the world; *
the earth sees it and is afraid.

The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

The heavens declare his righteousness, *
and all the peoples see his glory.

Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! *
Bow down before him, all you gods.

Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments, O Lord.

For you are the Lord, most high over all the earth; *
you are exalted far above all gods.

The Lord loves those who hate evil; *
he preserves the lives of his saints and delivers them from wickedness.

Light has sprung up for the righteous, *
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, *
and give thanks to his holy Name.

Antiphon on Benedictus

Before the morning star begotten, and Lord from everlasting, our Savior is made manifest to the world today, alleluia.

At Second Evensong

96 *Cantate Domino*

Antiphon

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him.

Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.

Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes,
when he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

100 *Jubilate Deo*

Antiphon

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands. +

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
+ serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Antiphon on Magnificat

Great indeed is the mystery of our faith: He was manifested in the flesh, preached among the
nations, and believed on in the world, alleluia.

or

Behold a triple mystery: The wise men come with precious gifts; Christ comes to the waters of
Jordan; and water is changed into wine. ¹

First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord

At First Evensong

(If today is January 6, the Second Evensong of the Epiphany takes precedence over this one.)

104 *Benedic, anima mea*

Antiphon

In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, the Spirit of God moved over the face of
the waters, hallelujah.

Bless the Lord, O my soul; *
O Lord my God, how excellent is your greatness! you are clothed with majesty and splendor.
You wrap yourself with light as with a cloak *
and spread out the heavens like a curtain.

¹ The antiphon "Behold a triple mystery" is used if today is Saturday, and may be used on evenings between the
Epiphany and the following Sunday, if desired.

You lay the beams of your chambers in the waters above; *
you make the clouds your chariot; you ride on the wings of the wind.

You make the winds your messengers *
and flames of fire your servants.

You have set the earth upon its foundations, *
so that it never shall move at any time.

You covered it with the Deep as with a mantle; *
the waters stood higher than the mountains.

At your rebuke they fled; *
at the voice of your thunder they hastened away.

They went up into the hills and down to the valleys beneath, *
to the places you had appointed for them.

You set the limits that they should not pass; *
they shall not again cover the earth.

You send the springs into the valleys; *
they flow between the mountains.

All the beasts of the field drink their fill from them, *
and the wild asses quench their thirst.

Beside them the birds of the air make their nests *
and sing among the branches.

You water the mountains from your dwelling on high; *
the earth is fully satisfied by the fruit of your works.

You make grass grow for flocks and herds *
and plants to serve mankind;

That they may bring forth food from the earth, *
and wine to gladden our hearts,

Oil to make a cheerful countenance, *
and bread to strengthen the heart.

The trees of the Lord are full of sap, *
the cedars of Lebanon which he planted,

In which the birds build their nests, *
and in whose tops the stork makes his dwelling.

The high hills are a refuge for the mountain goats, *
and the stony cliffs for the rock badgers.

You appointed the moon to mark the seasons, *
and the sun knows the time of its setting.

You make darkness that it may be night, *
in which all the beasts of the forest prowl.

The lions roar after their prey *
and seek their food from God.

The sun rises, and they slip away *
and lay themselves down in their dens.

Man goes forth to his work *
and to his labor until the evening.

O Lord, how manifold are your works! *
in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too many to number, *
creatures both small and great.

There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, *
which you have made for the sport of it.
All of them look to you *
to give them their food in due season.
You give it to them; they gather it; *
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.
You hide your face, and they are terrified; *
you take away their breath, and they die and return to their dust.
You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; *
and so you renew the face of the earth.
May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; *
may the Lord rejoice in all his works.
He looks at the earth and it trembles; *
he touches the mountains and they smoke.
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; *
I will praise my God while I have my being.
May these words of mine please him; *
I will rejoice in the Lord.
Bless the Lord, O my soul. *
Hallelujah!

Following the First Reading (Isaiah 61:1-9):

9 The First Song of Isaiah *Ecce, Deus*

Isaiah 12:2-6

Antiphon

You shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation.

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.
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.*

Third Reading: From a sermon by Gregory of Nazianzus

Christ is bathed in light; let us also be bathed in light. Christ is baptized; let us also go down with him, and rise with him.

John is baptizing when Jesus draws near. Perhaps he comes to sanctify his baptizer; certainly he comes to bury sinful humanity in the waters. He comes to sanctify the Jordan for our sake and in readiness for us; he who is spirit and flesh comes to begin a new creation through the Spirit and water.

The Baptist protests; Jesus insists. Then John says, *I ought to be baptized by you*. He is the lamp in the presence of the sun, the voice in the presence of the Word, the friend in the presence of the Bridegroom, the greatest of all born of woman in the presence of the firstborn of all creation, the one who leapt in his mother's womb in the presence of him who was adored in the womb, the forerunner and future forerunner in the presence of him who has already come and is to come again. *I ought to be baptized by you*; we should also add: *and for you*, for John is to be baptized in blood, washed clean like Peter, not only by the washing of his feet.

Jesus rises from the waters; the world rises with him. The heavens like Paradise with its flaming sword, closed by Adam for himself and his descendants, are rent open. The Spirit comes to him as to an equal, bearing witness to his Godhead. A voice bears witness to him from heaven, the place of his origin. The spirit descends in bodily form like the dove that so long ago announced the ending of the flood and so gives honor to the body that is one with God.

Today let us do honor to Christ's baptism and celebrate this feast in holiness. Be cleansed entirely and continue to be cleansed. Nothing gives such pleasure to God as the conversion and salvation of human beings, for whom his every word and every revelation exist. He wants you to become a living force for all humanity, lights shining in the world. You are to be radiant lights as you stand beside Christ, the great light, bathed in the glory of him who is the light of heaven. You are to enjoy more and more the pure and dazzling light of the Trinity, as now you have received--though not in its fullness--a ray of its splendor, proceeding from the one God, in Christ Jesus our Lord, to whom be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.

Antiphon on Magnificat

There came a voice from heaven, and the Father's voice was heard: This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

Collect

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen*.

After the prayer for mission there follows:

Memorial of Baptism

Anthem

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

V. All of us who were baptized into Christ:

R. Have clothed ourselves with Christ.

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

The Officiant says the following or some other Collect

Grant, Lord God, to all who have been baptized into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, that, as we have put away the old life of sin, so we may be renewed in the spirit of our minds, and live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The following Anthem may be added. If desired, those present may be sprinkled with water.

You will purge me with hyssop, O Lord, and I shall be clean; you will wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

The Office concludes in the usual way or, if the officiant is a priest, with the following blessing and a dismissal
Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named, grant you to be strengthened with might by his Holy Spirit, that, Christ dwelling in your hearts by faith, you may be filled with all the fullness of God; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

At Morning Prayer

146 *Lauda, anima mea*

Antiphon

I will praise the Lord as long as I live, hallelujah.

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul! *
I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, *
for there is no help in them.
When they breathe their last, they return to earth, *
and in that day their thoughts perish.
Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
whose hope is in the Lord their God;
Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise for ever;
Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.
The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; *
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.
The Lord shall reign for ever, *
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

147 *Laudate Dominum*

Antiphon

How pleasant it is to honor God with praise, hallelujah.

Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!
The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; *
he gathers the exiles of Israel.
He heals the brokenhearted *
and binds up their wounds.
He counts the number of the stars *
and calls them all by their names.
Great is our Lord and mighty in power; *
there is no limit to his wisdom.
The Lord lifts up the lowly, *
but casts the wicked to the ground.
Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; *
make music to our God upon the harp.

He covers the heavens with clouds *
and prepares rain for the earth;
He makes grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve mankind.
He provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.
He is not impressed by the might of a horse; *
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;
But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, *
in those who await his gracious favor.
Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;
For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.
He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.
He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?
He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel. Hallelujah!

At Second Evensong

111 *Confitebor tibi*

Antiphon

The gracious Lord makes his marvelous works to be remembered, hallelujah.

Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, *
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the deeds of the Lord! *
they are studied by all who delight in them.

His work is full of majesty and splendor, *
and his righteousness endures for ever.

He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; *
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

He gives food to those who fear him; *
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

He has shown his people the power of his works *
in giving them the lands of the nations.

The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; *
all his commandments are sure.

They stand fast for ever and ever, *
because they are done in truth and equity.

He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his covenant for ever; *
holy and awesome is his Name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; *
those who act accordingly have a good understanding; his praise endures for ever.

112 *Beatus vir*

Antiphon

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied, hallelujah.

Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord *
and have great delight in his commandments!

Their descendants will be mighty in the land; *
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Wealth and riches will be in their house, *
and their righteousness will last for ever.

Light shines in the darkness for the upright; *
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

It is good for them to be generous in lending *
and to manage their affairs with justice.

For they will never be shaken; *
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *
their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.

They have given freely to the poor, *
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

113 *Laudate, pueri*

Antiphon

From the rising of the sun to its going down, let the Name of the Lord be praised, hallelujah.

Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the Lord; *
praise the Name of the Lord.

Let the Name of the Lord be blessed, *
from this time forth for evermore.

From the rising of the sun to its going down *
let the Name of the Lord be praised.

The Lord is high above all nations, *
and his glory above the heavens.

Who is like the Lord our God, who sits enthroned on high *
but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?

He takes up the weak out of the dust *
and lifts up the poor from the ashes.

He sets them with the princes, *
with the princes of his people.

He makes the woman of a childless house *
to be a joyful mother of children.

Antiphon on Magnificat

Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him.

Memorial of Baptism as at First Evensong

Following the Baptism of Our Lord, the Office for Ordinary Time resumes, beginning with Monday of Week One. (The dated days after the Epiphany are used only until the Eve of 1 Epiphany.)

Appendix

These offices are used only when the calendar requires.

Weekdays of late Advent

Thursday after Advent 4

At Morning Prayer

80 *Qui regis Israel*

Antiphon

Stir up your strength, O Lord, and come to help us.

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.

Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

You have brought a vine out of Egypt; *
you cast out the nations and planted it.

You prepared the ground for it; *
it took root and filled the land.

The mountains were covered by its shadow *
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea *
and its branches to the River.

Why have you broken down its wall, *
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, *
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven; behold and tend this vine; *
preserve what your right hand has planted.

They burn it with fire like rubbish; *
at the rebuke of your countenance let them perish.

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

At Evensong

146 *Lauda, anima mea*

Antiphon for Advent Tell it out among the nations, and say:
Behold he comes, our God and Savior, hallelujah.

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul! *
I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, *
for there is no help in them.

When they breathe their last, they return to earth, *
and in that day their thoughts perish.

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
whose hope is in the Lord their God;

Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise for ever;

Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.

The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; *
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

The Lord shall reign for ever, *
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

147 *Laudate Dominum*

Antiphon for Advent

On that day, the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk and honey,
hallelujah.

Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; *
he gathers the exiles of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted *
and binds up their wounds.

He counts the number of the stars *
and calls them all by their names.

Great is our Lord and mighty in power; *
there is no limit to his wisdom.

The Lord lifts up the lowly, *
but casts the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; *
make music to our God upon the harp.

He covers the heavens with clouds *
and prepares rain for the earth;

He makes grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve mankind.

He provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.

He is not impressed by the might of a horse; *
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, *
in those who await his gracious favor.

Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;

For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.

He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.

He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?

He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel. Hallelujah!

Antiphon on Magnificat: A Great O (page 92)

Friday after Advent 4

At Morning Prayer

93 *Dominus regnavit*

Antiphon

Mighty is the Lord who dwells on high.

The Lord is King; he has put on splendid apparel; *
the Lord has put on his apparel and girded himself with strength.

He has made the whole world so sure *
that it cannot be moved;

Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; *
you are from everlasting.

The waters have lifted up, O Lord, the waters have lifted up their voice; *
the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, *
mightier is the Lord who dwells on high.

Your testimonies are very sure, *
and holiness adorns your house, O Lord, for ever and for evermore.

96 *Cantate Domino*

Antiphon

Sing to the Lord and bless his Name.

Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.

Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

At Evensong

148 *Laudate Dominum*

Antiphon for Advent Behold, I send my messenger, and he shall prepare your way before your face, hallelujah.

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; *
praise him in the heights.

Praise him, all you angels of his; *
praise him, all his host.

Praise him, sun and moon; *
praise him, all you shining stars.

Praise him, heaven of heavens, *
and you waters above the heavens.

Let them praise the Name of the Lord; *
for he commanded, and they were created.

He made them stand fast for ever and ever; *
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth, *
you sea-monsters and all deeps;

Fire and hail, snow and fog, *
tempestuous wind, doing his will;

Mountains and all hills, *
fruit trees and all cedars;

Wild beasts and all cattle, *
creeping things and winged birds;

Kings of the earth and all peoples, *
princes and all rulers of the world;

Young men and maidens, *
old and young together.

Let them praise the Name of the Lord, *
for his Name only is exalted, his splendor is over earth and heaven.

He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, *
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.

Hallelujah!

150 *Laudate Dominum*

Antiphon for Advent Zion is our strong city; a Savior will God appoint within her for walls and bulwarks. Open wide the gates, for God himself is with us, hallelujah.

Hallelujah! Praise God in his holy temple; *
praise him in the firmament of his power.

Praise him for his mighty acts; *
praise him for his excellent greatness.

Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; *
praise him with lyre and harp.

Praise him with timbrel and dance; *
praise him with strings and pipe.

Praise him with resounding cymbals; *
praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.

Let everything that has breath *
praise the Lord. Hallelujah!

Antiphon on Magnificat: A Great O (page 92)

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Weekdays between the Epiphany and the First Sunday after the Epiphany

Canticles may be selected from those beginning on page 91.

January 7

Morning Prayer

103 *Benedic, anima mea*

Antiphon

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, *
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, *
and forget not all his benefits.

He forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;

He redeems your life from the grave *
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;

He satisfies you with good things, *
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

The Lord executes righteousness *
and judgment for all who are oppressed.

He made his ways known to Moses *
and his works to the children of Israel.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.

As a father cares for his children, *
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

For he himself knows whereof we are made; *
he remembers that we are but dust.

Our days are like the grass; *
we flourish like a flower of the field;

When the wind goes over it, it is gone, *
and its place shall know it no more.

But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever on those who fear him, *
and his righteousness on children's children;

On those who keep his covenant *
and remember his commandments and do them.

The Lord has set his throne in heaven, *
and his kingship has dominion over all.

Bless the Lord, you angels of his, you mighty ones who do his bidding, *
and hearken to the voice of his word.

Bless the Lord, all you his hosts, *
you ministers of his who do his will.

Bless the Lord, all you works of his, in all places of his dominion; *
bless the Lord, O my soul.

Evening Prayer

114 *In exitu Israel*

Antiphon

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, hallelujah.

Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.

The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.

The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?

You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

115 *Non nobis, Domine*

Antiphon

Our God is in heaven; whatever he wills to do he does, hallelujah.

Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your Name give glory; *
because of your love and because of your faithfulness.

Why should the heathen say, *

“Where then is their God?”

Our God is in heaven; *

whatever he wills to do he does.

Their idols are silver and gold, *

the work of human hands.

They have mouths, but they cannot speak; *

eyes have they, but they cannot see;

They have ears, but they cannot hear; *

noses, but they cannot smell;

They have hands, but they cannot feel; feet, but they cannot walk; *

they make no sound with their throat.

Those who make them are like them, *

and so are all who put their trust in them.

O Israel, trust in the Lord; *

he is their help and their shield.

O house of Aaron, trust in the Lord; *

he is their help and their shield.

You who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord; *

he is their help and their shield.

The Lord has been mindful of us, and he will bless us; *

he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of Aaron;

He will bless those who fear the Lord, *

both small and great together.

May the Lord increase you more and more, *

you and your children after you.

May you be blessed by the Lord, *

the maker of heaven and earth.

The heaven of heavens is the Lord's, *

but he entrusted the earth to its peoples.

We will bless the Lord, *

from this time forth for evermore. Hallelujah!

January 8

Morning Prayer

117 *Laudate Dominum*

Antiphon

The faithfulness of the Lord endures for ever, hallelujah.

Praise the Lord, all you nations; *
laud him, all you peoples.

For his loving-kindness toward us is great, *
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures for ever. Hallelujah!

118 *Confitemini Domino*

Antiphon

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures for ever.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.

Let Israel now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."

Let the house of Aaron now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."

Let those who fear the Lord now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."

I called to the Lord in my distress; *
the Lord answered by setting me free.

The Lord is at my side, therefore I will not fear; *
what can anyone do to me?

The Lord is at my side to help me; *
I will triumph over those who hate me.

It is better to rely on the Lord *
than to put any trust in flesh.

It is better to rely on the Lord *
than to put any trust in rulers.

All the ungodly encompass me; *
in the name of the Lord I will repel them.

They hem me in, they hem me in on every side; *
in the name of the Lord I will repel them.

They swarm about me like bees; they blaze like a fire of thorns; *
in the name of the Lord I will repel them.

I was pressed so hard that I almost fell, *
but the Lord came to my help.

The Lord is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.

There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:

“The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! *
the right hand of the Lord is exalted! the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!”
I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the Lord.

The Lord has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.

Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.

“This is the gate of the Lord; *
he who is righteous may enter.”

I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.

The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord’s doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

On this day the Lord has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Hosannah, Lord, hosannah! *
Lord, send us now success.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; *
we bless you from the house of the Lord.

God is the Lord; he has shined upon us; *
form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.

“You are my God, and I will thank you; *
you are my God, and I will exalt you.”

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.

Evening Prayer

112 *Beatus vir*

Antiphon

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied, hallelujah.

Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord *
and have great delight in his commandments!

Their descendants will be mighty in the land; *
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Wealth and riches will be in their house, *
and their righteousness will last for ever.

Light shines in the darkness for the upright; *
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

It is good for them to be generous in lending *
and to manage their affairs with justice.

For they will never be shaken; *
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *
their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.

They have given freely to the poor, *
and their righteousness stands fast for ever; they will hold up their head with honor.

113 *Laudate, pueri*

Antiphon

From the rising of the sun to its going down, let the Name of the Lord be praised, hallelujah.

Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the Lord; *
praise the Name of the Lord.

Let the Name of the Lord be blessed, *
from this time forth for evermore.

From the rising of the sun to its going down *
let the Name of the Lord be praised.

The Lord is high above all nations, *
and his glory above the heavens.

Who is like the Lord our God, who sits enthroned on high *
but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?

He takes up the weak out of the dust *
and lifts up the poor from the ashes.

He sets them with the princes, *
with the princes of his people.

He makes the woman of a childless house *
to be a joyful mother of children.

January 9

Morning Prayer

121 *Levavi oculos*

Antiphon

My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?

My help comes from the Lord, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

The Lord himself watches over you; *
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.

The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

122 *Lætatus sum*

Antiphon

I pray for your prosperity and peace, O Jerusalem.

I was glad when they said to me, *
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

Now our feet are standing *
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city *
that is at unity with itself;

To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, *
the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the Lord.

For there are the thrones of judgment, *
the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
“May they prosper who love you.

Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.

For my brethren and companions' sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.

Because of the house of the Lord our God, *
I will seek to do you good.”

123 *Ad te levavi oculos meos*

Antiphon

Our eyes look to the Lord our God, until he show us his mercy.

To you I lift up my eyes, *
to you enthroned in the heavens.

As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

So our eyes look to the Lord our God, *
until he show us his mercy.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy, *
for we have had more than enough of contempt,

Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *
and of the derision of the proud.

Evening Prayer

131 *Domine, non est*

Antiphon

Whoever humbles himself as a little child shall be great in the kingdom of heaven.

O Lord, I am not proud; *
I have no haughty looks.

I do not occupy myself with great matters, *
or with things that are too hard for me.

But I still my soul and make it quiet, like a child upon its mother's breast; *
my soul is quieted within me.

O Israel, wait upon the Lord, *
from this time forth for evermore.

132 *Memento, Domine*

Antiphon

The Lord has chosen Zion; he has desired her for his habitation

Lord, remember David, *
and all the hardships he endured;

How he swore an oath to the Lord *
and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:

"I will not come under the roof of my house," *
nor climb up into my bed;

I will not allow my eyes to sleep, *
nor let my eyelids slumber;

Until I find a place for the Lord, *
a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob."

"The ark! We heard it was in Ephratah; *
we found it in the fields of Jearim.

Let us go to God's dwelling place; *
let us fall upon our knees before his footstool."

Arise, O Lord, into your resting-place, *
you and the ark of your strength.

Let your priests be clothed with righteousness; *
let your faithful people sing with joy.

For your servant David's sake, *
do not turn away the face of your Anointed.

The Lord has sworn an oath to David; *
in truth, he will not break it:

“A son, the fruit of your body *
will I set upon your throne.

If your children keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them, *
their children will sit upon your throne for evermore.”

For the Lord has chosen Zion; *
he has desired her for his habitation:

“This shall be my resting-place for ever; *
here will I dwell, for I delight in her.

I will surely bless her provisions, *
and satisfy her poor with bread.

I will clothe her priests with salvation, *
and her faithful people will rejoice and sing.

There will I make the horn of David flourish; *
I have prepared a lamp for my Anointed.

As for his enemies, I will clothe them with shame; *
but as for him, his crown will shine.”

January 10

Morning Prayer

138 *Confitebor tibi*

Antiphon

I will bow down toward your holy temple, and praise your Name, O Lord.

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; *
before the gods I will sing your praise.

I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your Name, *
because of your love and faithfulness;

For you have glorified your Name *
and your word above all things.

When I called, you answered me; *
you increased my strength within me.

All the kings of the earth will praise you, O Lord, *
when they have heard the words of your mouth.

They will sing of the ways of the Lord, *
that great is the glory of the Lord.

Though the Lord be high, he cares for the lowly; *
he perceives the haughty from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; *
your right hand shall save me.

The Lord will make good his purpose for me; *
O Lord, your love endures for ever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

139 *Domine, probasti*

Antiphon

Search me out, O God, and know my heart; and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

Lord, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.

Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

Where can I go then from your Spirit? *
where can I flee from your presence?

If I climb up to heaven, you are there; *
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

If I take the wings of the morning *
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

Even there your hand will lead me *
and your right hand hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, *
and the light around me turn to night,"

Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day; *
darkness and light to you are both alike.

For you yourself created my inmost parts; *
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I will thank you because I am marvelously made; *
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

My body was not hidden from you, *
while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book; *
they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them.

How deep I find your thoughts, O God! *
how great is the sum of them!

If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; *
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

Evening Prayer

147 *Laudate Dominum*

Antiphon

How pleasant it is to honor God with praise, hallelujah.

Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; *
he gathers the exiles of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted *
and binds up their wounds.

He counts the number of the stars *
and calls them all by their names.

Great is our Lord and mighty in power; *
there is no limit to his wisdom.

The Lord lifts up the lowly, *
but casts the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; *
make music to our God upon the harp.

He covers the heavens with clouds *
and prepares rain for the earth;

He makes grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve mankind.

He provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.

He is not impressed by the might of a horse; *
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, *
in those who await his gracious favor.

Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;

For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.

He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.

He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?

He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

He declares his word to Jacob, *his statutes and his judgments to Israel.
Hallelujah!

January 11

Morning Prayer

148 *Laudate Dominum*

Antiphon

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise the Lord from the earth, hallelujah.

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; *
praise him in the heights.

Praise him, all you angels of his; *
praise him, all his host.

Praise him, sun and moon; *
praise him, all you shining stars.

Praise him, heaven of heavens, *
and you waters above the heavens.

Let them praise the Name of the Lord; *
for he commanded, and they were created.

He made them stand fast for ever and ever; *
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth, *
you sea-monsters and all deeps;

Fire and hail, snow and fog, *
tempestuous wind, doing his will;

Mountains and all hills, *
fruit trees and all cedars;

Wild beasts and all cattle, *
creeping things and winged birds;

Kings of the earth and all peoples, *
princes and all rulers of the world;

Young men and maidens, *
old and young together.

Let them praise the Name of the Lord, *
for his Name only is exalted, his splendor is over earth and heaven.

He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, *
the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!

150 *Laudate Dominum*

Antiphon

Praise the Lord for his excellent greatness, hallelujah.

Hallelujah! Praise God in his holy temple; *
praise him in the firmament of his power.

Praise him for his mighty acts; *
praise him for his excellent greatness.
Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; *
praise him with lyre and harp.
Praise him with timbrel and dance; *
praise him with strings and pipe.
Praise him with resounding cymbals; *
praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.
Let everything that has breath *
praise the Lord. Hallelujah!

Evening Prayer

91 *Qui habitat*

Antiphon

He shall give his angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, *
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.
He shall say to the Lord, "You are my refuge and my stronghold, *
my God in whom I put my trust."
He shall deliver you from the snare of the hunter *
and from the deadly pestilence.
He shall cover you with his pinions, and you shall find refuge under his wings; *
his faithfulness shall be a shield and buckler.
You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, *
nor of the arrow that flies by day;
Of the plague that stalks in the darkness, *
nor of the sickness that lays waste at mid-day.
A thousand shall fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand, *
but it shall not come near you.
Your eyes have only to behold *
to see the reward of the wicked.
Because you have made the Lord your refuge, *
and the Most High your habitation,
There shall no evil happen to you, *
neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.
For he shall give his angels charge over you, *
to keep you in all your ways.
They shall bear you in their hands, *
lest you dash your foot against a stone.
You shall tread upon the lion and adder; *
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet.
Because he is bound to me in love, therefore will I deliver him; *
I will protect him, because he knows my Name.

He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; *
I am with him in trouble; I will rescue him and bring him to honor.

With long life will I satisfy him, *
and show him my salvation.

92 *Bonum est confiteri*

Antiphon

We will tell of your loving-kindness early in the morning, O Lord, and of your faithfulness in the night season.

It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, *
and to sing praises to your Name, O Most High;
To tell of your loving-kindness early in the morning *
and of your faithfulness in the night season;

On the psaltery, and on the lyre, *
and to the melody of the harp.

For you have made me glad by your acts, O Lord; *
and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.

Lord, how great are your works! *
your thoughts are very deep.

The dullard does not know, nor does the fool understand, *
that though the wicked grow like weeds, and all the workers of iniquity flourish,

They flourish only to be destroyed for ever; *
but you, O Lord, are exalted for evermore.

The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, *
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

Those who are planted in the house of the Lord *
shall flourish in the courts of our God;

They shall still bear fruit in old age; *
they shall be green and succulent;

That they may show how upright the Lord is, *
my Rock, in whom there is no fault.

January 12

Morning Prayer

98 *Cantate Domino*

Antiphon

Shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.

With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.

The Lord has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

99 *Dominus regnavit*

Antiphon

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God, and worship him upon his holy hill.

The Lord is King; let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

The Lord is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.

Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.

"O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.

Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.

He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

"O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds."

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

Additional Canticles and Antiphons

On December 22 and 23 one of the **Great O Antiphons** is used with the *Magnificat* at Evensong:

December 22. O Rex gentium

O King of the nations, and their Desire, you are the cornerstone who makes us both one: Come and save the creature whom you fashioned from clay.

December 23. O Emmanuel

O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver, the Desire of all nations and their Salvation: Come and save us, O Lord our God



On weekdays **between Epiphany and the following Sunday**, these Canticles may appropriately be used in place of the *Benedictus* and the *Te Deum*

Following the First Reading

Canticle CC A Song of the Messiah

Isaiah 9:2-7

Antiphon To us a child is born, to us a son is given; who is called Mighty God and Prince of Peace.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;*
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
upon them the light has dawned.
You have increased their joy and given them great gladness;*
they rejoiced before you as with joy at the harvest.
For you have shattered the yoke that burdened them;*
the collar that lay heavy on their shoulders.
For to us a child is born and to us a son is given,*
and the government will be upon his shoulder.
And his name will be called: Wonderful Counselor; the Mighty God;*
the Everlasting Father; the Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace*
there will be no end,
Upon the throne of David and over his kingdom,*
to establish and uphold it with justice and righteousness.
From this time forth and for evermore;*
the zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

or

9 The First Song of Isaiah *Ecce, Deus*

Isaiah 12:2-6

Antiphon Cry aloud, O Zion; the Holy One of Israel is in the midst of you.

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.
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.*

or

11 The Third Song of Isaiah *Surge, illuminare*

Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19

Antiphon

The Lord will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.

Arise, shine, for your light has come, *
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.
For behold, darkness covers the land; *
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.
But over you the Lord will rise, *
and his glory will appear upon you.
Nations will stream to your light, *
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.
Your gates will always be open; *
by day or night they will never be shut.
They will call you, The City of the Lord, *
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.
Violence will no more be heard in your land, *
ruin or destruction within your borders.

You will call your walls, Salvation, *
and all your portals, Praise.
The sun will no more be your light by day; *
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.
The Lord will be your everlasting light, *
and your God will be your glory.
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.*

Following the Second Reading

20 Glory to God *Gloria in excelsis*

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father;
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*