

**INTRODUCTORY RITES**

**Opening Song: Sing We Now of Christmas G-495**

1 No wind at the window,  
no knock on the door;  
no light from the lampstand,  
no foot on the floor;  
no dream born of tiredness,  
no ghost raised by fear:  
just an angel and a woman  
and a voice in her ear.

2 "O Mary, O Mary,  
don't hide from my face.  
Be glad that you're favored  
and filled with God's grace.  
The time for redeeming  
the world has begun,  
and you are requested  
to mother God's Son."

3 This child must be born  
that the kingdom might come:  
salvation for many,  
destruction for some;  
both end and beginning,  
both message and sign;  
both victor and victim,  
both yours and divine.

4 No payment was promised,  
no promises made;  
no wedding was dated,  
no blueprint displayed.  
Yet Mary, consenting  
to what none could guess,  
replied with conviction,  
"Tell God I say yes."

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**First Reading:** Numbers 6:22-27

***Psalm 67: May God be gracious and bless us. (x2)***

*(Music: © 2024, Philip Jakob)*

**Second Reading:** Galatians 4:4-7

**Gospel Acclamation:** Celtic Alleluia

**Gospel:** Luke 2:16-21

**Homily**

### **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**Preparation of Gifts & Altar:** Hail, Holy Queen Enthroned Above **G-967**

1 Hail, holy Queen enthroned above; O Maria!  
Hail, mother of mercy and of love, O Maria!

Refrain:

Triumph, all ye cherubim;  
Sing with us, ye seraphim!  
Heav'n and earth resound the hymn:  
Salve, salve, salve, Regina!

2 Our life, our sweetness here below, O Maria!  
Our hope in sorrow and in woe, O Maria! [Refrain]

3 And when our life-breath leaves us, O Maria!  
Show us thy Son, Christ Jesus. O Maria! [Refrain]

**Eucharistic Acclamations:** Mass of Creation **G- 419, 420, 421**

### **COMMUNION RITE**

**Our Father**

**Lamb of God:** Mass of Creation

**Communion Song:** O Little Town of Bethlehem **G-482**

1 O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.

2 For Christ is born of Mary;  
and, gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together

proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to men on earth.

3 How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of His heav'n.  
No ear may hear His coming,  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive Him still,  
the dear Christ enters in.

4 O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in;  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels,  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel!

***Communion Song:* The God of All Eternity G-1088**

The God of all eternity,  
Unbound by space yet always near,  
Is present where his people meet  
To celebrate the coming year.

What shall we offer God today -  
Our dreams of what we cannot see,  
Or, with eyes fastened to the past,  
Our dread of what is yet to be?

God does not share our doubts or fears,  
Nor shrinks from the unknown or strange:  
The one who fashioned heaven and earth  
Makes all things new and ushers change.

Let faith or fortune rise or fall,  
Let dreams and dread both have their day;  
Those whom God loves walk unafraid  
With Christ their Guide and Christ their way.

God grant that we, in this new year,  
May show the world the Kingdom's face,  
And let our work and worship thrive  
As signs of hope and means of grace.

## CONCLUDING RITE

### ***Dismissal Chant:* Joy to the World G 471**

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King!  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of His righteousness  
and wonders of His love,  
and wonders of His love,  
and wonders, wonders of His love.

-OR-

### **O Come, Divine Messiah G-448**

1 O come, divine Messiah;  
The world in silence waits the day  
When hope shall sing its triumph  
And sadness flee away.

Refrain:

Dear Savior, haste! Come, come to earth.  
Dispel the night and show your face,  
and bid us hail the dawn of grace.  
O come, divine Messiah;  
the world in silence waits the day  
when hope shall sing its triumph  
and sadness flee away.

2 O Christ, whom nations sigh for,  
Whom priest and prophet long foretold,  
Come, break the captive's fetters,  
Redeem the long-lost fold. [Refrain]

3 You come in peace and meekness  
And lowly will your cradle be;  
All clothed in human weakness  
Shall we your Godhead see. [Refrain]

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