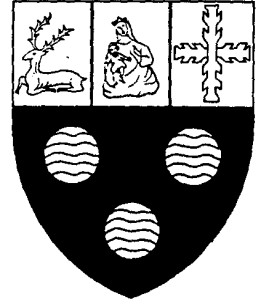


Southwell
Minster
THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



OFFICE HYMNS

Welcome to Southwell Minster



As you prepare for worship, please be sensitive to the needs of those around you who may wish to pray in silence. Please switch off mobile telephones and do not use photographic, video or recording equipment at any time.



A loop system is in operation throughout the Minster. Hearing aids that are equipped to do so should be switched to the 'T' position or the loop setting appropriate to your equipment.



Large print orders of service are available. Please ask a Churchwarden, Sidesman or Verger for a copy.



Toilet facilities (including disabled access) are situated in the Archbishop's Palace, opposite the South Door of the Minster.



We are a Fairtrade cathedral, committed to continuing and increasing our use of fairly traded goods wherever possible.

OFFICE HYMNS

An office hymn has formed a part of the Daily Offices of western Christians since the time of Saint Ambrose in the fourth century. Ambrose is credited with beginning the practice of singing hymns in his cathedral, and some of the earliest surviving Latin office hymns are attributed to him. Many of these ancient Latin texts were translated into English by hymn writers in the nineteenth century, and it is these translations that form the basis of this collection of Office Hymns — one of which we sing at each service of Evensong here at the Cathedral.

We are always delighted to welcome newcomers and visitors. If you would like to keep in regular contact with the Minster, please either speak to one of the clergy or churchwardens, or email office@southwellminster.org.uk

OFFICE HYMNS

SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS
BETWEEN TRINITY SUNDAY AND ADVENT

Lucis Creator optime



O blest Creator of the light,
Who makest day with radiance bright,
And o'er the forming world didst call
The light from chaos first of all;

**Whose wisdom joined in meet array
The morn and eve, and named them Day:
Night comes with all its darkling fears;
Regard thy people's prayers and tears:**

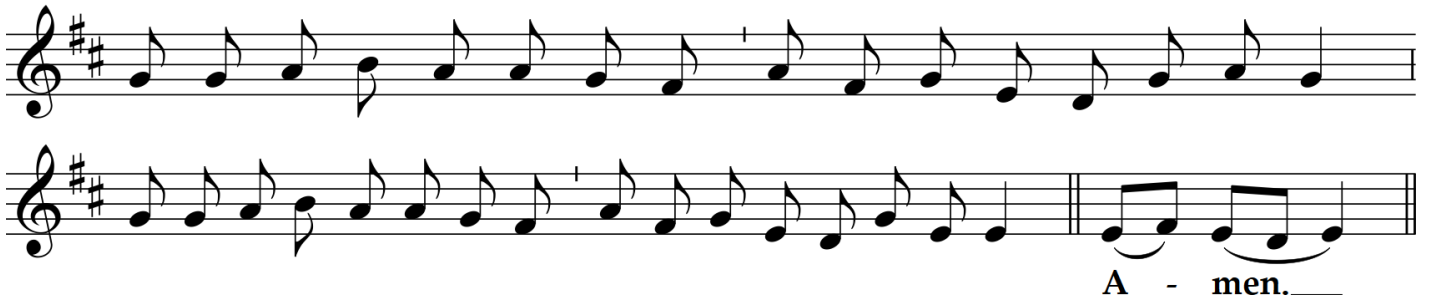
Lest, sunk in sin and whelm'd with strife,
They lose the gift of endless life;
While, thinking but the thoughts of time,
They weave new chains of guilt and crime.

**But grant them grace that they may strain
The heavenly gate and prize to gain:
Each harmful lure aside to cast,
And purge away each error past.**

**O Father, that we ask be done,
Through Jesus Christ, thine only Son,
Who with the Spirit and with thee
Doth live and reign eternally.
Amen.**

*Words: Latin, 8th century or earlier
trans. Percy Dearmer (1867-1936)*

*Tune: LUCIS CREATOR NEH 150 (t. i)
Mode viii*



O great Creator of the sky,
 Who wouldest not the floods on high
 With earthly waters to confound,
 But mad'st the firmament their bound;

**The floods above thou didst ordain;
 The floods below thou didst restrain:
 That moisture might attemper heat,
 Lest the parched earth should ruin meet.**

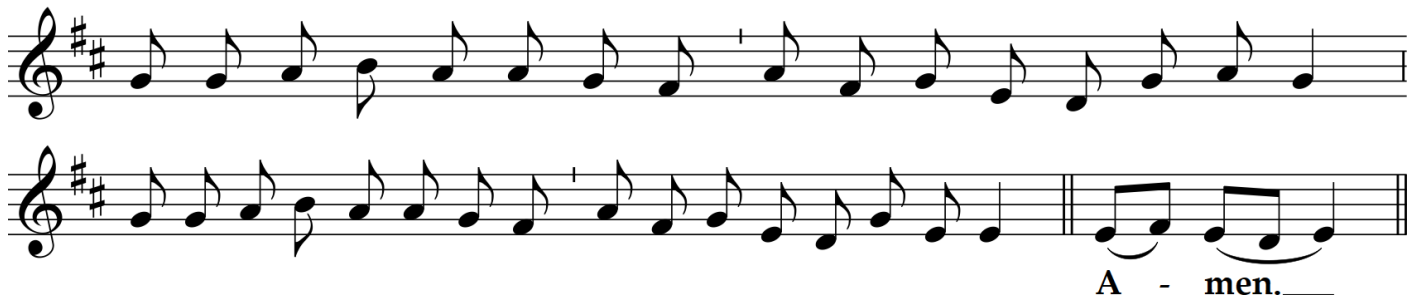
Upon our souls, good Lord, bestow
 Thy gift of grace in endless flow:
 Lest some renewed deceit or wile
 Of former sin should us beguile.

**Let faith discover heavenly light;
 So shall its rays direct us right:
 And let this faith each error chase,
 And never give to falsehood place.**

**Grant this, O Father, ever One
 With Christ, thy sole-begotten son,
 And Holy Ghost, whom all adore,
 Reigning and blest forevermore.
 Amen.**

*Words: Latin, attributed to St Gregory the Great (540-604)
 trans. John Mason Neale (1818-66)*

Tune: Mode i



Earth's mighty Maker, whose command
 Raised from the sea the solid land;
 And drove each billowy heap away,
 And bade the earth stand firm for aye:

**That so, with flowers of golden hue,
 The seeds of each it might renew;
 And fruit-trees bearing fruit might yield,
 And pleasant pasture of the field:**

Our spirit's rankling wounds efface
 With dewy freshness of thy grace:
 That grief may cleanse each deed of ill,
 And o'er each lust may triumph still.

**Let every soul thy law obey,
 And keep from every evil way;
 Rejoice each promised good to win,
 And flee from every mortal sin.**

**Hear thou our prayer, Almighty King!
 Hear thou our praises, while we sing,
 Adoring with the heavenly host,
 The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
 Amen.**

Words: Latin, attributed to St Gregory the Great (540-604)
 trans. Anon. (1854)

Tune: Mode i



O God, whose hand hath spread the sky,
 And all its shining hosts on high,
 And painting it with fiery light,
 Made it so beauteous and so bright:

**Thou, when the fourth day was begun,
 Didst frame the circle of the sun,
 And set the moon for ordered change,
 And planets for their wider range:**

To night and day, by certain line,
 Their varying bounds thou didst assign;
 And gav'st a signal, known and meet,
 For months begun and months complete.

**Enlighten thou the hearts of men:
 Polluted souls make pure again:
 Unloose the bands of guilt within:
 Remove the burden of our sin.**

**Grant this, O Father, ever One
 With Christ thy sole-begotten Son,
 Whom, with the Spirit we adore,
 One God, both now and evermore.
 Amen.**

*Words: Latin, attributed to St Gregory the Great (540-604)
 trans. John Mason Neale (1818-66)*

Tune: Mode i



O sovereign Lord of nature's might,
 Who bad'st the water's birth divide;
 Part in the heavens to take their flight,
 And part in ocean's deep to hide;

**These low obscured, on airy wing
 Exalted those, that either race,
 Though from one element they spring,
 Might serve thee in a different place.**

Grant, Lord, that we thy servants all,
 Saved by thy tide of cleansing blood,
 No more 'neath sin's dominion fall,
 Nor fear the thought of death's dark flood!

**Thy varied love each spirit bless,
 The humble cheer, the high control;
 Check in each heart its proud excess,
 But raise the meek and contrite soul!**

**This boon, O Father, we entreat,
 This blessing grant, Eternal Son,
 And Holy Ghost, the Paraclete,
 Both now, and while the ages run.
 Amen.**

*Words: Latin, attributed to St Gregory the Great (540-604)
 trans. Anon. (1903)*

Tune: Mode i



Maker of man, who from thy throne
 Dost order all things, God alone;
 By whose decree the teeming earth
 To reptile and to beast gave birth:

**The mighty forms that fill the land,
 Instinct with life at thy command,
 Are given in trust to humankind
 For service in their rank assigned.**

From all thy servants drive away
 Whate'er of thought impure to-day
 Hath been with open action blent,
 Or mingled with the heart's intent.

**In heaven thine endless joys bestow,
 And grant thy gifts of grace below;
 From chains of strife our souls release,
 Bind fast the gentle bands of peace.**

**Grant this, O Father, ever One
 With Christ, thy sole-begotten Son,
 Whom, with the Spirit we adore,
 One God, both now and evermore.
 Amen.**

*Words: Latin, attributed to St Gregory the Great (540-604)
 trans. John David Chambers (1805-93), altd.*

Tune: Mode i



Creator of the stars of night,
 Thy people's everlasting light,
 O Jesu, Saviour of us all,
 Regard thy servants when they call.

**Thou, grieving at the bitter cry
 Of all creation doomed to die,
 Didst come to save a ruined race
 With healing gifts of heavenly grace.**

Thou camest, Bridegroom of the bride,
 As drew the world to evening-tide,
 Proceeding from a virgin shrine,
 The Son of Man, yet Lord divine.

**At thy great name, exalted now,
 All knees must bend, all hearts must bow,
 And things in heaven and earth shall own
 That thou art Lord and King alone.**

To thee, O holy One, we pray,
 Our judge in that tremendous day,
 Preserve us, while we dwell below,
 From every onslaught of the foe.

**All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
 Whose advent sets thy people free,
 Whom with the Father we adore,
 And Spirit blest, for evermore.
 Amen.**

CHRISTMASTIDE (*up until 1 January,
and on any Saturday & Sunday before Epiphany*)

A solis ortus cardine



1. From east to west, from shore to shore,
let every heart awake and sing
the holy child whom Mary bore,
the Christ, the everlasting King.

2. **Behold, the world's creator wears
the form and fashion of a slave,
our very flesh our Maker shares,
his fallen creature, man, to save.**

3. For this how wondrously he wrought!
a maiden, in her lowly place,
became, in ways beyond all thought,
the chosen vessel of his grace.

4. **She bowed her to the angel's word
declaring what the Father willed,
and suddenly the promised Lord
that pure and hallowed temple filled.**

5. He shrank not from the oxen's stall,
he lay within the manger-bed,
and he whose bounty feedeth all,
at Mary's breast himself was fed.

6. **And while the angels in the sky
sang praise above the silent field,
to shepherds poor, the Lord most high,
the one great Shepherd was revealed.**

7. **All glory for that blessed morn
to God the Father ever be,
all praise to thee, O Virgin-born,
and praise, blest Spirit, unto thee.
Amen.**

Words: Latin, Caelius Sedulius, c. 450
trans. John Ellerton (1826-93)

Tune: A SOLIS ORTUS NEH 20 (t. i)
Mode iii

SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS

O Lux beata Trinitas

BETWEEN EPIPHANY AND THE START OF LENT



A - men.

O Trinity of blessed light,
O Unity of primal might,
The fiery sun now goes his way,
Shed thou within our hearts thy ray.

**To thee our morning song of praise,
To thee our evening prayer we raise,
Thy glory, suppliant, we adore,
For ever and for evermore.**

O Trinity, O Unity,
Thou help of man's infirmity,
Protect us through the hours of night,
Who art our everlasting light.

**To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Let glory, praise and worship be
From age to age eternally.
Amen.**

*Words: Latin, attributed to St Ambrose (c. 339-397)
trans. John Mason Neale (1818-66) et al.*

*Tune: O LUX BEATA NEH 54 (t. i)
Mode viii*



O kind Creator, bow thine ear
 To mark the cry, to know the tear
 Before thy throne of mercy spent
 In this thy holy fast of Lent.

**Our hearts are open, Lord, to thee:
 Thou knowest our infirmity;
 Pour out on all who seek thy face
 Abundance of thy pard'ning grace.**

Our sins are many, this we know;
 Spare us, good Lord, thy mercy show;
 And for the honour of thy name
 Our fainting souls to life reclaim.

**Give us the self-control that springs
 From discipline of outward things,
 That fasting inward secretly
 The soul may purely dwell with thee.**

**We pray thee, holy Trinity,
 One God, unchanging Unity,
 That we from this our abstinence
 May reap the fruits of penitence.
 Amen.**

*Words: Latin, attributed to Gregory the Great (540-604)
 trans. Thomas Lacey (1853-1931)*

*Tune: AUDI BENIGNE NEH 60 (t. i)
 Mode ii*



O Jesus Christ, from Thee began
 This healing for the soul of man,
 By fasting sought, by fasting found,
 Through forty days of yearly round.

**Therefore behold Thy Church, O Lord,
 And grace of penitence accord
 To all who seek with generous tears
 Renewal of their wasted years.**

Forgive the sin that we have done,
 Forgive the course that we have run,
 And show henceforth in evil day
 Thyself our helper and our stay.

**But now let ev'ry heart prepare,
 By sacrifice of fast and prayer,
 To keep with peace and joy untold
 The solemn Easter festival.**

**Father and Son and Spirit blest,
 To Thee be ev'ry prayer addressed,
 Who art in threefold Name adored,
 From age to age, the only Lord.
 Amen.**

*Words: Latin, 9th century
 trans. Thomas Lacey (1853-1931)*

Tune: Mode iv



A - men.

The royal banners forward go,
 The Cross shines forth in mystic glow;
 Where he in flesh, our flesh who made,
 Our sentence bore, our ransom paid.

**Where deep for us the spear was dyed,
 Life's torrent rushing from his side,
 To wash us in that precious flood
 Where mingled water flowed, and blood.**

Fulfilled is all that David told
 In true prophetic song of old,
 The universal Lord is he,
 Who reigns and triumphs from the tree.

**O Tree of beauty, Tree of light,
 O Tree with royal purple dight,
 Elect on whose triumphal breast
 Those holy limbs should find their rest!**

On whose dear arms, so widely flung,
 The weight of this world's ransom hung,
 The price of humankind to pay
 And spoil the spoiler of his prey.

**O Cross, our one reliance, hail!
 So may thy power with us prevail
 To give new virtue to the saint,
 And pardon to the penitent.**

**To thee, eternal Three in One,
 Let homage meet by all be done:
 Whom by thy Cross thou dost restore,
 Preserve and govern evermore.
 Amen.**

EASTERTIDE

Aurora lucis rutilat

(Saturdays and Sundays, and during the octave of Easter)



1. The day draws on with golden light,
Glad songs go echoing through the height,
The broad earth lifts an answering cheer,
And hell makes moan with wailing fear.

2. **For lo, he comes, the mighty King,
To take from death his power and sting,
To trample down his gloomy reign,
And break the weary prisoner's chain.**

3. Enclosed he lay in rocky cell,
With guard of armed sentinel;
But thence returning, strong and free,
He comes in might of victory.

4. **The sad Apostles mourn him slain,
Nor hope to see their Lord again,
When, to their very eyes restored,
They look upon the risen Lord.**

5. Those wounds before their eyes displayed
They see in heavenly light arrayed,
And what they see they testify
In open witness fearlessly.

6. **O Christ, the King of gentleness,
Thy people's hearts do thou possess,
That we may render all our days
An endless sacrifice of praise.**

7. Maker of all, to thee we pray,
Fulfil in us thy joy today;
When death assails, grant, Lord, that we
May share thy Paschal victory.

8. **To thee, who, dead, again dost live,
All glory, Lord, thy people give,
All glory to the Father be
And Spirit blest, eternally. Amen.**

Words: Latin, c. 4th century
trans. Thomas Lacey (1853-1931)

Tune: AURORA LUCIS NEH 100 (t. i)
Mode vii

ASCENSION DAY

Aeterne Rex altissime

(and the Saturday and Sunday after Ascension Day)



Eternal Monarch, King most high,
 Whose blood hath brought redemption nigh,
 By whom the death of Death was wrought
 And conquering grace's battle fought:

**Ascending to the throne of might,
 And seated at the Father's right,
 All power in heaven is Jesu's own,
 That here his manhood had not known.**

Yea, angels tremble when they see
 How changed is our humanity;
 That flesh hath purged what flesh had stained,
 And God, the flesh of God, hath reigned.

**Be thou our joy and strong defence,
 Who art our future recompense:
 So shall the light that springs from thee
 Be ours through all eternity.**

**O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
 All praise to thee let earth accord,
 Who art, while endless ages run,
 With Father and with Spirit One.
 Amen.**

*Words: Latin, 5th century
 trans. John Mason Neale (1818-66)*

*Tune: AD CENAM AGNI NEH 128 (t. i)
 Mode viii*



Rejoice, the year upon its way
 Has brought again that blessed day
 When on the Church by Christ our Lord
 The Holy Spirit was outpoured.

**From out the heavens a rushing noise
 Came like the tempest's sudden voice,
 And mingled with th'Apostles' prayer,
 Proclaiming loud that God was there.**

Like quivering tongues of light and flame,
 Upon each one the Spirit came:
 Tongues, that the earth might hear their call,
 And fire, that love might burn in all.

**And so to all were spread abroad
 The wonders of the works of God;
 They knew the prophet's word fulfilled,
 And owned the gift which God had willed.**

**Look down, most gracious God, this day
 Upon thy people as they pray;
 And Christ the Lord upon us pour
 The Spirit's gift for evermore.
 Amen.**

*Words: Latin, attributed to Hilary of Poitiers (c. 315-367) NEH 136
 trans. Editors of the NEH*

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*Tune: VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS
 Mode viii*



Father most holy, merciful and tender;
 Jesus our Saviour, with the Father reigning;
 Spirit all-kindly, Advocate, Defender,
 Light never waning;

**Trinity sacred, Unity unshaken;
 Deity perfect, giving and forgiving,
 Light of the angels, Life of the forsaken,
 Hope of all living;**

Maker of all things, all thy creatures praise thee;
 Lo, all things serve thee through thy whole creation:
 Hear us, Almighty, hear us as we raise thee
 Heart's adoration.

**To the all-ruling triune God be glory:
 Highest and greatest, help thou our endeavour,
 We too would praise thee, giving honour worthy,
 Now and for ever.
 Amen.**

*Words: Latin, c. 10th century
 trans. Percy Dearmer (1867-1936)*

*Tune: O PATER SANCTE NEH 144
 Mode iv*



The heavenly Word proceeding forth
 Yet leaving not his Father's side,
 And going to his work on earth,
 Had reached at length life's eventide.

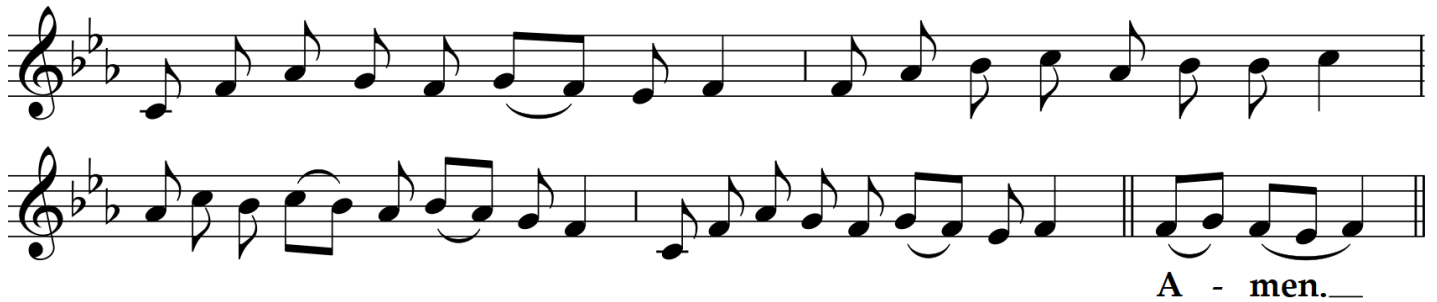
**By false disciple to be given
 To feomen for his blood athirst,
 Himself, the living bread from heaven,
 He gave to his disciples first.**

In twofold form of sacrament,
 He gave his flesh, he gave his blood,
 That man, of soul and body blent,
 Might wholly feed on mystic food.

**In birth man's fellow-man was he,
 His meat while sitting at the board;
 He dies, our ransom to be,
 He reigns to be our great reward.**

O saving Victim, opening wide
 The gate of heaven to man below;
 Our foes press hard on every side,
 Thine aid supply, thy strength bestow.

**All praise and thanks to thee ascent
 For evermore, blest One in Three;
 O grant us life that shall not end,
 In our true native land with thee.
 Amen.**



Ruler of all from heav'ns high throne,
 O Christ, our King ere time began,
 We kneel before thee, Lord, to own
 Thy empire o'er the heart of man.

**The hosts of heav'n adoring kneel,
 And hymns of praise to thee they sing;
 We too rejoice and honour thee
 As Lord of all, and sov'reign King.**

O Prince of Peace, O Christ, subdue
 Those rebel hearts, thy peace restore;
 Into thy sheepfold lead anew
 Thy scattered sheep, to stray no more.

**For this upon the tree of shame
 Thy body hung, with arms spread wide,
 The spear revealed the heart of flame
 That burned within thy sacred side.**

For this our altars here are spread
 With mystic feast of bread and wine;
 Still thy redeeming blood is shed
 From that sore-stricken heart of thine.

**Jesus, to thee be honour done,
 Who rulest all in equity.
 With Father, Spirit, ever one,
 From age to age eternally.
 Amen.**



1. Hail, O star that pointest
To the port of heaven,
Thou to whom as maiden
God for Son was given.

**2. When the salutation
Gabriel had spoken,
Peace was shed upon us,
Eva's bonds were broken.**

3. Bound by Satan's fetters,
Health and vision needing,
God will aid and light us
At thy gentle pleading.

**7. Father, Son and Spirit,
Three in One confessing,
Give we equal glory,
Equal praise and blessing.
Amen.**

**4. Jesus's tender Mother,
Make thy supplication
Unto him who chose thee
At his incarnation;**

5. That, O matchless maiden
Passing meek and lowly,
Thy dear Son may make us
Blameless, chaste and holy.

**6. So, as we now journey
Aid our weak endeavour.
Till we gaze on Jesus,
And rejoice for ever.**

*Words: Latin, c. 9th century
trans. Athelstan Riley (1858-1945)*

*Tune: AVE MARIS STELLA NEH 180 (t. i)
Mode i*

THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Quem terra, pontus, aethera



The Lord whom earth and sea and sky
Adore and praise and magnify,
Who o'er their threefold fabric reigns,
The Virgin's spotless womb contains.

**And he whose will is ever done
By moon and seas, by stars and sun,
Is borne upon a maiden's breast,
Whom God's foreseeing grace possessed.**

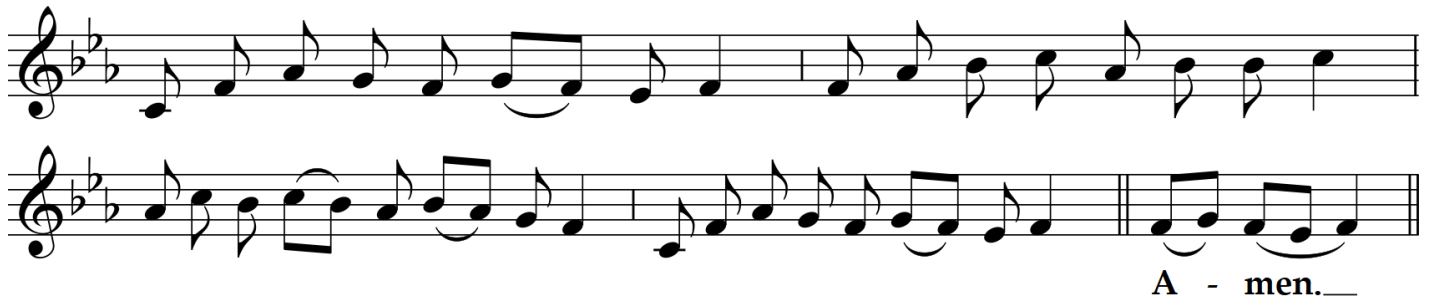
How blest that Mother, in whose shrine
The very Word of God divine,
The maker of the earth and sky,
Was pleased in fleshly form to lie.

**Blest in the message Gabriel brought,
Blest in the work the Spirit wrought,
Blest evermore, who brought to birth
The long-desired of all the earth.**

**O Jesu, Virgin-born, to thee
Eternal praise and glory be,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit, evermore.
Amen.**

*Words: Latin, Venantius Fortunatus (530-309)
trans. John Mason Neale (1818-66)*

*Tune: VENI REDEMPTOR NEH 181 (t. i)
Mode i*



Let the round world with songs rejoice,
 Let heaven return the joyful voice,
 All mindful of th' Apostles' fame,
 Let heaven and earth their praise proclaim.

**Ye servants who once bore the light
 Of gospel truth o'er heathen night,
 Still may your work that light impart,
 To glad our eyes and cheer our heart.**

O God, by whom to them was given
 The key that shuts and opens heaven,
 Our chains unbind, our loss repair,
 And grant us grace to enter there.

**For at thy will they preached the word
 Which cured disease, which health conferred;
 O may thy healing power once more
 Our souls to grace and health restore.**

Those wounds before their eyes displayed
 They see in heavenly light arrayed,
 And what they see they testify
 In open witness fearlessly.

**To God the Father, God the Son,
 And God the Spirit, Three in One,
 Be honour, praise and majesty,
 Now and throughout eternity.
 Amen.**



Martyr of God, whose strength was steeled
 To follow close God's only Son,
 Well didst thou brave thy battlefield,
 And well thy heavenly bliss was won!

**Now join thy prayers with ours, who pray
 That God may pardon us and bless;
 For prayer keeps evil's plague away,
 And draws from life its weariness.**

Long, long ago, were loosed the chains
 That held thy body once in thrall;
 For us how many a bond remains!
 O Love of God release us all.

**All praise to God the Father be,
 All praise to thee, eternal Son;
 All praise, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
 While never-ending ages run.
 Amen.**

*Words: Latin, 10th century
 trans. Percy Dearmer (1867-1936)*

Tune: Mode i



Why, impious Herod, shouldst thou fear
 Because the Christ is come so near?
 He who doth heavenly kingdoms grant
 Thine earthly realm can never want.

**Lo, sages from the East are gone
 To where the star hath newly shone:
 Led on by light to Light they press,
 And by their gifts their God confess.**

The Lamb of God is manifest
 Again in Jordan's water blest,
 And he who sin had never known
 By washing hath our sins undone.

**Yet he that ruleth everything
 Can change the nature of the spring,
 And gives at Cana this for sign—
 The water reddens into wine.**

**Then glory, Lord, to thee we pay
 For thine Epiphany to-day;
 All glory through eternity
 To Father, Son, and Spirit be.
 Amen.**

*Words: Latin, Caelius Sedulius c. 450
 trans. Percy Dearmer (1867-1936)*

*Tune: VENI REDEMPTOR NEH 46 (t. i)
 Mode i*



A heavenly splendour from on high,
 A light too great for mortal eye,
 Deprives the hunter of his prey
 And turns his threatening wrath away.

**In darkened eyes, an inward light
 Begins to shine upon his sight,
 As in his heart he hears the call
 To follow, and surrender all.**

The Christ, for sinners crucified,
 Whose risen power he had denied,
 Now claims this servant for his own,
 And bids him make the gospel known.

**The nations listen to his voice,
 And in the peace of Christ rejoice;
 The Church on earth his praises sing,
 Who led the Gentiles to their King.**

Blest Paul, the convert of the Lord,
 May heaven's light to us afford
 A blindness to the lures of sin,
 That we with thee a crown may win.

**To God the Father, God the Son,
 And God the Spirit, Three in One,
 From saints on earth and saints in heaven,
 Let everlasting praise be given. Amen.**



Sing how the age-long promise of a Saviour
Spoken through lips of prophets by the Spirit,
In blessed Mary, Mother of the Christ-child,
Finds its fulfilment.

**Virgin most pure, and wondrously conceiving,
Bearing incarnate God in awed obedience,
Now she presents him for a spotless offering
Unto his Father.**

In God's high temple, Simeon the righteous
Takes to his loving arms with holy rapture
That One for whom his longing eyes had waited,
Jesus, Messiah.

**Where now his mother next her Son is seated,
In those fair mansions of the heavenly kingdom,
May Christ our Saviour grant to us his servants
Life everlasting.**

**Father eternal, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Trinity blessed, maker and redeemer,
Giver of life and author of salvation
Thine be the glory.
Amen.**

*Latin, attributed to Rabanus Maurus (c. 780-856)
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*Tune: ISTE CONFESSOR (I) NEH 156
Mode i*



Let angels chant thy praise, pure spouse of purest bride,
 While Christendom's sweet choirs the gladsome strains repeat,
 To tell thy wondrous fame, to raise the pealing hymn,
 Wherewith we all they glory greet.

**When doubts and bitter fears thy heavy heart oppressed,
 And filled thy righteous soul with sorrow and dismay,
 An angel quickly came, the wondrous story told,
 And drove thy anxious griefs away.**

Thy arms thy new-born Lord, with tender joy embrace;
 Him then to Egypt's land thy watchful care doth bring;
 Him in the temple's courts once lost thou dost regain,
 And 'mid thy tears dost greet thy King.

**Not till death's pangs are o'er do others gain their crown,
 But, Joseph, unto thee the blessed lot was given
 While life did yet endure, thy God to see and know,
 As do the Saints above in heaven.**

**Grant us, great Trinity, for Joseph's holy sake,
 In highest bliss and love, above the stars to reign,
 That we in joy with him may praise our loving God,
 And sing our glad eternal strain.
 Amen.**

*Words: Latin, c. 17th century
 sometimes attributed to Juan de la Concepción (1702-53)
 trans. T. C. Potter*

Tune: Mode i



On this high feast day honour we the Baptist,
 Greatest and last of Israel's line of prophets,
 Kinsman of Jesus, herald of salvation,
 Chosen forerunner.

**Lo, from the heavens Gabriel descending,
 Brings to thy father tidings of thy coming,
 Telling thy name, and all thy life's high calling
 Duly announcing.**

When Zechariah doubted what was told him,
 Dumbness assailed him, sealing firm the promise
 Till, at thy naming, lo, his voice resounded
 Loud in God's praises.

**Greater art thou than all the sons of Adam,
 Lowly in spirit, faithfully proclaiming
 Israel's Messiah, Jesus our Redeemer,
 Thus we exalt thee.**

**Father eternal, Son, and Holy Spirit,
 God everlasting, hear thy people's praises;
 Let saints on earth with all the saints in glory,
 Ever adore thee.**

Amen.

*Words: based on the Latin of Paul the Deacon (730-99)
 trans. Editors of the NEH*

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*Tune: UT QUEANT LAXIS NEH 168
 Mode ii*



1. Mary, weep not, weep no longer,
Now thy heart hath gained its goal;
Here, in truth, the Gardener standeth,
But the Gardener of thy soul,
Who within thy spirit's garden
By his love hath made thee whole.

**2. Now from grief and lamentation
Lift thy drooping heart with cheer;
While for love of him thou mournest,
Lo, thy Lord regained is here!
Fainting for him, thou hast found him;
All unknown, behold him near!**

3. Whence thy sorrow, whence thy weeping,
Since with thee true bliss abides?
In thy heart, though undiscovered,
Balm of consolation hides:
Holding all, thou canst no longer
Lack the cure that Health provides.

**4. Nay, no wonder if she knows not
Till the Sower's seed be sown,
Till from him, the Word eternal,
Light within her heart is thrown.
Now he calls her, and 'Rabboni,'
She in turn her Lord doth own.**

5. Faith that washed the feet of Jesus,
Fed with dew the Fount of Grace,
Win for us a like compassion,
That, with all the ransomed race,
At the glory of his rising
We may see him face to face.

**6. Glory be to God and honour,
Who, preferring sacrifice,
Far above the rich man's bounty,
Sweetness found in Mary's sighs,
Who for all, his love foretasting,
Spreads the banquet of the skies.
Amen.**



O vision blest of heavenly light,
 Which meets the three disciples' sight,
 When on the holy mount they see
 Their Lord's transfigured majesty.

**More bright than day his raiment shone;
 The Father's voice proclaimed the Son
 Belov'd before the worlds were made,
 For us in mortal flesh arrayed.**

And with him there on either hand
 Lo, Moses and Elijah stand,
 To show how Christ, to those who see,
 Fulfils both law and prophecy.

**O light from light, by love inclined,
 Jesu, redeemer of mankind,
 Accept thy people's prayer and praise
 Which on the mount to thee they raise.**

Be with us, Lord, as we descend
 To walk with thee to journey's end,
 That through thy cross we too may rise,
 And share thy triumph in the skies.

**To thee, O Father; Christ to thee,
 Let praise and endless glory be,
 Whom with the Spirit we adore,
 One Lord, one God, for evermore.
 Amen.**



Christ, the fair glory of the holy angels,
 Thou who hast made us, thou who o'er us rulest
 Grant of thy mercy unto us thy servants
 Steps up to heaven.

**Send thy archangel, Michael, to our succour;
 Peacemaker blessèd, may he banish from us,
 Striving and hatred, so that for the peaceful
 All things may prosper.**

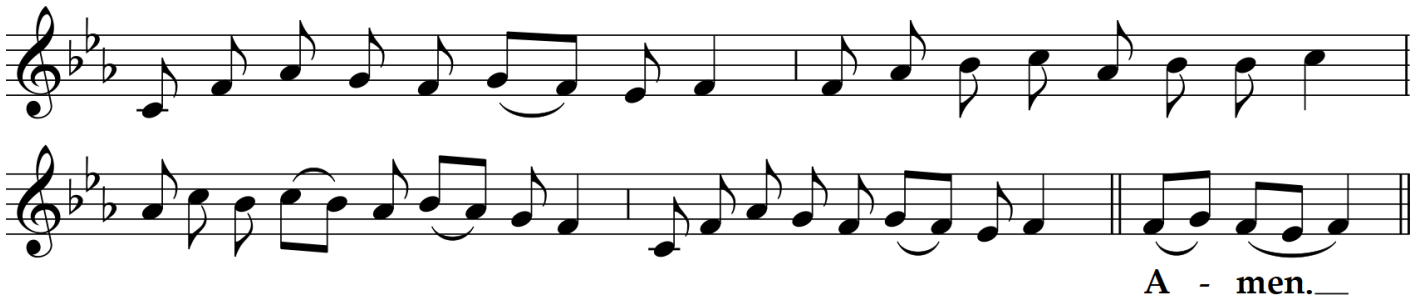
Send thy archangel, Gabriel, the mighty;
 Herald of heaven, may he from us mortals
 Spurn the old serpent, watching o'er the temples
 Where thou art worshipped.

**Send thy archangel, Raphael, the restorer
 Of the misguided ways of men who wander,
 Who at thy bidding strengthens soul and body
 With thine anointing.**

May the blest Mother of our God and Saviour,
 May the assembly of the saints in glory,
 May the celestial companies of angels
 Ever assist us.

**Father almighty, Son, and Holy Spirit,
 God ever blessèd, be thou our preserver;
 Thine is the glory which the angels worship,
 Veiling their faces.**

Amen.



1. To Thy poor servants reconciled
 Show mercy, Christ, for whom the mild
 And Virgin Patroness the grace
 Implore before Thy Father's face.

**2. Ye glorious hosts, whose circle nine
 Before God's throne refulgent shine,
 Shield us with your celestial arms
 From past, present, and future harms.**

3. Apostles with the Prophets plead
 For weeping sinners in their need,
 That from their Judge severe they gain
 Pardon, effacing guilt's dark stain.

**4. Ye purpled martyrs, you, now dressed
 In white because your lives confessed
 Your Lord on earth, us exiles call
 Unto the fatherland of all.**

5. O choir of virgins, stainless band!
 And ye for whom the desert-land
 Made sure the way to heav'nly rest,
 Prepare us mansions with the blest.

**6. Glory, O Father! to Thy name;
 Eternal Son, to Thine the same,
 To Holy Paraclete be praise
 Throughout the everlasting days.
 Amen.**

*Words: Latin,
 attributed to Pope Urban VIII (1568-1644)
 English Translation from Catholic World, Vol XXXII, 1880*

*Tune: EXULTET CAELUM LAUDIBUS NEH 214 (t. i)
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