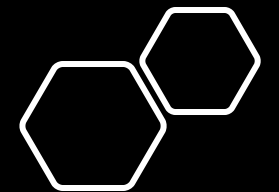




St. Charles
Borromeo
Church

Vespers

Friday Evening Prayer
Third Day in the Octave of Christmas
December 27, 2023



INTRODUCTION

Leader: God, + come to my assistance.

All: Lord, make haste to help me.

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

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

PSALMODY

Psalm 110:1-5, 7 The Messiah, king, and priest

Christ's reign will last until all his enemies are made subject to him (1 Corinthians 15:25)

Antiphon:

Leader: You have been endowed from your birth with princely gifts;

All: **in eternal splendor, before the dawn of light on earth,
I have begotten you.**

Leader: The Lord's revelation to my Master:

"Sit on my right:
your foes I will put beneath your feet."

All: **The Lord will wield from Zion
your scepter of power:
rule in the midst of all your foes.**

A prince from the day of your birth
on the holy mountains;
from the womb before the dawn I begot you.

The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change.

**"You are a priest for ever,
a priest like Melchizedek 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 to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

Antiphon:

Leader: You have been endowed from your birth with princely gifts;

All: **in eternal splendor, before the dawn of light
on earth, I have begotten you.**

Psalm Prayer

Leader: Father, we ask you to give us victory and peace. In Jesus Christ, our Lord and King, we are already seated at your right hand. We look forward to praising you in the fellowship of all your saints in our heavenly homeland.

Psalm 130 A cry from the depths

He himself will save his people from their sins
(Matthew 1:21)

Antiphon:

Leader: With the Lord is unfailing love;

All: **great is his power to save.**

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading.

**If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you.**

My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.
Let the watchman count on daybreak
and Israel on the Lord.

**Because with the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity.**

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

Antiphon:

Leader: With the Lord is unfailing love;

All: **great is his power to save.**

Psalm Prayer

Leader: Listen with compassion to our prayers, Lord. The forgiveness of sins is yours. Do not look on the wrong we have done, but grant us your merciful kindness.

Canticle: Colossians 1:12–20 Christ the first-born of all creations and first-born from the dead.

Antiphon

Leader: In the beginning, before time began, the Word was God;

All: **today he is born, the Savior of the world.**

Let us give thanks to the Father for having made you worthy to share the lot of the saints in light.

He rescued us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of his beloved Son. Through him we have redemption, the forgiveness of our sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creatures. In him everything in heaven and on earth was created, things visible and invisible.

All were created through him; all were created for him. He is before all else that is. In him everything continues in being.

It is he who is head of the body, the church! he who is the beginning, the first-born of the dead, so that primacy may be his in everything.

It pleased God to make absolute fullness reside in him and, by means of him, to reconcile everything in his person, both on earth and in the heavens, making peace through the blood of his cross.

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

Antiphon

Leader: In the beginning, before time began, the Word was God;

All: **today he is born, the Savior of the world.**

READING: Romans 8:3–4

God sent his son in the likeness of sinful flesh as a sin offering, thereby condemning sin in the flesh, so that the just demands of the law might be fulfilled in us who live, not according to the flesh, but according to the spirit.

Responsory

Reader: The Word was made man and he lived among us.

All: – **The Word was made man and he lived among us.**

He was in the beginning with God,
– **and lived among us.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
– **The Word was made man and he lived among us.**

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Canticle of Mary: Luke 1:46-55

The soul rejoices in the Lord

Leader: Virgin Mary, all that the prophets foretold of Christ has been fulfilled through you:

All: **as a virgin, you conceived, and after you gave birth, a virgin you remained.**

My + soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty

He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Antiphon:

Leader: Virgin Mary, all that the prophets foretold of Christ has been fulfilled through you:

All: **as a virgin, you conceived, and after you gave birth, a virgin you remained.**

INTERCESSIONS

Reader: Dear friends, let us humbly pray to God the Father who so loved us that he sent us his Son:

May the favor of your Son be with us, Lord.

God of love, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, you had mercy on those walking in darkness,
— receive the prayers we offer for the salvation of all people.

May the favor of your Son be with us, Lord.

Lord, remember your Church spread over the entire world,
— bless your Christian people and give them peace.

May the favor of your Son be with us, Lord.

You are the Father of all people; graciously grant peace to all, direct the eyes of all to your Son,
— and pour forth the spirit of peace on those who rule them.

May the favor of your Son be with us, Lord.

You announced peace on earth at the coming of your Son,
— give eternal peace to those who have died.

May the favor of your Son be with us, Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Father,
we are filled with the new light
by the coming of your Word among us.
May the light of faith
shine in our words and actions.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
– **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

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

The Lord be with you.

– **And with your spirit.**

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

– **Amen.**

Go in peace.

– **Thanks be to God.**

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

May the Lord + bless us,
protect us from all evil
and bring us to everlasting life.

– **Amen.**