

THE VISITATION

(MAY 31)



ANGLICAN CHURCH
IN NORTH AMERICA



HOLY DAY

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, by whose grace Elizabeth rejoiced with the blessed Virgin Mary and greeted her as the mother of the Lord: Look with favor on your lowly servants, that, with Mary, we may magnify your holy Name and rejoice to acclaim her Son as our Savior; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Zephaniah 3:14-18

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! ¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. ¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: “Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. ¹⁷ The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. ¹⁸ I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALTER VERSES

(In said services, the psalm verses may be placed between the Epistle and the Gospel, with the congregation standing in preparation for the Gospel.)

At services where there is a hymn or canticle before the Gospel, the psalm might be said between the Old Testament and Epistle, the people seated.)

Psalm 113

- ¹ Praise the LORD. Sing praises, you servants of the LORD; *
O praise the Name of the LORD.
- ² Blessed be the Name of the LORD, *
from this time forth for evermore.
- ³ The LORD's Name be praised *
from the rising up of the sun to the going down of the same.
- ⁴ The LORD is high above all nations, *
and his glory above the heavens.
- ⁵ Who is like the LORD our God, who has his dwelling so high, *
and yet humbles himself to behold the things that are in heaven
and earth?
- ⁶ He takes up the lowly out of the dust, *
and lifts the poor out of the ashes,
- ⁷ That he may set them with the princes, *
even with the princes of his people.
- ⁸ He gives the barren woman a home to dwell in, *
and makes her to be a joyful mother of children. Praise the LORD.

OR

Ecce, Deus, Isaiah 12:2-6

- Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
- For the LORD is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.
- Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.
- And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the LORD, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you 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 ever shall be, world without
end. Amen.

EPISTLE READING

Colossians 3:12-17

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³ bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. Luke.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Luke 1:39-56

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰ and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴² and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women,

and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³ And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

⁴⁶ And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹ for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰ And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; ⁵² he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; ⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. ⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵ as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

⁵⁶ And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

***People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

OFFERTORY AND POST-COMMUNION SENTENCES

(Drawn from verses of Holy Scripture, these sentences are chosen by the celebrant or preacher to reinforce the lessons or teaching of the day.)

PROPER PREFACE

Presentation, Annunciation, and Transfiguration

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sources: The Collect of the Day is taken from the Book of Common Prayer 2019. The Psalm verses are taken from the New Coverdale Psalter of the BCP 2019. Scripture quotations are taken from The ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.