

ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

March 25, 2025

Year C, Revised Common Lectionary

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Table of Contents

- [All Texts, Psalm in Poem Format, with Black and White Art Image](#) [pg. 2-3]
- [Compact Double Column All Texts](#) [pg. 4]
- [Compact Triple Column All Texts](#) [pg. 5]
- [All Texts, Large Font](#) [pgs. 6-12]
- [All Texts, Half Page Format](#) [pg. 13]
- [All Texts, Front and Back Format \(printer dependent\)](#) [pg. 14-15]

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*ANNUNCIATION OF THE ANGEL TO MARY
(Unknown Artist) Artworks by Negro Artists,
Harmon Collection, compiled 1922-1967.*

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Psalm 45

- ✘ My heart overflows with a goodly theme; I address my verses to the king; my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.
- ✘ You are the most handsome of men; grace is poured upon your lips; therefore God has blessed you forever.
- ✘ Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one, in your glory and majesty.
- ✘ In your majesty ride on victoriously for the cause of truth and to defend the right;
- ✘ let your right hand teach you dread deeds.
- ✘ Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the king's enemies; the peoples fall under you. Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever.

- ✘ Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity; you love righteousness and hate wickedness.
- ✘ Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;
- ✘ your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.
- ✘ From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad;
- ✘ daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor; at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.
- ✘ Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear;
- ✘ forget your people and your father's house, and the king will desire your beauty.
- ✘ Since he is your LORD, bow to him;
- ✘ Daughter Tyre will seek your favor with gifts, the richest of the people with all kinds of wealth.
- ✘ The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes;
- ✘ in many-colored robes she is led to the king; behind her the virgins, her companions, follow.
- ✘ With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.
- ✘ In the place of ancestors you, O king, shall have sons; you will make them princes in all the earth.
- ✘ I will cause your name to be celebrated in all generations; therefore the peoples will praise you forever and ever.

Psalm 40:5-10

- ✘ You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you.
- ✘ Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted.
- ✘ Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear.
- ✘ Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.
- ✘ Then I said, "Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.
- ✘ I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."
- ✘ I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see,
- ✘ I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD.
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Year C, Revised Common Lectionary

Isaiah 7:10-14 Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, “Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” Then Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? Therefore the LORD himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel.

Psalms 45 My heart overflows with a goodly theme; I address my verses to the king; my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe. You are the most handsome of men; grace is poured upon your lips; therefore God has blessed you forever. Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one, in your glory and majesty. In your majesty ride on victoriously for the cause of truth and to defend the right; let your right hand teach you dread deeds. Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the king’s enemies; the peoples fall under you. Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever. Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity; you love righteousness and hate wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions; your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia. From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad; daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor; at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir. Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear; forget your people and your father’s house, and the king will desire your beauty. Since he is your LORD, bow to him; Daughter Tyre will seek your favor with gifts, the richest of the people with all kinds of wealth. The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes; in many-colored robes she is led to the king; behind her the virgins, her companions, follow. With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king. In the place of ancestors you, O king, shall have sons; you will make them princes in all the earth. I will cause your name to be celebrated in all generations; therefore the peoples will praise you forever and ever.

Psalms 40:5-10 *You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you. Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted. Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required. Then I said, “Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me. I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.” I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD. I have not hidden your saving help within my heart; I*

have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.

Hebrews 10:4-10 For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, ‘See, I have come to do your will, O God’ (in the scroll of the book it is written of me).” When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Luke 1:26-38 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

Texts in italics: complementary to standard reading, may be used with or in place of it.

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