

MONDAY EVENING OF PRAYER

VESPERS FOR MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021

Presider (P): God, + come to my assistance.

All Respond (A): Lord, make haste to help me.

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

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

HYMN & PSALMODY

Ant.1 P: Yours is more than mortal beauty, every word you speak is full of grace (Psalm 45).

Mary Side of Church (M): My heart overflows with noble words. † To the king I must speak the song I have made; * my tongue as nimble as the pen of a scribe.

Joseph Side of Church (J): You are the fairest of the children of men † and graciousness is poured upon your lips: * because God has blessed you for evermore.

M: O mighty one, gird your sword upon your thigh; † in splendor and state, ride on in triumph * for the cause of truth and goodness and right.

J: Take aim with your bow in your dread right hand. † Your arrows are sharp: peoples fall beneath you. * The foes of the king fall down and lose heart.

M: Your throne, O God, shall endure for ever. † A scepter of justice is the scepter of your kingdom. * Your love is for justice; your hatred for evil.

J: Therefore God, your God, has anointed you † with the oil of gladness above other kings: * your robes are fragrant with aloes and myrrh.

M: From the ivory palace you are greeted with music. † The daughters of kings are among your loved ones. * On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

J: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Spirit:

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

A: The Lord looks tenderly on those who are poor.

Ant. 2 P: The Bridegroom is here, go out to welcome him.

M: Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words: * forget your own people and your father's house. So will the king desire your beauty: * he is your lord, pay homage to him.

J: And the people of Tyre shall come with gifts, * the richest of the people shall seek your favor. The daughter of the king is clothed with splendor, * her robes embroidered with pearls set in gold.

M: She is led to the king with her maiden companions. † They are escorted amid gladness and joy; * they pass within the palace of the king.

J: Sons shall be yours in place of your fathers: * you will make them princes over all the earth. May this song make your name for ever remembered. * May the peoples praise you from age to age.

M: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Spirit:

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

A: The Bridegroom is here, go out to welcome him.

Ant. 3 P: God planned in the fullness of time to restore all things in Christ (Ephesians 1:3-10).

M: Praised be the God and Father * of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has bestowed on us in Christ * every spiritual blessing in the heavens.

J: God chose us in him * before the world began to be holy * and blameless in his sight.

M: He predestined us * to be his adopted sons through Jesus Christ, such was his will and pleasure, † that all might praise the glorious favor * he has bestowed on us in his beloved.

J: In him and through his blood, we have been redeemed, * and our sins forgiven, so immeasurably generous * is God's favor to us.

M: God has given us the wisdom * to understand fully

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the mystery, the plan he was pleased * to decree in Christ.

J: A plan to be carried out * in Christ, in the fullness of time, to bring all things into one in him, * in the heavens and on earth.

M: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Spirit:

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

A: God planned in the fullness of time to restore all things in Christ.

READING: 1 Corinthians 7: 32, 34

The unmarried man is busy with the Lord's affairs, concerned with pleasing the Lord. The virgin — indeed, any unmarried woman — is concerned with things of the Lord, in pursuit of holiness in body and spirit.

RESPONSORY

P: The virgins are led into the presence of the King, amid gladness and joy.

A: The virgins are led into the presence of the King, amid gladness and joy.

P: They are brought into the King's dwelling place,
A: amid gladness and joy.

P: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

A: The virgins are led into the presence of the King, amid gladness and joy.

GOSPEL CANTICLE: LUKE 1:46-55

Ant.: **P:** Saint Cecilia kept the Gospel of Christ ever near her heart; day or night she never ceased praying and speaking with God.

A: 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.

A: Saint Cecilia kept the Gospel of Christ ever near her heart; day or night she never ceased praying and speaking with God.

INTERCESSIONS

P: Christ extolled those who practiced virginity for the sake of the kingdom. Let us praise him joyfully and pray to him:

A: Jesus, example of virgins, hear us.

P: Christ, you presented the Church to yourself as a chaste virgin to her spouse,

A: keep her holy and inviolate.

P: Christ, the holy virgins went out to meet you with their lamps alight,

A: keep the fidelity of your consecrated handmaids burning brightly.

P: Lord, your virgin Church has always kept its faith whole and untarnished,

A: grant all Christians a whole and untarnished faith.

P: You have given your people joy in celebrating the feast of your holy virgin Cecilia,

A: give us constant joy through her intercession.

P: You have admitted the holy virgins to your marriage banquet,

A: in your mercy lead the dead to your heavenly feast.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord of mercy, be close to those who call upon you. With Saint Cecilia to help us hear and answer our prayers. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

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