

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD (MIDNIGHT MASS)

ENTRANCE HYMNS

Angels we have heard on high
sweetly singing o'er our plains;
and the mountain tops in answer
echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis deo (2)

Shepherds, why this exultation?
Why your rapturous strain prolong?
Tell us of the gladsome tidings
which inspire your joyous song.

Come to Bethlehem and see him
o'er whose birth the angels sing:
come adore, devoutly kneeling,
Christ the Lord, the new-born king.



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1. Hark, the herald angels sing,  
glory to the new-born King;  
peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled:  
joyful all ye nations rise,  
join the triumph of the skies,  
with the angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

*Hark, the herald angels sing,  
glory to the new-born King.*

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of a Virgin's womb!  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
hail the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel

## 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.

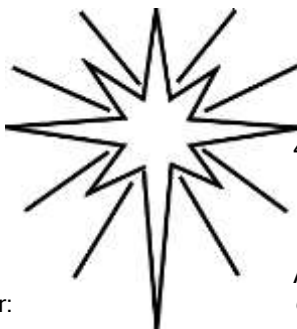
For you alone are the Holy One,  
You alone are the Lord,  
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen

## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah  
*A Son is given to us.*

9:1-7

The people that walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those who live in a land of deep shadow  
a light has shone.



You have made their gladness greater,  
you have made their joy increase;  
they rejoice in your presence  
as men rejoice at harvest time,  
as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.  
For the yoke that was weighing on him,  
the bar across his shoulders,  
the rod of his oppressor,  
these you break as on the day of Midian.  
For all the footgear of battle,  
every cloak rolled in blood,  
is burnt  
and consumed by fire.  
For there is a child born for us,  
a son given to us  
and dominion is laid on his shoulders;  
and this is the name they give him:  
Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God,  
Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace.  
Wide is his dominion  
in a peace that has no end,  
for the throne of David  
and for his royal power,  
which he establishes and makes secure  
in justice and integrity.  
From this time onwards and for ever,  
the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The word of the Lord.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 95:1-3.11-13. R) Lk 2:11

**R. Today a saviour has been born to us;  
he is Christ the Lord.**

1. O sing a new song to the Lord,  
sing to the Lord all the earth.  
O sing to the Lord, bless his name. (R.)
2. Proclaim his help day by day,  
tell among the nations his glory  
and his wonders among all the peoples. (R.)
3. Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,  
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,  
let the land and all it bears rejoice,  
all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
at the presence of the Lord for he comes,  
he comes to rule the earth. (R.)
4. With justice he will rule the world,  
he will judge the peoples with his truth. (R.)

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to Titus 2:11-14  
*God's grace has been revealed to the whole human race.*

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

The word of the Lord.





