

Psalms in Season

Music for the psalms in Catholic life



Christmastide

Simon Hetherington

Concordat cum Originali: Christopher Thomas

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The Nativity of the Lord Vigil Mass

I will sing for ever of your mercies, O LORD.

Lectionary No. 13

Psalm 89(88):4-5. 16-17. 27. 29. R. cf 2a

1/. '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.'

2/. How blessed the people who know your praise,

who walk, O LORD, in the light of your face,

who find their joy every day in your name,

who make your righteousness their joyful acclaim.

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.'

***The Nativity of the Lord
Midnight Mass***

Today a Saviour has been born to us;
who is Christ the Lord.

Lectionary No. 14

Psalm 96(95):1-2a. 2b-3. 11-12a. 12b-13b. 13cd. R. Luke 2:11

1/. O sing a new song to the LORD;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
O sing to the LORD; bless his name.

3/. Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad;
let the sea and all within it thunder praise.
Let the field and all it bears rejoice.

2/. Proclaim his salvation day by day.
Tell among the nations his glory,
and his wonders among all the peoples.

4/. Then will all the trees of the wood shout for joy
at the presence of the LORD, for he comes,
he comes to judge the earth.

5/. He will judge the world with justice;
and the peoples with faithfulness.

***The Nativity of the Lord
Dawn Mass***

Today a light will shine upon us;
for the Lord is born for us.

Lectionary No. 15
Psalm 97(96):1, 6. 11-12

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems. The first system contains the vocal line and piano accompaniment for the first line of lyrics: 'To - day a light will shine up - on'. The second system contains the vocal line and piano accompaniment for the second line of lyrics: 'us; for the Lord is born for us.'. The third system is a piano accompaniment for the final two lines of the psalm text, which are not sung in this piece.

1/. The LORD is king, let earth rejoice;
let the many islands be glad.
The skies proclaim his justice;
all peoples see his glory.

2/. Light shines forth for the just one,
and joy for the upright of heart.
Rejoice in the LORD, all you just;
to the memory of his holiness give thanks.

***The Nativity of the Lord
Mass during the Day***

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Lectionary No. 16

Psalm 98(97): 1. 2-3b. 3c-4. 5-6. R. 3cd



All the ends of the earth have seen the sal - va - tion of our God.



Repeat this bar for verse 3

1/. O sing a new song to the LORD,
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation.

2/. The LORD has made known his salvation,
has shown his deliverance to the nations.
He has remembered his merciful love
and his truth for the house of Israel.

3/. All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song,
and sing out your praise.

4/. Sing psalms to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of song.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn,
raise a shout before the King, the LORD.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph *Years A, B, C*

Blessed are all who fear the LORD, and walk in his ways.

Lectionary No. 17

Psalm 128(127):1-2. 3. 4-5. R. cf 2

Bles-sed are all who fear the LORD, and walk in his ways.

Repeat this bar for verse 3

1/. Blessed are all who fear the LORD,
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be blessed and prosper.

2/. Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive
around your table.

3/. Indeed thus shall be blessed
the husband who fears the LORD.
May the LORD bless you from Sion.
May you see Jerusalem prosper
all the days of your life!

***The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Year B (Optional)***

He, the LORD, is our God;
he remembers his covenant for ever.

Lectionary No. 17

Psalm 105(104):1-2. 3-4. 6-7. 8-9. R. 7a, 8a

He, the LORD, is our God; he re- mem bers his cov-en-ant for ev - er.

1/. Give thanks to the LORD; proclaim his name.
Make known his deeds among the peoples.
O sing to him, sing his praise;
tell all his wonderful works!

2/. Glory in his holy name;
Let the hearts that seek the LORD rejoice.
Turn to the LORD and his strength;
constantly seek his face.

3/. Remember the wonders he has done,
his marvels and his words of judgement.
O children of Abraham, his servant,
O descendants of the Jacob he chose.

4/. He remembers his covenant for ever:
the promise he ordained for a thousand
generations,
the covenant he made with Abraham,
the oath he swore to Isaac.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph *Year C (Optional)*

Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

Lectionary No. 17

Psalm 84(83):2-3. 5-6. 9-10. R. cf 5a

Bless - ed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

Repeat these bars for verse 1

1/. How lovely is your dwelling place,
O LORD of hosts.
My soul is longing and yearning
for the courts of the LORD.
My heart and my flesh cry out
to the living God.

2/. Blessed are they who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.
Blessed the people whose strength is in you,
whose heart is set on pilgrim ways.

3/. O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;
give ear, O God of Jacob.
Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;
look on the face of your anointed.

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

May God be gracious and bless us.

Lectionary No. 18
Psalm 67(66):2-3. 5. 6. 8. R. 2a

May God be grac - ious and bless us.

Omit this bar for verse 2

1/. May God be gracious and bless us
and let his face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your salvation.

2/. Let the nations be glad and shout for joy,
with uprightness you rule the peoples;
you guide the nations on earth.

3/. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
that all the ends of the earth may revere him.

The Epiphany of the Lord

All the nations on earth shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord

Lectionary No. 20

Psalm 72(71):1-2. 7-8. 10-11. 12-13. R. John cf. 11

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "All the na - tions on earth shall fall prost-rate be - fore you, O Lord." The piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes in both hands, providing a harmonic foundation for the vocal line.

1/. O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice,
and your poor in right judgement.

2/. In his days justice shall flourish,
and great peace till the moon is no more.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the River to the bounds of the earth.

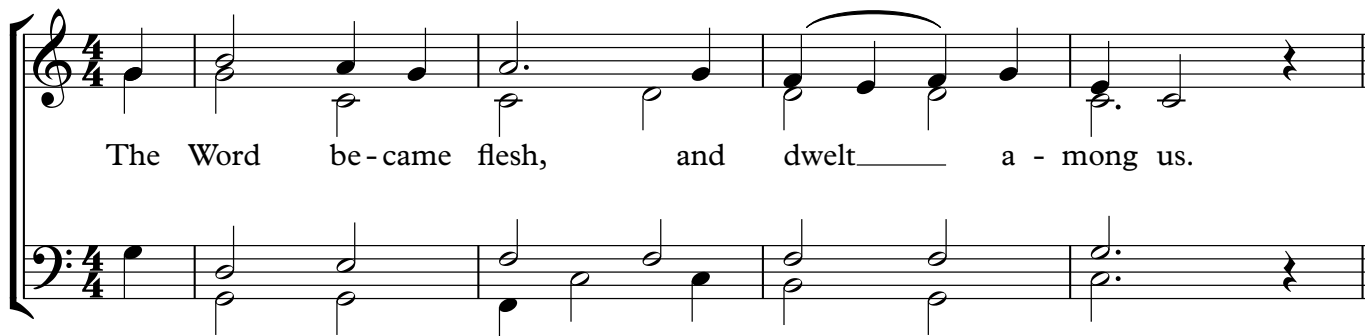
3/. The kings of Tarshish and the islands
shall pay him tribute.
The kings of Sheba and Seba
shall bring him gifts.
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him.

4/. For he shall rescue the needy when they cry,
the poor who have no one to help.
He will have pity on the weak and the needy,
and save the lives of the needy.

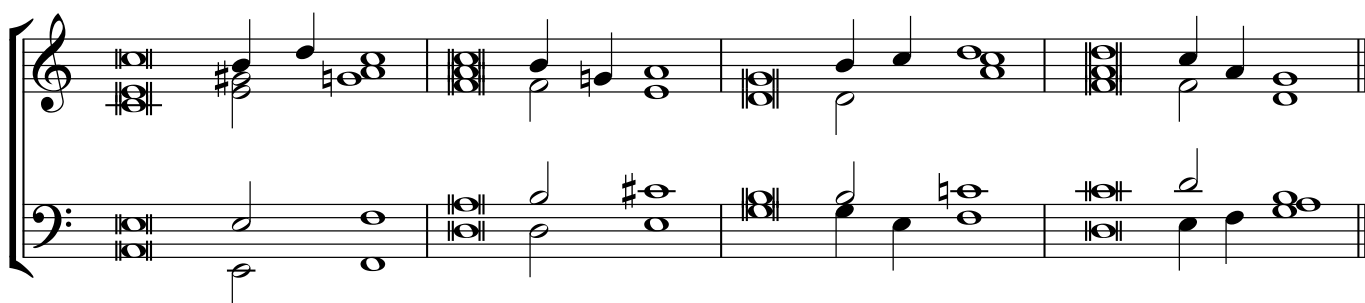
Second Sunday after the Nativity
The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

Lectionary No. 19

Psalm 147:12-13. 14-15. 19-20. R. John 1:14



The Word be-came flesh, and dwelt a - mong us.



1/. O Jerusalem, glorify the LORD!

O Sion, praise your God!

He has strengthened the bars of your gates;

he has blessed your children within you.

2/. He established peace on your borders;

he gives you your fill of finest wheat.

He sends out his word to the earth,

and swiftly runs his command.

3/. He reveals his word to Jacob;

to Israel, his decrees and judgements.

He has not dealt thus with other nations;

he has not taught them his judgements.

The Baptism of the Lord *Years A, B, C*

The LORD will bless his people with peace.

Lectionary No. 21

Psalm 29(28):1-2. 3ac-4. 3b, 9b-10. R. 11b

1/. Ascribe to the LORD, you heavenly powers,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
bow down before the LORD, majestic in holiness.

2/. The voice of the LORD upon the waters,
the LORD on the immensity of waters;
the voice of the LORD full of power;
the voice of the LORD full of splendour.

3/. The God of glory thunders;
in his Temple they all cry, 'Glory!'
The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits as king for ever.

The Baptism of the Lord Year B (Optional)

With joy will you draw water from the springs of salvation.

Lectionary No. 21
Isaiah 12:2-3. 4b-d. 5-6. R. 3

With joy will you draw water from the springs of salvation.

Repeat these bars for verse 1
Omit this bar for verse 2

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1/. Behold, God <u>is</u> my salvation!
I will trust, and will not <u>be</u> afraid;
for the LORD is my <u>strength</u> and my praise,
and he has been <u>my</u> salvation.
With joy will <u>you</u> draw water
from the springs <u>of</u> salvation.</p> | <p>2/. Give thanks to the LORD, <u>in</u>voke his name;
make known among the <u>peoples</u> his deeds;
proclaim that his name <u>is</u> exalted.</p> |
|--|--|

- 3/. Sing to the LORD for he has wrought wonders;
let this be known through all the earth.
Shout aloud and sing praise, you who dwell in Sion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

The Baptism of the Lord ***Year C (Optional)***

Bless the LORD, O my soul!
My God, how great you are!

Lectionary No. 21

Psalm 104(103):1b-2. 3-4. 24-25. 27-28. 29-30. R. 1

Bless the LORD, O my soul! My God, how great you are!

Repeat for verse 3

Omit for verses 1 & 4

1/. O LORD my God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and honour,
wrapped in light as with a robe!
You stretch out the heavens like a tent.

2/. On the waters you lay the foundation for
your dwelling.
You make the clouds your chariot;
you ride on the wings of the wind.
You make the winds your messengers,
flame and fire your servants.

3/. How many are your works, O LORD!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your creatures.
Vast and wide is the span of the sea,
with its creeping things past counting,
living things great and small.

4/. All of these look to you
to give them their food in due season.
You give it, they gather it up;
you open wide your hand, they are well filled.

5/. You hide your face, they are dismayed;
You take away their breath, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, and they are created,
and you renew the face of the earth.