

# THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PAUL

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

## II VESPERS FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 17, 2017



*Welcome to the cathedral's celebration of Second Vespers for the Sundays in Advent. This order will be your guide for the liturgy.*

*Please note the symbols for cantor or celebrant (V, Can., or Celebrant) and assembly (R or All) and pray accordingly.*

*Evening Prayer begins with the following verse:*

### OPENING VERSE (STAND)

**O** God, come to my as-sistance. R. O Lord, make  
haste to help me. Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and  
to the Ho-ly Spir-it: as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now,  
and will be for ev-er. A-men. Al-le-lu-ia.

### HYMN

1. Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, Your peo - ple's  
2. In sor - row that the an - cient curse Should doom to  
3. When this old world drew on toward night, You came; but  
4. At your great Name, O Je - sus, now All knees must  
ev - er - last - ing light, O Christ, Re - deem - er  
death a u - ni - verse, You came, O Sav - ior,  
not in splen - dor bright, Not as a mon - arch,  
bend, all hearts must bow: All things on earth with  
of us all, We pray you hear us when we call.  
to set free Your own in glo - rious lib - er - ty.  
but the child Of Mar - y, blame - less moth - er mild.  
one ac - cord, Like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.

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

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

After the hymn follows the psalmody of the office. Each psalm has an associated antiphon. The antiphon will be introduced, then the schola will chant the incipit of the antiphon (the portion up to the asterisk, i.e., “The Lord will come to claim...”). Please join in the remainder of the antiphon. After the psalm, all sing the antiphon in its entirety. The psalm verses are sung alternating by verse between cantor and assembly. The psalm tone is found at the end of the antiphon below.

This evening’s Vespers is celebrated on December 17; from this day forward until Christmas, the “O Antiphons” are used at Vespers as the Magnificat antiphon and at Mass as the Alleluia verse. These venerable antiphons acclaim the coming of Christ through imagery found in the Old Testament.

## ANTIPHON I (SIT)

I Ant.  
VIII

HE Lord will come to claim \* his glo- ri- ous throne in the  
as-sem-bly of the princes, al- le- lu- ia, al- le- lu- ia.

## PSALM 110

VIII G

Can. The Lord’s revelation to my Master: “Sit *on my* **right:** \*  
your foes I will put be-*neath* **your feet.**”

All The Lord will wield from Zion your scep-*ter of* **power:** \*  
rule in the midst of *all your* foes.

(*etc.*) A prince from the day of your birth on the *ho-ly* **mountains;**\*  
from the womb before the dawn *I be-***got you.**

The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change. “You are a *priest for-***ever,** \*  
a priest like Melchize-*dek of* **old.**”

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

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

Glory to the Father, *and the* **Son,** \*  
and to the *Ho-ly* **Spirit:**

as it was in the beginn-*ing, is* **now,** \*  
and will be for ev-*er. A-***men.**

(The antiphon is then repeated by all.)

## ANTIPHON II

2 Ant.  
VI

**L** ET the mountains \* break out with joy and the hills with  
answering gladness, for the world's true light, the Lord, comes with  
pow- er and might.

VIF

## PSALM 111

Can I will thank the Lord with *all my heart* \*  
in the meeting of the just and their *as-sembly*.

All Great are the works of *the Lord*; \*  
to be pondered by all *who love* them.

(etc.) Majestic and glori-ous *his work*, \*  
his justice stands firm *for ever*.

He makes us remem-ber *his wonders*. \*  
The Lord is compassion *and love*.

He gives food to *those who fear* him ; \*  
keeps his covenant ever *in mind*.

He has shown his might *to his people* \*  
by giving them the lands of *the nations*.

His works are jus-tice *and truth* : \*  
his precepts are all of *them sure*,  
standing firm for ev-er *and ever* : \*  
they are made in uprightness *and truth*.

He has sent deliverance to his people / and established his cove-nant *for ever*. \*  
Holy his Name, to *be feared*.

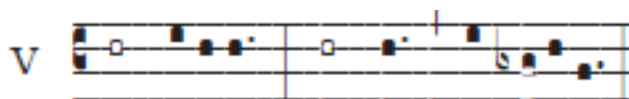
To fear the Lord is the first stage of wisdom; / all who do so prove *them-selves wise*. \*  
His praise shall last *for ever*.

Glory to the Father, and *to the Son*, \*  
and to the Ho-ly **Spirit**:

as it was in the begin-ning, *is now*, \*  
and will be for ever. **A-men**.

(The antiphon is then repeated by all.)

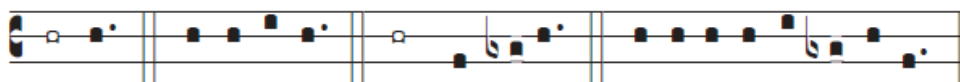
# ANTIPHON III



Cantor Let us live in holiness and love \* as we patiently await our *bless-ed* **hope**,  
the coming *of our Sav-ior*.

## CANTICLE

CF. REVELATION 19:1-7



℣. Al-le-lu-ia. ℣. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

*Cantor :* Salvation, glory, and power to our God : \*

*All :* ℣. Alleluia.

*Cantor :* his judgments are honest and true.

*All :* ℣. Alleluia, **alleluia**.

*Cantor :* Sing praise to our God, all you his servants, \*

*All :* ℣. Alleluia.

*Cantor :* all who worship him rev'rently, / *great and small*.

*All :* ℣. Alleluia, **alleluia**.

*Cantor :* The Lord our all-powerful God is King ; \*

*All :* ℣. Alleluia.

*Cantor :* let us rejoice, sing praise, and *give him glory*.

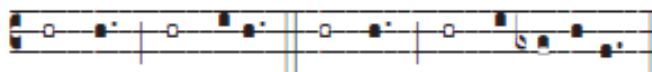
*All :* ℣. Alleluia, **alleluia**.

*Cantor :* The wedding feast of the Lamb has begun, \*

*All :* ℣. Alleluia.

*Cantor :* and his bride is *prepared to welcome him*.

*All :* ℣. Alleluia, **alleluia**.



*Cantor :* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, /  
and to the Holy **Spirit** :

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

*(The antiphon is then repeated by all.)*

## READING

1 THESSALONIANS 5:23-24

May the God of peace make you perfect in holiness. May he preserve you whole and entire, spirit, soul, and body, irreproachable at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls us is trustworthy, therefore he will do it.

## RESPONSORY

Resp.  
IV

**L** ET us see, O Lord, your mer- cy, \* And grant us your  
sal-va-tion. Let us see. V. Restore a- gain our life, that we may  
rejoice in you. \* And grant. V. Glo- ry to the Fa-ther, and to the  
Son, and to the Ho- ly Spir- it. Let us see.

## CANTICLE OF MARY (*MAGNIFICAT*) (STAND)

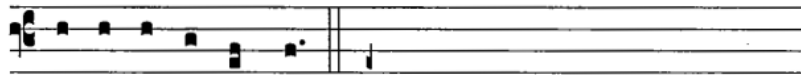
Antiphon (schola) O Sapientia, quae ex ore Altissimi prodisti, attingens a fine usque ad finem, fortiter suaviter disponensque omnia: veni ad docendum nos viam prudentiae.

*O Wisdom, that comest out of the mouth of the Most High, that reachest from one end to another, and dost mightily and sweetly order all things; come, to teach us the way of prudence!*

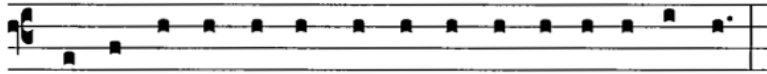
**M** Y soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, \* and my spir-it re-  
joice-es in God my Sav-ior,  
2. Because he has re-gard-ed the low-li-ness of his handmaid,\*  
for be-hold, henceforth all gen-er- a- tions shall call me  
bless-èd.



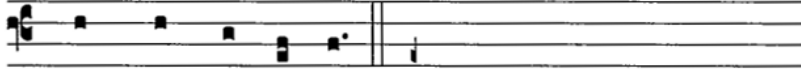
3. Be-cause he who is might-y has done great things for me, \*



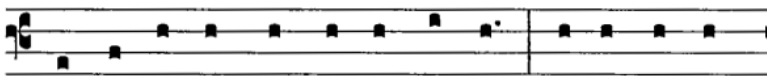
and ho-ly is his Name.



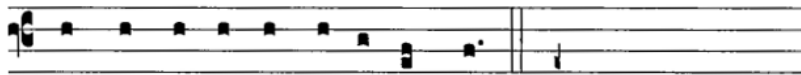
4. And his mer-cy is from gen-er- a- tion to gen-er- a- tion \*



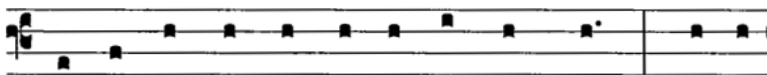
toward those who fear him.



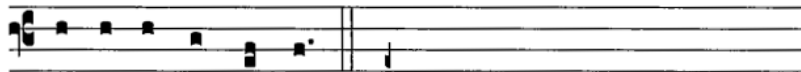
5. He has revealed his arm in pow-er, \* he has scattered



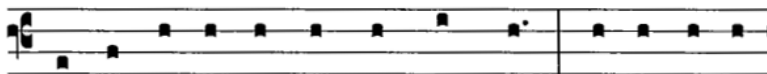
the proud in the con-keit of their heart.



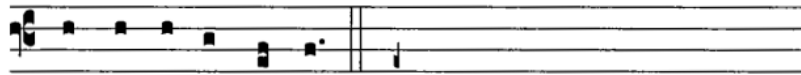
6. He has put down the might-y from their thrones \* and has



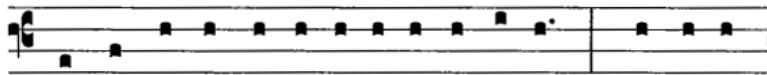
ex- alt-ed the low-ly.



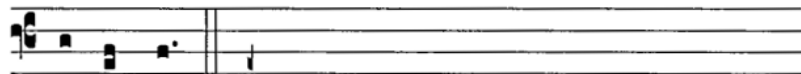
7. The hun-gry he has filled with good things \* and the rich he



has sent a-way emp-ty.

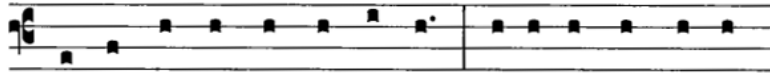


8. He has giv- en help to Is- ra- el his servant, \* mindful of

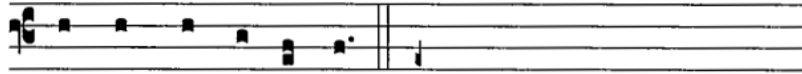


his mer- cy

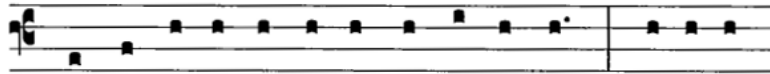
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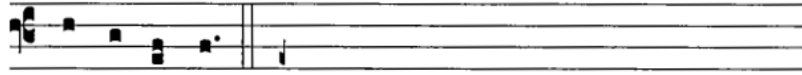
9. Just as he promised our fa-thers, \* to A-bra-ham and his



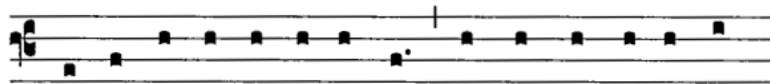
de-scend-ants for ev- er.



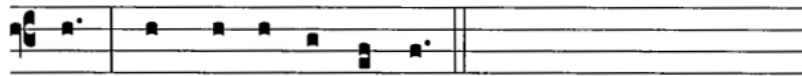
10. Glo- ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, \* and to the



Ho- ly Spir- it.



11. As it was in the be-gin-ning, † is now, and ev- er shall

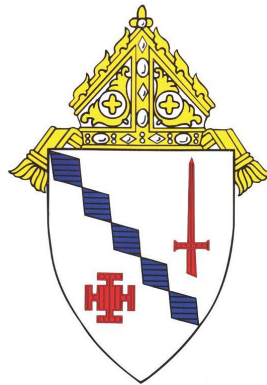


be, \* world without end. A- men.

Antiphon (schola)

O Sapientia, quae ex ore Altissimi prodisti, attingens a fine usque ad finem, fortiter suaviter disponensque omnia: veni ad docendum nos viam prudentiae.

*O Wisdom, that comest out of the mouth of the Most High, that reachest from one end to another, and dost mightily and sweetly order all things; come, to teach us the way of prudence!*



*The office of Vespers concludes with the sung Intercessions, Concluding Prayer, and Final Blessing and Dismissal found on the final page. Please note the tone for the Intercessions, introduced by the celebrant, intoned by the cantor, and responded to by the assembly.*

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## INTERCESSIONS



**Celebrant:** Jesus Christ is the joy and happiness of all who look forward to his coming. Let us call upon him and **say:**

**All:** Come, Lord, and do not *de-lay*.

**Cantor:** In joy we wait for your **coming**,

**All:** Come, *Lord* **Jesus**.

**Cantor:** before time began, you shared life with the **Father**,

**All:** come now *and* **save us**.

**Cantor:** You created the world and all who **live in it**,

**All:** come to redeem the work of *your* **hands**.

**Cantor:** You did not hesitate to become man, subject to **death**,

**All:** come to free us from the power *of* **death**.

**Cantor:** You came to give us life to the **full**,

**All:** Come and give us your unend-*ing* **life**.

**Cantor:** You desire all people to live in love in your **kingdom**,

**All:** Come and bring together those who long to see you face *to* **face**.

**All:** **Our Father . . .**

## CONCLUDING PRAYER, FINAL BLESSING, AND DISMISSAL

✠ O God, Creator and Redeemer of human nature, who willed that your Word should take flesh in an ever-virgin womb, look with favor on our prayers, that your Only Begotten Son, having taken to himself our humanity, may be pleased to grant us a share in his divinity. Who lives and reigns...

✠ **Amen.**

✠ The Lord be with you.

✠ **And with your spirit.**

✠ May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

✠ **Amen.**

✠ Go in peace.

✠ **Thanks be to God.**