

Daily Office for the Feast of the Annunciation, 25th March

Becoming present to God

Through a sign of attentiveness like lighting a candle or

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

or

Greetings, favoured one! **The Lord is with you.** (Luke 1:28)

Celebrating the presence of God

God, who chose Mary to be the mother of your Son, fashioning her life to be ready to welcome your Word

we give you praise

that you have chosen us from before the foundations of the world to live to your praise and glory.

We give you thanks

that you sent Gabriel to Nazareth and sought out Mary with words of gracious acceptance.

and have found us, too, in the midst of life and called us to follow your Son and minister in his name.

We praise you that you assured Mary of your favour and acceptance **and we worship you that your favour now rests on all upon whom the Spirit has rested and who believe in her Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

A pause to name any specific thanks or praise

Acknowledging our humanity

Greeted by an angel, we would be fearful and bewildered, for your perfect love has yet to cast out all fear

Lord, let your favour rest upon us and save us from our fears.

We too are perplexed and wonder how your will shall be done through our lives

Lord, let your favour rest upon us and save us from our doubts.

Nothing is impossible with you, Lord, and we desire to live, not by sight, but by faith, and fully trust you,

Lord, let your favour rest upon us and save us from our faithlessness.

We struggle to say "Yes, Lord. Here I am", and recognise our withdrawal from your will and way.

Lord, let your favour rest upon us and save us from our wilful disobedience.

Silence

Lord, save us that we too might bear the Word of God and carry with us the aroma of your Son, that with Mary, *Theotokos*, God-bearer, and all your people, in Heaven and on earth, we might declare your praises and live unashamedly to your glory.

Listening for the Word of God

From *The Common Lectionary*

Canticle - Optional

Not my will, but yours

When Jesus reached the place, he said to his disciples

"Pray that you may not come into the time of trial."

Then he withdrew from them about a stone's-throw, knelt down and prayed

"Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will, but yours be done."

Then an angel from heaven appeared, and gave him strength.

(Luke 22:40–43)

Reflecting on our roots

***Living God, enable us this day
to be pilgrims and companions:
committed to the way of Christ,
faithful to the call of Christ,
discerning the mind of Christ,
offering the welcome of Christ,
growing in the likeness of Christ,
engaging in the mission of Christ,
in the world that belongs to Christ.***

Bringing our concerns

We pray for young people, called by God to serve him, and fearful of the implications

We pray for all whose reputation in the eyes of the world is destroyed because of faithfulness to Christ's way

We pray for all women who are carrying infants in their womb, and for those who have lost children through miscarriage, still-birth or neo-natal death.

Lord, draw near with strength and courage to all who are fearful, doubting or oppressed. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

***Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.***

***Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.***

Going to love and serve

Here I am, the servant of the Lord. Let it be to me according to your word. (Luke 1:38)

Lord, we too are your servants, and we offer this day in joyful obedience to your word in the power of your Spirit.

Optional:

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

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