

# THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

Cycle A, B & C

## ENTRANCE HYMN

1. Open your ears, O Christian people,  
open your ears and hear Good News!  
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood,  
God has come to you!

*God has spoken to His people, Alleluia  
And his words are words of wisdom, alleluia.*

2. Israel comes to greet the Saviour  
Judah is glad to see his day.  
From East and West the peoples travel  
he will show the way.
3. He who has ears to hear His message;  
He who has ears, then let him hear,  
He who would learn the way of wisdom  
let him hear God's words.

## GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,  
we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
have mercy on us.

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

## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 7:10-14. 8:10

*The maiden is with child.*

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered, 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

Listen now, House of David:  
are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men

without trying the patience of my God, too?  
The Lord himself, therefore,  
will give you a sign.

It is this: the maiden is with child  
and will soon give birth to a son  
whom she will call Emmanuel,  
a name which means, 'God-is-with-us'.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 39:7-11. R) vv.8.9.

**R. Here I am, Lord!  
I come to do your will.**

1. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,  
but an open ear.  
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.  
Instead, here am I. (R.)
2. In the scroll of the book it stands written  
that I should do your will.  
My God, I delight in your law  
in the depth of my heart. (R.)
3. Your justice I have proclaimed  
in the great assembly.  
My lips I have not sealed;  
you know it, O Lord. (R.)
4. I have not hidden your justice in my heart  
but declared your faithful help.  
I have not hidden your love and your truth  
from the great assembly. (R.)

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews  
10:4-10

*I was commanded in the scroll of the book, 'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'*

Bulls' blood and goats' blood are useless for taking away sins, and this is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation,  
prepared a body for me.  
You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices  
for sin;

then I said,  
just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book,

'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'  
Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 1:14.12

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

## GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke  
1:26-38

*Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son.*

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the

virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you,' the angel answered, 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary, 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 Creator of heaven and earth,  
 and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
 (All bow)

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit  
 born of the Virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died and was buried;  
 he descended into hell;  
 on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
 he ascended into heaven,  
 and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
 from there he will come to judge the living and the dead,

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
 and life everlasting. Amen.

**OFFERTORY HYMN**

1. Lift up your hands and offer to the Lord  
 Lift up your hands and offer to your God  
 All that your life may hold of joy and care  
 Lift up your hands unto the Lord
2. Lift up your eyes and see the works of God  
 Lift up your eyes to the glory of the Lord  
 See all the beauty He has spread for you  
 Lift up your eyes unto the Lord
3. Lift up your heart unto the heart of God  
 Offer your love with His love to accord  
 Eager is He to have this gift from you  
 Lift up your heart unto the Lord.

**COMMUNION HYMN**

I, the Lord of sea and sky  
 I have heard my people cry,  
 All who dwell in dark and sin,  
 My hand will save.  
 I who made the stars of night,

I will make their darkness bright,  
 Who will bear my light to them?  
 Whom shall I send?

*Ch: Here I am Lord.*

*Is it I Lord?  
 I have heard you calling in the night.  
 I will go Lord,  
 If you lead me  
 I will hold your people in my heart.*

2. I the Lord of snow and rain  
 I have borne my peoples' pain,  
 I have wept for love of them,  
 They turn away.  
 I will break their hearts of stone  
 Give them hearts for love alone  
 I will speak my word to them  
 Whom shall I send?

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame  
 I will tend the poor and lame  
 I will set a feast for them  
 My hand will save  
 Finest bread I will provide  
 Till their hearts be satisfied,  
 I will give my life to them,  
 Whom shall I send?

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- 1 My soul proclaims the Lord my God,  
 my spirit sings his praise!  
 He looks on me, he lifts me up,  
 and gladness fills my days.
- 2 All nations now will share my joy,  
 His gifts he has outpoured;  
 His little one he has made great;  
 I magnify the Lord.
- 3 For those who love his holy name,  
 His mercy will not die.  
 His strong right arm puts down the proud  
 And lifts the lowly high.
- 4 He filled the hungry with good things,  
 The rich he sends away.  
 The promise made to Abraham  
 is filled to endless day.
- 5 Magnificat, magnificat,  
 magnificat, praise God!  
 praise God, praise God, praise God, praise God  
 magnificat, praise God.

**RECESSIONAL HYMN**

Holy Virgin by God's decree  
 You were called eternally  
 That he could give his son to our race  
 Mary, we praise hail full of grace

*Ave, Ave, Ave Maria (2)*

By your faith and loving accord  
 As the handmaid of the Lord  
 You undertook God's plan to embrace  
 Mary, we thank you, hail full of grace

To our needy world of today,  
 Love and beauty of the Lord,  
 You portray showing the path to Christ we must trace  
 Mary, we trust you, hail full of grace

