

**ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**

March 25

Year A, Revised Common Lectionary

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*Madonna and Child, Chapel of Church of the Annunciation, Nazareth, Israel. Gift from Japanese Catholic community.*

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### Psalm 45

- ❖ My heart overflows with a goodly theme; I address my verses to the king; my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.
- ❖ You are the most handsome of men; grace is poured upon your lips; therefore God has blessed you forever.
- ❖ Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one, in your glory and majesty.
- ❖ In your majesty ride on victoriously for the cause of truth and to defend the right; let your right hand teach you dread deeds.
- ❖ Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the king's enemies; the peoples fall under you.
- ❖ Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever.
- ❖ Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity;
- ❖ you love righteousness and hate wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;
- ❖ your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia. From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad;

- ❖ daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor; at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.
- ❖ Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear; forget your people and your father's house,
- ❖ and the king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him;
- ❖ the people of Tyre will seek your favor with gifts, the richest of the people
- ❖ with all kinds of wealth. The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes;
- ❖ in many-colored robes she is led to the king; behind her the virgins, her companions, follow.
- ❖ With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.
- ❖ In the place of ancestors you, O king, shall have sons; you will make them princes in all the earth.
- ❖ I will cause your name to be celebrated in all generations; therefore the peoples will praise you forever and ever.

### Psalm 40:5-10

- ❖ *You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you.*
- ❖ *Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted.*
- ❖ *Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.*
- ❖ *Then I said, "Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.*
- ❖ *I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."*
- ❖ *I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD.*
- ❖ *I have not hidden your saving help within my heart, I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.*

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Image: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:4223-20080119-0633UTC--nazareth-church-of-the-annunciation-japanese-madonna.jpg>

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