

THE CANTICLES¹

1. Magnificat (Luke 1:46b-55 ESV)

My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.
For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
And his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;
he has brought down the mighty from their thrones
and exalted those of humble estate;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

2. Nunc Dimittis (Luke 2:29-32 ESV)

Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation
that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

¹ The standard contemporary texts of the *Magnificat*, *Nunc Dimittis*, *Te Deum laudamus*, the *Benedictus* and other liturgical texts can be found at <http://englishtexts.org/> and the ELLC's document [Praying Together](#).

3. Te Deum laudamus

(Edited text, from older version of The Book of Common Prayer)

We praise you, O God;
we acknowledge you to be the Lord.
All the earth worships you,
the Father everlasting.
To you all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the powers therein.
To you cherubim and seraphim continually do cry,
 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
 Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of your glory.
The glorious company of the apostles praise you.
The excellent fellowship of the prophets praise you.
The noble army of martyrs praise you.
The holy church throughout all the world acknowledges you:
 the Father of an infinite majesty,
 your adorable, true and only Son,
 also the Holy Spirit the Comforter.

You are the King of Glory, O Christ;
You are the everlasting Son of the Father.
When you took upon yourself to deliver man,
you humbled yourself to be born of a virgin.
When you overcame the sharpness of death,
you opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.
We believe that you will come to be our judge.
 We therefore pray, help your servants,
 whom you have redeemed with your precious blood.
 Make them to be numbered with your saints
 in glory everlasting.

O Lord, save your people, and bless your heritage.
 Govern them and lift them up forever.
Day by day we magnify you,
 and we worship your name, now and forever.
Preserve us, O Lord, this day, and keep us without sin.
 Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy on us.
O Lord, let your mercy be upon us, as our trust is in you.
 O Lord, in you have I trusted, let me never be put to shame.

4. Benedictus *(Luke 1:68-79 ESV)*

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has visited and redeemed his people
and has raised up a horn of salvation for us
in the house of his servant David,
as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
that we should be saved from our enemies
and from the hand of all who hate us;
to show the mercy promised to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant,
the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us
that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies,
might serve him without fear,
in holiness and righteousness before him
all our days.

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
to give knowledge of salvation to his people
in the forgiveness of their sins,
because of the tender mercy of our God,
whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

5. Benedicite, Omnia Opera

(The Song of the Three Children, 35-65 The Apocrypha, Lutheran Edition with notes, Catholic edition: Daniel 3:57-87 NRSV)

Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord,
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.

Bless the Lord, you angels of the Lord,
bless the Lord, you heavens.

Bless the Lord, all you waters above the heaven,
bless the Lord, all powers.

Bless the Lord, sun and moon,
bless the Lord, stars of heaven.

Bless the Lord, all rain and dew,
bless the Lord, all winds.

Bless the Lord, fire and heat,
bless the Lord, winter cold and summer heat.

Bless the Lord, dews and snows,
bless the Lord, ice and cold.

Bless the Lord, frosts and snows,
bless the Lord, nights and days.

Bless the Lord, light and darkness,
bless the Lord, lightnings and clouds.

Let the earth bless the Lord;
let it sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.

Bless the Lord, mountains and hills,
bless the Lord, all that grows on the earth.

Bless the Lord, you springs,
bless the Lord, seas and rivers.

Bless the Lord, you whales and all that swim in the waters,
bless the Lord, all birds of the air.

Bless the Lord, all beasts and cattle,
Bless the Lord, you sons of men.

Bless the Lord, O Israel;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.

Bless the Lord, you priests of the Lord,
bless the Lord, you servants of the Lord.

Bless the Lord, spirits and souls of the righteous,
Bless the Lord, you who are holy and humble in heart.

Bless the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.

6. Confiteor Tibi *(Isaiah 12:1-6 ESV)*

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away, that you might comfort me.
Behold, God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.
And you will say in that day:
Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.
Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known¹ in all the earth.
Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

7. Exultavit Cor Meum *(Samuel 2:1-4, 6-10 ESV)*

My heart exults in the LORD;
my horn is exalted in the LORD.
My mouth derides my enemies,
because I rejoice in your salvation.
There is none holy like the LORD: for there is none besides you;
there is no rock like our God.
Talk no more so very proudly,
let not arrogance come from your mouth;
for the LORD is a God of knowledge,
and by him actions are weighed.
The bows of the mighty are broken,
but the feeble bind on strength.
The Lord kills and brings to life;
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.
The Lord makes poor and makes rich;
he brings low and he exalts.
He raises up the poor from the dust;
he lifts the needy from the ash heap
to make them sit with princes

and inherit a seat of honor.
For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's,
and on them he has set the world.
He will guard the feet of his faithful ones,
but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness,
for not by might shall a man prevail.
The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces;
against them he will thunder in heaven.
The LORD will judge the ends of the earth;
he will give strength to his king
and exalt the horn of his anointed.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

8. Cantemus Domino *(Exodus 15:1-2, 6, 11, 13, 17 ESV)*

I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.
The LORD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation;
this is my God, and I will praise him,
my father's God, and I will exalt him.
Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power,
your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy.
Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods?
Who is like you, majestic in holiness,
awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?
You have led in your steadfast love the people whom you have redeemed;
you have guided them by your strength to your holy abode.
You will bring them in and plant them on your own mountain,
the place, O LORD, which you have made for your abode, the sanctuary, O Lord,
which your hands have established.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

9. Domine, audivi
(Habakkuk 3:2-6, 13, 19 ESV)

O LORD, I have heard the report of you,
and your work, O LORD, do I fear.
In the midst of the years make it known;
in wrath remember mercy.
God came from Teman,
and the Holy One from Mount Paran.
His splendor covered the heavens,
and the earth was full of his praise.
His brightness was like the light;
rays flashed from his hand; and there he veiled his power.
Before him went pestilence,
and plague followed at his heels.
He stood and measured the earth;
he looked and shook the nations;
then the eternal mountains were scattered;
the everlasting hills sank low. His were the everlasting ways.
You went out for the salvation of your people,
for the salvation of your anointed.
You crushed the head of the house of the wicked,
laying him bare from thigh to neck.
I will rejoice in the LORD;
I will take joy in the God of my salvation.
GOD, the Lord, is my strength;
he makes me tread on my high places.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

10. Audite, coeli
(Deuteronomy 32:1-4, 9, 36, 40, 43 ESV)

Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak,
and let the earth hear the words of my mouth.
May my teaching drop as the rain, my speech distill as the dew,
like gentle rain upon the tender grass, and like showers upon the herb.
For I will proclaim the name of the LORD;
ascribe greatness to our God!
The Rock, his work is perfect,
for all his ways are justice.
A God of faithfulness and without iniquity,
just and upright is he.
But the LORD's portion is his people,
Jacob his allotted heritage.

For the LORD will vindicate his people and have compassion on his servants,
when he sees that their power is gone and there is none remaining, bond or free.
For I lift up my hand to heaven
and swear, As I live forever,
Rejoice with him, O heavens; bow down to him, all gods,
for he avenges the blood of his children
and takes vengeance on his adversaries.
He repays those who hate him and cleanses his people's land.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

11. The Beatitudes *(Matthew 5:3-12 ESV)*

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons^{of} of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of
heaven.
Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil
against you falsely on my account.
Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the
prophets who were before you.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

12. Dignus Est Agnus *(Revelation 5:12-13b, 15:3b, 19:5b-6 ESV)*

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might
and honor and glory and blessing!
To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory
and might forever and ever!
Great and amazing are your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are your
ways, O King of the nations!
Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify your name? For you alone are holy.
Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, small and great.
Alleluia! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Alleluia, Alleluia! Amen.

This version of the Canticles is modified from the Canticles in *Common Service Book* (1917, 1918) with some elements from *The Lutheran Hymnal* (1941)

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Scriptures are from the *English Standard Version*.