

Psalms in Season

Music for the psalms in Catholic life



Advent

Year B

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Concordat cum Originali: Christopher Thomas

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First Sunday in Advent Year B

Bring us back, O God;
let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved.

Lectionary No. 2

Psalm 80(79):2ac,3b, 15-16. 18-19. R. 4

Bring us back, O God; let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved.

Omit for verse 1
Verse 2 only

1/. O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
enthroned on the cherubim, shine forth.
Rouse up your might and come to save us.

2/. God of hosts, turn again, we implore;
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the stock your right hand has planted,
the son you have claimed for yourself.

3/. May your hand be on the man at your right hand,
the son of man you have confirmed as your own.
And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name.

**Second Sunday in Advent
Year B**

Show us, O LORD, your mercy,
and grant us your salvation.

Lectionary No. 5

Psalm 85(84):9ab,10. 11-12. 13-14. R. 8

Show us, O LORD, your mer - cy, and grant us your sal - va - tion...

1/. I will hear what the LORD God speaks;
he speaks of peace for his people and his faithful.
His salvation is near for those who fear him,
and his glory will dwell in our land.

2/. Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have kissed.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth,
and justice look down from heaven.

3/. The LORD will bestow his bounty,
and our earth shall yield its increase.
Righteousness will march before him,
and guide his steps on the way.

Third Sunday in Advent
Year B

My soul shall exult in my God.

Lectionary No. 8

Luke 1:46-48. 49-50. 53-54. R. Isaiah 61:10b

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of two systems of music. The first system features a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The vocal line begins with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B-flat4, and a quarter note C5. A slur covers the next two measures: a half note D5 and a half note E5. The vocal line concludes with a quarter note F5, a quarter note G5, and a quarter note A5. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic foundation with chords and moving lines in both hands. The second system continues the piano accompaniment with more complex chordal textures and rhythmic patterns.

1/. My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
 and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
 for he has looked upon his handmaid
in her lowliness;
 for behold, from this day forward, all generations
 will call me blessed.

2/. For the Almighty has done great things for me,
 and holy is his name.
 His mercy is from age to age
 for those who fear him.

3/. He has filled the hungry with good things,
 and has sent the rich away empty.
 He has helped his servant Israel,
 mindful of his mercy.

Fourth Sunday in Advent
Year B

I will sing for ever of your mercies, O LORD

Lectionary No. 11

Psalm 89(88):2-3. 4-5. 27, 29. R. 2a

I will sing for ev - er of your mer-cies, O LORD.

- 1/. I will sing for ever of your mercies, O LORD;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your fidelity.
I have declared your mercy is established for ever;
your fidelity stands firm as the heavens.

- 2/. ‘With my chosen one I have made a covenant;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your descendants for ever,
and set up your throne through all ages.’

- 3/. ‘He will call out to me: “You are my father,
my God, the rock of my salvation”.
I will keep my faithful love for him always;
with him my covenant shall last.’