

advent *antiphons*

O wisdom

O adonai

O root of jesse

O key of david

O radiant dawn

O ruler of nations

O emmanuel



Dominican Sisters
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Emboldened by faith, serving with joy

*As Advent progresses toward Christmas,
the prayers of the Church become more intense,
calling the Lord to come.*

*Daily, from December 17 until December 23,
special prayers called the “O” Antiphons are offered.
Each one highlights a title for the Messiah.*

*O Wisdom
O Adonai
O Root of Jesse
O Key of David
O Radiant Dawn
O Ruler of Nations
O Emmanuel*

*May we experience ever more deeply
the unfolding mystery of Love Incarnate.*

PROCESSIONAL

My Soul in Stillness

Refrain



For you, O Lord, my soul in still - ness
waits, tru - ly my hope is in you.

Verses



1. O Lord of Light, our on - ly hope of
2. O Spring of Joy, rain down up - on our
3. O Root of Life, im - plant your seed with -
4. O Key of Knowl - edge, guide us in our
5. Come, let us bow be - fore the God who
6. Here we shall meet the Mak - er of the



glo - ry, your ra - diance shines in all who look to
spir - its, our thirst - y hearts are yearn - ing for your
in us, and in your ad - vent, draw us all to
pil - grim - age, we ev - er seek, yet un - ful - filled re -
made us, let ev - 'ry heart be o - pened to the
heav - ens, Cre - a - tor of the moun - tains and the



you, come, light the hearts of all in dark and
Word, come, make us whole, be com - fort to our
you, our hope re - born in dy - ing and in
main, o - pen to us the path - way of your
Lord, for we are all the peo - ple of his
seas, Lord of the stars, and pres - ent to us



D.C.
shad - ow.
hearts.
ris - ing.
peace.
hand.
now.

Text: Psalm 95 and “O” Antiphons: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Tune: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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CALL TO WORSHIP

*Presider: Rejoice with song, all people,
for God’s singing fills the heavens and the earth.*

**ALL: Let it be known in all the nations
God is our strength and our song.**

Presider: God gathers us together for joy, to renew us in love.

**ALL: Let us prepare the way of the Lord,
and make straight the path of God.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE PROPHECIES

All are seated, with candles still burning.

REFRAIN:

A musical staff in G major (one sharp) with a treble clef. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The lyrics "The Lord, our God is come; has - ten to a - dore! ___" are written below the staff, with hyphens under "has - ten" and "a - dore!".

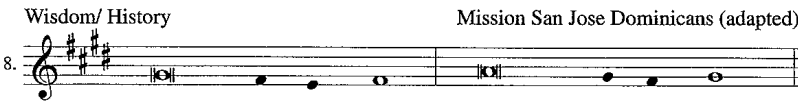
The Lord, our God is come; has - ten to a - dore! ___

PROPHECIES

- I Rejoice, O daughter of Sion, and exult, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold the Lord shall come, and in that day there shall be a great light
and the mountains shall bring forth sweetness,
and the hills shall flow with milk and honey;
for a great prophet is coming, and He will renovate Jerusalem.
- II Behold the One who is God and human
shall come forth from the house of David, His ancestor, to sit upon the throne,
and you shall see Him, and your heart will rejoice.
- III Behold the Lord shall come, our Protector, the Holy One of Israel,
bearing on His head the crown of a kindom;
and He will rule from sea unto sea,
and from the river to the utmost bounds of the earth.
- IV Behold, the Lord shall appear, and the vision will not deceive;
if that delays, wait for it, for He will come, and will not fail.
- V The Lord will descend as rain on the field;
in those days shall rise justice and an abundance of peace;
and all the rulers of the earth shall adore,
all nations serve Him.
- VI A Child shall be born to us, and He shall be called the God of strength;
Who will sit on the throne of David, His ancestor,
and He will rule; in whose hand is all power.
- VII Bethlehem, city of the highest God,
out from you shall go forth the Ruler of Israel;
whose going forth will be as from the beginning of the eternal days,
and He shall be praised in the midst of the universe,
and peace shall be on earth when He has come.

December 17: O WISDOM

PSALM 139: 13-24



ANTIPHON: O Wisdom of our God Most High/
guiding creation with power and love,
come to teach us the path of truth and knowledge.

It was you who created my inner self,
who fashioned me in my mother’s womb.
I give you thanks for this wondrous life;
all your works are wonderful.

You know me through and through.
When I was made in secret,
carefully woven in the depths of the earth,
never hidden from your view.

Your eyes observed my smallest growth,
and all was written in your book.
Each day was formed
before it came to be.

So precious are your thoughts, O God,
and so vast is their sum.
Were I to count them, I would never end;
like sands of the sea, they cannot be numbered.

Search me, O God, and know my heart;
probe me and know my thoughts.
See if my way is not pure,
and guide me along the ancient path.

DOXOLOGY Glory to you, Source of All Being,
Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit,
who dwells in our midst
both now and forever. Amen.

ANTIPHON

December 18: O ADONAI

PSALM 141: 1-9



ANTIPHON: O God, Adonai,/ O Leader of the House of Israel,
come to your people and rule with justice!

O Lord, come to my aid:
listen when I call.
Let my prayer rise to you like incense;
my uplifted hands like an evening offering.

Be guardian of my lips, O God;
watch over the words I speak.
Turn my heart from all that is evil,
from paths that lead to sin.

Let me not be drawn to the company of sinners.
Let the just guide my ways;
Let their reproof be as a blessing.
I pray always against what is evil.

When their rulers fall down in corruption,
they will remember my prayers.
Like dried, broken earth,
so will their bones be scattered.

My eyes are fixed on you, O God, Adonai;
in you I take refuge; save me from death.
Guard me from the trap they have set;
from the snares of every evil.
Let the wicked fall into their nets
while I escape to safety.

DOXOLOGY Glory to you, Source of All Being,
Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit,
who dwells in our midst
both now and forever. Amen.

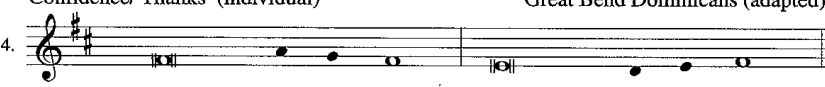
ANTIPHON

December 19: O FLOWER OF JESSE

PSALM 144: 9-15

Confidence/ Thanks (individual)

Great Bend Dominicans (adapted)

4.

ANTIPHON: O Root of Jesse,/ flower of God's love:
come and refresh us with the fragrance of your glory!

To you, O God, I will sing a new song
and play on the ten-stringed harp;
to you, who give victory to rulers
and deliver your servant David.

Save me from the sword,
deliver me from the grasp of the foe
whose hands are raised for an oath
and who speaks what is false.

May our sons be like saplings,
nurtured from their youth;
our daughters like columns,
supports of the temple.

May our barns be filled,
rich with the harvest;
may our flocks be fruitful
and our cattle well fed.

May our walls be strong,
and our streets free of tears.
Happy the people for whom this is so;
happy the people whose God is the Lord.

DOXOLOGY

Glory to you, Source of All Being,
Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit,
who dwells in our midst
both now and forever. Amen.

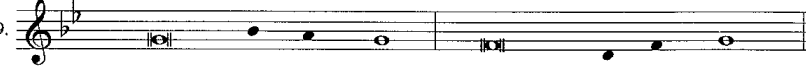
ANTIPHON

December 20: O KEY OF DAVID

PSALM 24

Prophetic exhortation/ Liturgies

Mission San Jose Dominicans (adapted)

9.

ANTIPHON: O Key of David/ opening the gates of God's eternal realm,
come free the prisoners of darkness!

The earth and all that it holds,
the world and all creation are of God,
who set it upon the waters
and fixed it in the deep.

Who shall ascend the mountain of our God?
Who shall stand in that holy place?
Those whose hands are clean, whose hearts are pure,
who speak what is true.

They will receive rich blessings,
a just reward from their saving God.
They are a people who seek,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Be lifted high, O gates!
Rise up ancient doors,/
that the glorious one may enter!

Who is this glorious one?
The Lord, strong and mighty,/
the Lord, mighty in battle.

Be lifted high, O gates!
Rise up ancient doors,/
that the glorious one may enter!

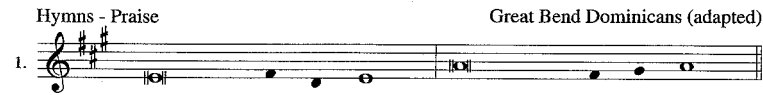
Who is this glorious one?
Our God Sabaoth,/ the glorious one.

DOXOLOGY

Glory to you, Source of All Being,
Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit,
who dwells in our midst
both now and forever. Amen.

ANTIPHON

December 21: **O RADIANT DAWN**
PSALM 145: 1-13b



ANTIPHON: O Radiant Dawn,/ splendor of eternal light,/sun of justice,
come and shine on those who dwell in darkness,/and brighten our hearts with your love!

I will exalt you, my God and sovereign;
forever I will bless your name.
Day after day I will bless you
and praise your name forever.

Great is our God and deserving of praise,
with grandeur beyond our ken.
Each generation sings your praise,
proclaiming your deeds to their children.

They tell of your endless glory
while I ponder your wondrous deeds.
They speak of your awesome power,
as I declare your greatness.
They recount your great goodness to all,
as I sing of your justice.

Gracious and merciful is the Lord,
slow to anger and filled with love.
God is good to all creation
and compassionate in every deed.

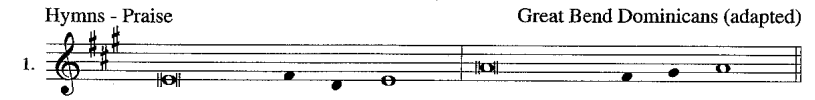
All your works give you thanks, O Lord,
and all your faithful bless you.
They tell of the glory of your reign
and proclaim your power.

They announce your ways to the peoples
and tell of your majesty.
Your reign is eternal, O God;
your dominion for all generations.

DOXOLOGY *page 6*

ANTIPHON

December 22: **O RULER OF ALL NATIONS**
PSALM 96



ANTIPHON: O Desire of Nations and Keystone of the Church,
come, O Promised One, and bring us peace!

Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to our God, all the earth.
Sing and bless God's name;
proclaim salvation day after day.
Tell of God's glory among the nations,
God's wondrous deeds among the peoples.

For you are great and worthy of praise,
revered above all gods.
Other gods are merely idols,
but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.
Honor and majesty are yours;
strength and beauty adorn your holy place.

Give to our God, all you peoples,
give to God glory and strength.
Give to God the glory due God's holy name;
bring gifts and enter the holy courts.
Bow down before the Holy One;
tremble, O earth, in God's presence.

Proclaim God's reign to the nations;
the world stands firm;/ it cannot be moved.
God judges the peoples with justice.
Let the heavens rejoice and the earth delight;
let the sea and all it holds thunder;
let the fields and all that grows be glad.

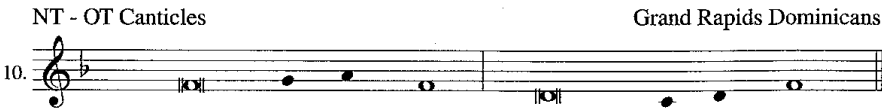
Then the trees of the forest will sing for joy
in the presence of our God, who comes,
Who comes to judge the earth, to judge the world with justice/
and the peoples with equity.

DOXOLOGY *page 6*

ANTIPHON

December 23: O EMMANUEL

CANTICLE: ISAIAH 2: 2-5



ANTIPHON: O Emmanuel, God-with-us,
come to save us!

In coming days/
the mountain of the Lord's house
will be established as the highest mountain
and raised above the hills;
all nations will stream toward it.

And many peoples will walk and say,
“Come, let us climb the mountain of God,
to the house of the God of our ancestors,
that we may be taught God’s ways/
and walk on paths that are holy.”
Instruction will go forth from Zion;
the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

God will judge between the nations
and arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
their spears into pruning hooks.
Nation will not lift up sword against nation,
never again will they train for war.

O house of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of our God.

DOXOLOGY Glory to you, Source of All Being,
Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit,
who dwells in our midst
both now and forever. Amen

ANTIPHON

READING

REFLECTION

GOSPEL CANTICLE/MAGNIFICAT

All rise.

- December 17

O Wisdom, O holy Word of God,
you govern creation with your strong yet tender care.
Come and show your people the way to salvation.
- December 18

O Sacred Lord of ancient Israel,
who showed yourself to Moses in the burning bush,
who gave him the holy law on Sinai mountain:
come, stretch out your mighty hand to set us free.
- December 19

O Flower of Jesse’s stem, you have been raised up as a sign for
all peoples; kings stand silent in your presence;
the nations bow in worship before you.
Come, let nothing keep you from coming to our aid.
- December 20

O Key of David, O royal pow’r of Israel,
controlling at your will the gate of heaven:
come, break down the prison walls of death
for those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death;
and lead your captive people into freedom.
- December 21

O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light,
O sun of justice:
come, shine on those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death.
- December 22

O King of all the nations, the only joy of every human heart;
O Keystone of the mighty arch of creation,
come and save those you fashioned from the dust.
- December 23

O Emmanuel, king and lawgiver, desire of the nations,
Savior of all people, come and set us free, O Lord our God.

MAGNIFICAT

God my Savior

Salve Mater Misericordiae
Adapted by Dan Schutte

Refrain

My soul pro - claims the great-ness of the Lord.

My spir - it sings of God who fills my heart. The Lord has

smiled up - on my low - li - ness. By hea-ven's grace I

car - ry in my flesh God, my Sav - ior.

Verses

1. Na - tions of the earth, in - deed, shall call me blest.
2. Bless - ed be the Lord, the God of Is - ra - el.
3. God will not for - get the prom - ise made of old

1. The might - y God has done great things for me.
2. whose love shall reach be - yond the bounds of time.
3. to Ab - ra - ham un - til the end of time.

1. The Lord has raised the low - ly from the dust;
2. The Lord has filled the hun - gry with good things,
3. The Lord re - stores the hope of Is - ra - el.

to Refrain

1. the kings of earth shall tum - ble from their thrones.
2. and sent the proud a - way with emp - ty hands.
3. Our eyes have seen the sav - ing hand of God.

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INTERCESSIONS

Response: Come, Lord Jesus!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING PRAYER & BLESSING

Presider: *May God who has begun an excellent work in us, see that it is completed when the day of Christ Jesus comes! To God be glory forever!*

ALL: **Amen!**

Presider: *Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!*

ALL: **Amen!**

Presider: *May your grace be with us all.*

ALL: **Amen!**

Presider: *Let us share a sign of Christ's peace.*

CLOSING SONG Christ Circle Round Us

1. Come, O Word of Truth, font of know - ledge from on high.
2. Come, O Might - y Lord, mas - ter of the stars of night.
3. Come, O Flow'r of Love, ho - ly branch of Jes - se's tree.
4. Come, O Gate of Hope, ho - ly door of heav-en's throne.
5. Come, O Ra - diant Dawn, splen - dor of the morn-ing light.
6. Come, Lord Je - sus Christ, long a - wait - ed Prince of Peace.
7. Come, E - man - u - el, cher - ished hope of Is - ra - el.

1. Come, Ho - ly Wis - dom, be our faith - ful friend and guide.
2. Come, Strength of Pil - grims, keep us in your lov - ing sight.
3. Come, Bough of Bless - ing, bloom for all the world to see.
4. Come, Key of Da - vid, o - pen wide the path - way home.
5. Come, Sun of Jus - tice, turn a - way the pow'r of night.
6. Come, Hope of 3. Na - tions, ev - er make our love in - crease.
7. Come, live a - mong us, ev - er in our hearts to dwell.

9 REFRAIN

Christ, cir - cle round us. Christ, may your light sur - round us.

Shine in our liv - ing. Fill our hearts with great thanks -

giv - ing.

Text based on Advent O Antiphons. Music adapt from chant, Salve Regina.
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About us

The Dominican Sisters ~ Grand Rapids are a community of vowed women religious and committed Associates who follow the Catholic traditions of St. Dominic and St. Catherine of Siena. Since 1877, we have taught children and ministered to the orphaned, partnered with nonprofit agencies and served in hospital ministries, social service agencies and hospice care. The Dominican Sisters continue to be engaged in meaningful ministry and advocacy work.

Visit grdominicans.org to learn more about the Dominican Sisters ~ Grand Rapids.

cover artwork

"Divine Love Flaring Forth to be Incarnated in Creation"

by †Sister Lisa Marie Lazio OP