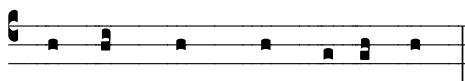


Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary

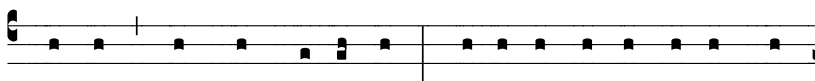


8 September

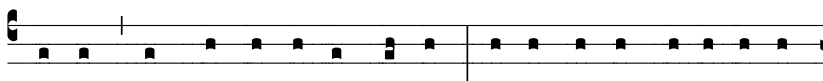
First Evensong: p. 3
Mattins: p. 10
Second Evensong: p. 18



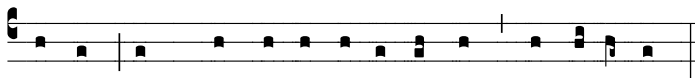
O God, make speed to save us



O Lord, make haste to help us. Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to



the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spi-rit. As it was in the be-gin-ning,

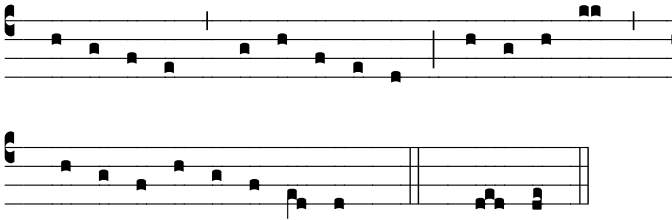


is now, and shall be for e-ver. Amen. Al-le-lu-ia.

FIRST EVENSONG

HYMN

I



- 1 Child who shall be
the mother of Christ,
joy at your birth
fills all the waiting creation.
- 2 Like the fair dawn
that promises day,
nearness of Christ
shines in the time of your coming.
- 3 You shall rejoice
your spirit exult,
you shall see God
flesh of your pure flesh assuming. Amen.

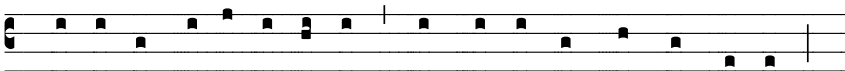
West Malling Abbey

Psalm 122

Laetatus sum

VIIc

G



To-day is the na-ti-vi-ty * of the bless-ed Vir-gin Ma-ry



whose glo-ri-ous life sheds light up-on all the churches.

- r1 I was glad w^hén they sáid to me, *
 "Let us go to the hóuse of thé Lórd."
- 2 Now our feet are standing *
 within your gátes, O Jerúsalem.
- 3 Jerusalem is built as a city *
 that is at únity with itself.
- 4 To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lórd, * †
 the assembly of Israel, to praise the náme óf the Lórd.
- 5 For there are the thrones of judgement, *
 the thrones of the hóuse of Dávid.
- 6 Pray for the péace of Jerúsalem: *
 "May they prósper who lóve you.
- 7 Peace be withín your walls *
 and quietness withín your tówers.
- 8 For my brethren and companions' sake, *
 I pray for yóur prospérité.
- 9 Because of the hóuse of the Lórd our God, *
 I will séeek to dó you good."

Psalm 127

Nisi Dominus

VIIIg

D



The birth of the bless-ed Vir-gin Ma - ry, * of the seed of Ab-ra - ham



ri - sing from the tribe of Ju- dah, and of the stock of Da-vid.



- 1 Unless the Lord builds thê house, *
their labour is in vâin who búild it.
- 2 Unless the Lord watches over the city, *
in vain the watchman kéeps his vígil.
- 3 It is in vain that you rise so early and gó to béd so late; *
vain, too, to eat the bread of toil,
for he gives to hís belóvèd sleep.
- 4 Children are a heritage from thê Lord, *
and the fruit of the wómb ís a gift.
- 5 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior *
are the children óf one's youth.
- 6 Happy is the man who has his quíver fúll of them! *
he shall not be put to shame
when he contends with his enemies ín the gate.

Psalm 132

VIIIg

D

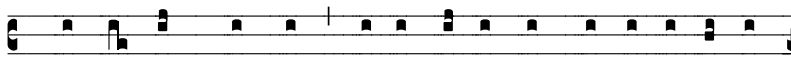
With heart and spi- rit * let us sing prai- ses to Christ, on this

ho - ly fes-ti- val of Ma - - - ry, the ex-alt-ed Moth - er of God.

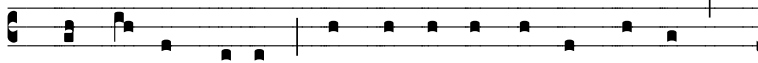
- 1 Lord, remémber Dávid *
and all the hárds hips hé endured;
- 2 How he swore an oath to the Lôrd *
and vowed a vow to the Mighty Óne of Jácob:
- 3 "I will not come under the roof of my house, *
nor climb úp into my bed;
- 4 I will not allow my eyes tó sleep, * †
nor let my éyelids slumber;

- 5 Until I find a place for the Lord, *
a dwelling for the Mighty Óne of Jácob.”
- 6 “The Ark! We heard it wás in Éphratha; *
we found it in the fíelds of Jéarim.
- 7 Let us gó to God’s dwélling place; *
let us fall upon our knees befóre his fóotstool.”
- 8 Arise, O Lord, into your résting-place, *
you and the ár^k of yóur strength.
- 9 Let your priests be clóthed with ríghteousness; *
let your faithful péople síng with joy.
- 10 For your sérvant Dávid’s sake, *
do not turn away the face of yóur anóinted.
- 11 The Lord has sworn an óath to Dávid; *
in truth, he wíll not bréak it:
- 12 “A son, the frúit of your bód^y *
will I sét upón your throne.
- 13 If your children keep my covenant
and my testimonies that Í shall téach them, *
their children will sit upon your thróne for évermore.”
- 14 For the Lord has chósen Zíon, *
he has desired her for his hábitátion:
- 15 “This shall be my resting-pláce for éver; *
here will I dwell, for Í delíght in her.
- 16 I will surely bléss her provísions, *
and satisfy her póor with bread.
- 17 I will clothe her priests with salvátion, *
and her faithful people wíll rejóice and sing.
- 18 There will I make the horn of Dávid flóurish; *
I have prepared a lamp for mý anóinted.
- 19 As for his enemies, I will clóthe thém with shame; *
but as for hím, his crówn will shine.”

G



With joy and glad-ness * let us ce -le-brate the Na -ti- vi - ty



of bless-ed Ma-ry: that she may in-ter-cede for us



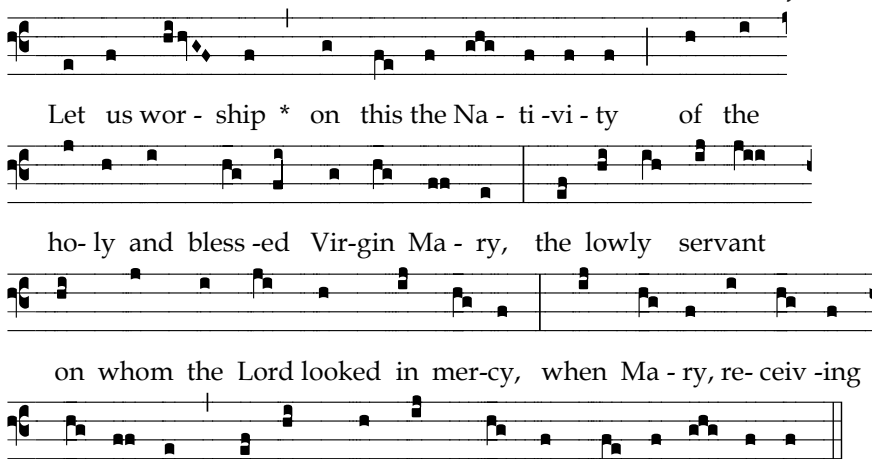
with Je-sus Christ our Lord.

- 1 Let us give thánks to the Fáther *
who has enabled us to share the inheritance óf the sáints in light.
- 2 He has delivered us from the domínion of dárkness *
and transferred us to the kingdom of hís belóved Son.
- 3 In him we have redemption,
we have the forgíveness óf our sins; *
he is the image of the invisible God;
he is the first-born of áll création.
- 4 For in him all things were created, bóth in héaven and earth *
all things whether visible ór invísible.
- 5 All things were created thróugh him and fór him *
he is before all things, and in him all things hóld together.
- 6 He is the head of the body, thê Church †
he ís its beginning *
the first-born from the dead pre-éminent óver all.
- 7 For in him all the fulness of Gód was pleásed to dwell *
and through him God chose to reconcile áll things tó himself.
- 8 Through his belovêd Son, †
God has reconciled all things in héaven and earth: *
by the blood of the Cross he has made éverlásting peace.

Magnificat

C

f

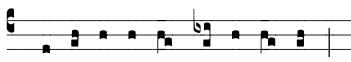


the an - gel, conceived the world's re - deem - er, al - le - lu - ia.



Solemn Intonation

I & VI



My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lôrd, †
my spirit rejoices **in** Gód my Sáviour *
for he has looked with favour on his lówly sérvant.

From this day all generations **will** cáll me bléssed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and hóly is his name.

He has mercy **on** thóse who féar him *
in every génerátion.

He has shown **the** stréngth of hís arm, *
he has scattered the próud in théir conceit.

He has cast down **the** míghty fróm their thrones, *
and has lifted úp the lówly.

He has filled the **hú**ngry with góod things, *
and the rich he has sént away éempty.

He has come to the help of **his** sérvant Ísrael, *
for he has remembered his prómise of mércy,

the promise he **má**de to our fáthers, *
to Abraham and his chíldren for éver.

MATTINS

O Lord, open our lips,
And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Alleluia.

Invitatory Antiphon:

Let us celebrate the birth of Mary, and worship Christ her Son

Psalms 100

Antiphon

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.
Know this: The Lord himself is God;
he himself has made us and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Antiphon

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and call upon his name.
For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting;
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

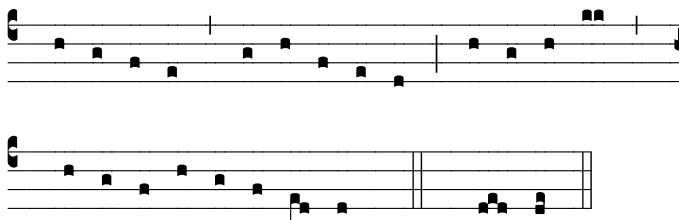
Antiphon

Glory ...

Antiphon

HYMN

I



- 1 Child who shall be
the mother of Christ,
joy at your birth
fills all the waiting creation.
- 2 Like the fair dawn
that promises day,
nearness of Christ
shines in the time of your coming.
- 3 You shall rejoice
your spirit exult,
you shall see God
flesh of your pure flesh assuming. Amen.

West Malling Abbey

Psalm 72 *Deus, judicium*

VIIc

G



To-day is the na- ti- vi - ty * of the bless-ed Vir-gin Ma-ry



whose glo-ri- ous life sheds light up-on all the churches.

- 1 Give the king your jústice, Ó God, *
and your righteousness tó the kíng's son;
- 2 That he may rule your péople ríghteously *
and the póor with jústice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity tó the péople, *
and the little hílls bring ríghteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy amóing the péople; *
he shall rescue the poor and crúsh the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sún and móon endure, *
from one generation tó anóther.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upón the mówn field, *
like showers that wáter the eáth.
- 7 In his time shall the ríghteous flóurish; *
there shall be abundance of peace
till the móon shall bé no more.
- 8 He shall rúle from séa to sea, *
and from the River to the ends of the earth.
- 9 His foes shall bow dówn befóre him, *
and his enemies líck the dust.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles sháll pay tríbute, *
and the kings of Arabia and Sába offer gifts.
- 11 All kings shall bow dówn befóre him, *
and all the nations dó him sérvice.
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who críes out ín distress, *
and the oppressed who hás no hélper.
- 13 He shall have pity on the lówly and poor; *
he shall preserve the líves of the néedy.
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and víolence, *
and dear shall their blóod be ín his sight.

- 15 Long may hê live! †
and may there be given to him góld from Arábia; *
may prayer be made for him always,
and may they bless him áll the dáy long.
- 16 May there be abundance of grain on thê earth,
growing thick even ón the hílltops; *
may its fruit flourish like Lebanon,
and its grain like gráss upón the earth.
- 17 May his name remain for evêr †
and be established as lóng as the sún endures; *
may all the nations bless themselves in him and cáll him bléssèd.
- 18 Blessèd be the Lord God, the Gód of Ísrael, *
who alóne does wóndrous deeds!
- 19 And bléssèd be his glorious náme for éver! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glóry. Ámen. Ámen.

Psalm 87

Fundamenta ejus

VIIIg

D



The birth of the bless-ed Vir-gin Ma - ry, * of the seed of Ab-ra - ham



ri- sing from the tribe of Ju- dah, and of the stock of Da-vid.



- 1 On the holy mountain stands the city hé has fóunded; *
the Lord loves the gates of Zion
more than all the dwéllings of Jácob.

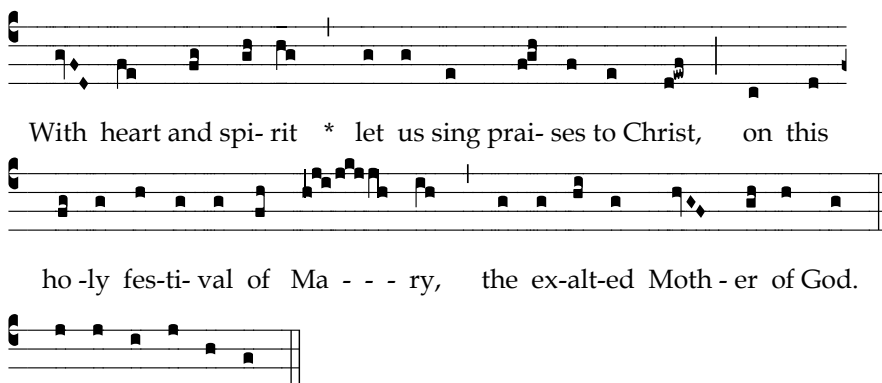
- 2 Glorious things are spóken óf you, *
O cíty óf our God.

- 3 I count Egypt and Babylon among those who know me; *
 behold Philistia, Tyre and Ethiopia:
in Zíon wére they born.
- 4 Of Zion it shall be said, "Everyóne was bórn in her, *
 and the Most High himself shall sustáin her."
- 5 The Lord will record as he enróls the péoples, *
 "These álsó were bórn there."
- 6 The singers and the dáncers wíll say, *
 "All my fresh spríngs are ín you."

Psalm 148 Laudate Dominum

VIIIg

D



- 1 Hallelujah!
 Praise the Lord from the heavens; *
 práise him ín the heights.
- 2 Praise him, all you angels of his; *
 práise him, áll his host.
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon; *
 praise him, áll you shíning stars.
- 4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, *
 and you waters abóve the héavens.
- 5 Let them praise the náme óf the Lord; *
 for he commanded and they wére créated.

- 6 He made them stand fast for éver and éver; *
he gave them a law which sháll not páss away.
- 7 Praise the Lord from the earth, *
you sea-mónsters and áll deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, *
tempestuous wind, dóing hís will;
- 9 Mountains and all hills, *
fruit trées and all céders;
- 10 Wild beasts and all cattle, *
creeping thíngs and wíngèd birds;
- 11 Kings of the éarth and all péoples, *
princes and all rúlers óf the world;
- 12 Yóung men and máidens, *
old and yóung togéther.
- 13 Let them praise the name of the Lôrd, * †
for his name only ís exálted,
his splendour is óver éarth and heaven.
- 14 He has raised up strength for his peoplê †
and praise for all his lóyal sérvants, *
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.
Hállélújah!

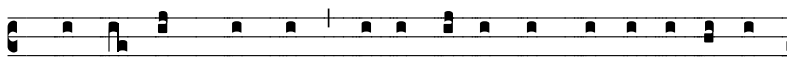
Canticle

Gaudens gaudebo

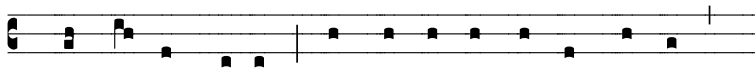
Isaiah 61.10-62.3

G

VIIc



With joy and glad-ness * let us ce-le-brate the Na-ti-vi-ty



of bless-ed Ma-ry: that she may in-ter-cede for us



with Je-sus Christ our Lord.

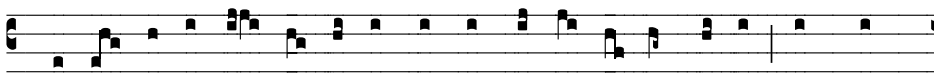
- 1 I will greatly rejoice in the Lord *
my soul shall exult in my God.
- 2 For he has clothed me in the garments of salvation *
he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity.
- 3 As a bridegroom decks himself with a garland *
and as a bride adorns herself with jewels.
- 4 For as the earth puts forth her blossom; *
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
- 5 so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise *
to spring forth before all the nations.
- 6 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent *
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest;
- 7 until her integrity shines out like the dawn, *
and her salvation like a blazing torch.
- 8 The nations will see your vindication *
and all the kings your glory.
- 9 Then you shall be called by a new name *
which the mouth of the Lord will give.
- 10 You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord *
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

READING

Benedictus

Nativitas est hodie (AS 523)

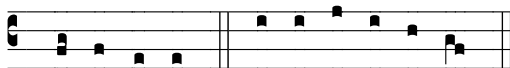
VIIa



To day is the na - ti - vi - ty * of the Ho - ly Vir - gin Ma - ry, in whose



beauty the Lord God de - lighted; and he looked with favour on his



lowly servant.

Blessed be the Lord, **the** Gód of Ísrael; *
he has come to his péople and sét them free.

He has raised up for us **a** míghty Sáviour, *
born of the house of his sérvant Dávid.

Through his holy prophets he promised of ôld, †
that he would save **us** fróm our énemies, *
from the hands of áll who háte us.

He promised to show **mercy** tó our fáthers *
and to remember his hóly cóvenant.

This was the oath he swore to **our** fáther Ábraham, *
to set us free from the hánds of our énemies,

free to wor**ship** hím withóut fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight all the dáy of óur life.

You, my child, shall be called the **prophet** óf the Móst High, *
for you will go before the Lórd to prepáre his way,

to give his people know**ledge** óf salvátió *
by the forgíveness óf their sins.

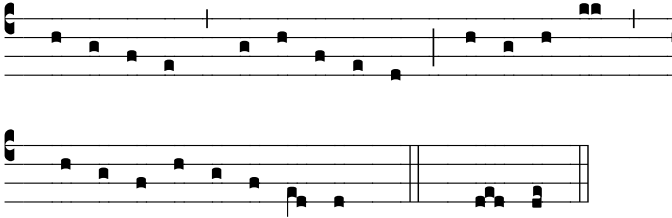
In the tender **compássi**on óf our God *
the dawn from on high shall bréak upón us,

to shine on those who dwell in darkness and **the** shádw
óf death, *
and to guide our feet intó the wáy of peace.

SECOND EVENSONG

HYMN

I



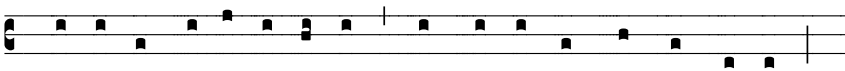
- 1 Child who shall be
the mother of Christ,
joy at your birth
fills all the waiting creation.
- 2 Like the fair dawn
that promises day,
nearness of Christ
shines in the time of your coming.
- 3 You shall rejoice
your spirit exult,
you shall see God
flesh of your pure flesh assuming. Amen.

West Malling Abbey

Psalm 113
G

Laudate, pueri

VIIc



To-day is the na-ti-vi-ty * of the bless-ed Vir-gin Ma-ry



whose glo-ri-ous life sheds light up-on all the churches.

- 1 Hallelujah!
Give praise, you sérvants óf the Lord; *
praise the náme of thé Lord.
- 2 Let the náme of the Lórd be blessed, *
from this time fóρθ for évermore.
- 3 From the rising of the sún to its góing down *
let the náme of the Lórd be praised.
- 4 The Lord is high abóve all nátions, *
and his glory abóve the héavens.
- 5 Who is like the Lord our God, who síts enthronéd on high, *
but stoops to behold the héavens ánd the earth?
- 6 He takes up the wéak out óf the dust *
and lifts up the póor from the áshes.
- 7 He sets them with the prínces, *
with the prínces of his péople.
- 8 He makes the woman óf a chíldless house *
to be a joyfúl móther of chíldren.

Psalm 128

Beati omnes

VIIIg

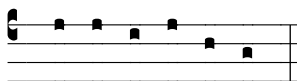
D



The birth of the bless-ed Vir-gin Ma - ry, * of the seed of Ab-ra - ham



ri - sing from the tribe of Ju- dah, and of the stock of Da-vid.



- 1 Happy are they áll who féar the Lord, *
and who fóllow ín his ways!
- 2 You shall eat the frúit of your lábour; *
happiness and prosperity sháll be yours.
- 3 Your wife shall be like a fruitful vîne withín your house, *
your children like olive shoots round about your táble.
- 4 The mán who féars the Lord *
shall thús indéed be blessed.
- 5 The Lord bléss you from Zíon, *
and may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the dáys of yóur life.
- 6 May you live to see your children's chídren; *
may peace bé upon Ísrael.

Psalm 147 Laudate Dominum

VIIIg

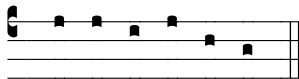
D



With heart and spi-rit * let us sing prai-ses to Christ, on this



ho-ly fes-ti-val of Ma - - ry, the ex-alt-ed Moth - er of God.



- 1 Hallelujah!
How good it is to sing práises tó our God! *
how pleasant it is to hónour hím with praise!
- 2 The Lord rebúilds Jerúsalem; *
he gathers the éxiles of Ísrael.
- 3 He heals the brókenhéarted *
and bínds up théir wounds.

- 4 He counts the númer óf the stars *
and calls them áll by théir names.
- 5 Great is our Lord and míghty in pówer; *
there is no limit tó his wísdóm.
- 6 The Lord lifts úp the lówly, *
but casts the wícked tó the ground.
- 7 Sing to the Lórd with thanksgíving; *
make music to our Gód upón the harp.
- 8 He cówers the héavens with clouds *
and prepares ráin for thé earth;
- 9 He makes grass to grow upón the móuntains *
and green plánts to sérve mankind.
- 10 He provides fód for flócks and herds *
and for the young rávens whén they cry.
- 11 He is not impressed by the míght óf a horse, *
he has no pleasure in the stréngth of á man;
- 12 But the Lord has pleasure in thóse who féar him, *
in those who await his grácíous fávor.
- 13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusálem; * †
praise your Gód, O Zíon;
- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your chíldren wíthín you.
- 15 He has established péace on your bórders; *
he satisfies you wíth the fínest wheat.
- 16 He sends out his commánd tó the earth, *
and his word runs véry swíftly.
- 17 He gives snow líke wool; *
he scatters hóarfrost líke áshes.
- 18 He scatters his hail líke bread crumbs; *
who can stánd agáinst his cold?
- 19 He sends forth his wórd and mélts them; *

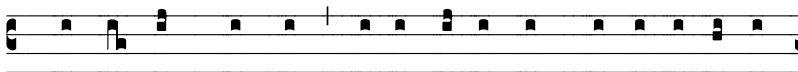
he blows with his wínd and the wáters flow.

20 He declares his wórd to Jácob, *
his statutes and his júdgements to Ísrael.

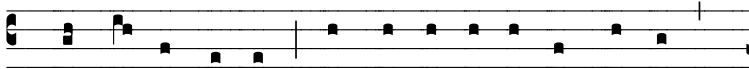
21 He has not done so to any óther nátion; *
to them he has not revealed his judgements.
Hállélújah!

Canticle Ephesians 3.1-10
G

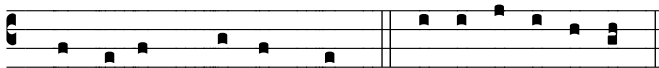
VIIc



With joy and glad-ness * let us ce-le-brate the Na-ti-vi-ty



of bless-ed Ma-ry: that she may in-ter-cede for us



with Je-sus Christ our Lord.

1 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lórd Jésus Christ *
who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing
in the héavenly pláces.

2 He chose us in him before the foundation of the wôrld * †
that we should be holy and blámeless befóre him.

3 He predestined us in love *
to be adopted as his chıldren through Jésus Christ.

4 According to the purpose of hís will, †
to the práise of his glórious grace *
which he freely bestowed on us ín the Belóvèd.

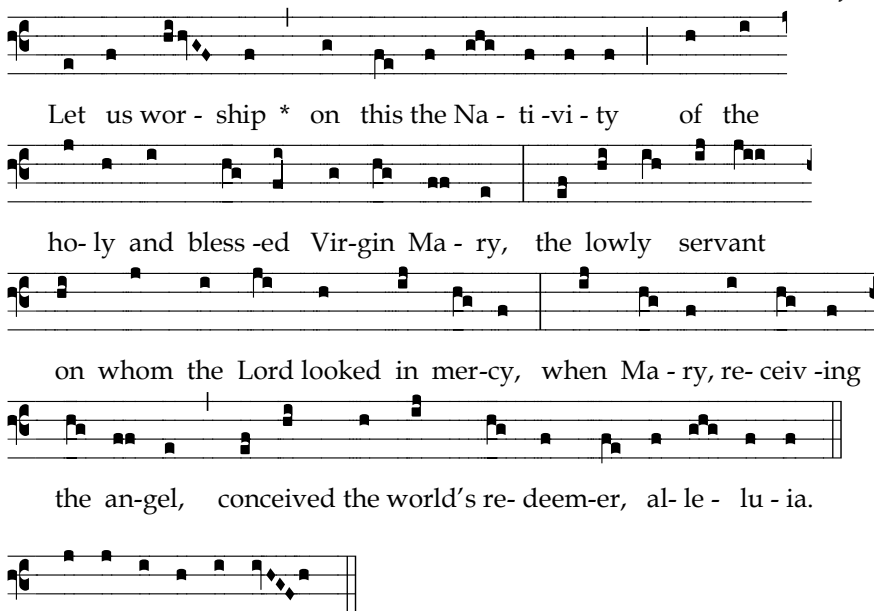
5 In him we have redemption through his blood,
the forgiveness óf our tréspasses, *
according to the riches of his grace, which he lávished upón us.

- 6 He has made known to us, in all wisdom and insight, *
the mystery of his will according to his purpose
which hé set fórch in Christ:
- 7 a plan for the fulness of time,
to uníte all things in him *
things in héavenen and thínks on earth.

READING

Magnificat

C *1^o*



Let us wor - ship * on this the Na - ti - vi - ty of the
ho - ly and bless - ed Vir - gin Ma - ry, the lowly servant
on whom the Lord looked in mer - cy, when Ma - ry, re - ceiv - ing
the an - gel, conceived the world's re - deem - er, al - le - lu - ia.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lôrd, †
my spirit rejoices **in** Gód my Sáviour *
for he has looked with favour on his lówly sérvant.

From this day all generations **will** cáll me bléssed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and hóly ís his name.

He has mercy **on** thóse who féar him *
in every génération.

He has shown **the** stréngth of hís arm, *
he has scattered the pród in théir conceit.

He has cast down **the** míghty fróm their thrones, *
and has lifted úp the lówly.

He has filled the **hú**ngry with góod things, *
and the rich he has sént away éempty.

He has come to the help of **his** sérvant Ísrael, *
for he has remembered his prómise of mércy,

the promise he **má**de to our fáthers, *
to Abraham and his chíldren for éver.