



THE MISSION OF SAINT MARY MAGDALENE



THE ORDER FOR EVENSONG FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

January 4, 2026

**According to pp. 20-24 the Book of Common Prayer (BCP)
and the Use of the Anglican Catholic Church of Canada (ACCC)
(together with traditional devotions and ceremonial directions)**

THE VERSICLES & RESPONSES (pp. 20-21):

Minister. ✠ O Lord, open thou our lips;

People. And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Minister. ✠ O God, make speed to save us;

People. O Lord, make haste to help us.

HERE, ALL STAND:

Minister. GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

People. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Minister. Praise ye the Lord;

People. The Lord's Name be praised.

HERE, ALL SIT:

THE PSALMS OF THE DAY [Psalm 125. (*Qui confidunt.*) pp. 499-500]:

Minister. 1 THEY that put their trust in the LORD are even as the mount Sion, /
ALL. which may not be removed, but standeth fast for ever.

2 The hills stand about Jerusalem: / even so standeth the LORD round about his people, from this time forth for evermore.

3 For the sceptre of the ungodly shall not rest upon the lot of the righteous; / lest the righteous put their hand unto wickedness.

4 Do well, O LORD, unto those that are good, / and unto them that are true of heart.

5 As for such as turn aside to their own crooked ways, / the LORD shall lead them forth with the evil doers; but peace be upon Israel.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, / and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, / world without end. Amen.

[Psalm 126. (*In convertendo.*) p. 500]:

Minister. 1 WHEN the LORD restored the fortunes of Sion, /
ALL. then were we like unto them that dream.

2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, / and our tongue with joy.

3 Then said they among the nations, / 'The LORD hath done great things for them.'

4 Yea, the LORD hath done great things for us already; / whereof we rejoice.

5 RESTORE our fortunes, O LORD, / as the rivers in the South.

6 They that sow in tears / shall reap in joy.

7 He that now goeth on his way weeping, and beareth forth his seed, / shall doubtless come again with joy, and bring his sheaves with him.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, / and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, / world without end. Amen.

[Psalm 127. (*Nisi Dominus.*) pp. 500-501]:

Minister. 1 EXCEPT the LORD build the house, /

ALL. their labour is but lost that build it.

2 Except the LORD keep the city, / the watchman keepeth vigil but in vain.

3 It is but lost labour that ye haste to rise up early, and so late take rest, and eat the bread of carefulness; / for so he giveth his beloved sleep.

4 LO, children and the fruit of the womb / are an heritage and gift that cometh of the LORD.

5 Like as the arrows in the hand of the giant, / even so are the children of one's youth.

6 Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: / they shall not be ashamed when they speak with their enemies in the gate.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, / and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, / world without end. Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON & COMMENTARY (Isaiah 55):

Minister. The First Lesson is written in the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, the fifty-fifth chapter, beginning at the first verse.

55 ¹ "Come, all you who are thirsty,

come to the waters;

and you who have no money,

come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk

without money and without cost.

² Why spend money on what is not bread,

and your labor on what does not satisfy?

Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good,

and you will delight in the richest of fare.

³ Give ear and come to me;

listen, that you may live.

I will make an everlasting covenant with you,

my faithful love promised to David.

⁴ See, I have made him a witness to the peoples,

a ruler and commander of the peoples.

⁵ Surely you will summon nations you know not,

and nations you do not know will come running to you,

because of the LORD your God,

the Holy One of Israel,

for he has endowed you with splendor."

⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call on him while he is near.
⁷ Let the wicked forsake their ways
and the unrighteous their thoughts.
Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.
⁸ "For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways,"
declares the LORD.
⁹ "As the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.
¹⁰ As the rain and the snow
come down from heaven,
and do not return to it
without watering the earth
and making it bud and flourish,
so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,
¹¹ so is my word that goes out from my mouth:
It will not return to me empty,
but will accomplish what I desire
and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.
¹² You will go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and hills
will burst into song before you,
and all the trees of the field
will clap their hands.
¹³ Instead of the thornbush will grow the juniper,
and instead of briars the myrtle will grow.
This will be for the LORD's renown,
for an everlasting sign,
that will endure forever."

Minister. Here endeth the First Lesson.

Minister. God's everlasting covenant with His people is His sure and steadfast love towards us. God's purposes are not the ever changing ways of men, but are forever constant. The Word of God goes forth in Creation and in Redemption. In delivering God's

message to us today, Isaiah prophesies in verse 11: "...so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it." It is God's Word penetrating our souls – and the very flesh of our humanity – that leads us onward in joy and peace.

HERE, ALL STAND:

MAGNIFICAT (St. Luke 1:46-55; pp. 21-22):

Minister. ✠ MY soul doth magnify the Lord, /
ALL. and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded / the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth / all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me; / and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him / throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm; / he hath scattered the proud
in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, / and hath exalted the
humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things; / and the rich he hath
sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy / hath holpen his servant Israel;
As he promised to our forefathers, / Abraham and his seed for ever.
GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, / and to the Holy Ghost; As it was
in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, / world without end. Amen.

HERE, ALL SIT:

THE SECOND LESSON & COMMENTARY (St. Luke 2:22-40):

Minister. The Second Lesson is written in the Gospel According to St. Luke, the second chapter, beginning at the twenty-second verse.

2 ²² When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons."

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was

righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

²⁹ "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.

³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel."

³³ The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him.

³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸ Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

Minister. Here endeth the Second Lesson.

Minister. The "Consolation of Israel" and the "Redemption of Jerusalem" appear in the Temple in the form of the infant, Jesus. Simeon and Anna rejoice in the vision of the salvation for which they had waited patiently. Simeon's "Nunc Dimittis" (verses 29-32), which we recite below, is our evensong of thanksgiving and joy; for the glory "Consolation of Israel" is both "a light to lighten the Gentiles" and "the of God's people Israel." The presentation of Jesus in the Temple, however, also means His subjection to the Law for our sake and, thus, portends His sacrifice for our redemption.

HERE, ALL STAND:

NUNC DIMITTIS (St. Luke 2:29-32; p. 22):

Minister. ✠ LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, /

ALL. According to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, / which thou hast prepared
before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, / and to be the glory of thy
people Israel.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, / and to the Holy Ghost; As it was
in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, / world without end. Amen.

HERE, ALL REMAIN STANDING AND FACE THE CROSS:

THE APOSTLES' CREED (p. 22):

Minister. I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty,

ALL. Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by
the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius
Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The
third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And
sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he
shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholic Church; The
Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; ✠ The Resurrection of
the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

THE LESSER LITANY, LORD'S PRAYER & SUFFRAGES (p. 23):

Minister. The Lord be with you;

People. And with thy spirit.

Minister. Let us pray.

HERE, ALL KNEEL:

Minister. Lord, have mercy upon us.

ALL. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Minister. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Minister. OUR Father who art in heaven,

ALL. Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And

forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

HERE, ONLY THE PRIEST STANDS:

(IF NO PRIEST IS PRESENT, PROCEED TO THE COLLECT OF THE DAY)

Priest. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

People. And grant us thy salvation.

Priest. O Lord, save the King;

People. And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Priest. Endue thy Ministers with righteousness;

People. And make thy chosen people joyful.

Priest. O Lord, save thy people;

People. And bless thine inheritance.

Priest. Give peace in our time, O Lord;

People. And evermore mightily defend us.

Priest. O God, make clean our hearts within us;

People. And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

HERE, ALL KNEEL:

THE COLLECTS OF THE DAY (p. 115):

Minister. ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us thy only begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and as at this time to be born of a pure Virgin: Grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

People. Amen.

Minister. O IMMORTAL Lord God, who inhabitest eternity, and hast brought thy servants to the beginning of another year: Pardon, we humbly beseech thee, our transgressions in the past, bless to us this New Year, and graciously abide with us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *People.* Amen.

THE SECOND COLLECT, FOR PEACE (pp. 23-24):

Minister. O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace

which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. *People. Amen.*

THE THIRD COLLECT, FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS (p. 24):

Minister. LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. *People. Amen.*

THE TRADITIONAL DISMISSAL:

Minister. O Lord, hear our prayer.

People. And let our cry come unto thee.

Minister. Let us bless the Lord.

People. Thanks be to God.

Minister. ☩ May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.