

# The Order of Vespers

for the Feast of St. Thomas in Advent  
Wednesday, December 21, 2022

## Hymn

*By All Your Saints in Warfare (insert)*

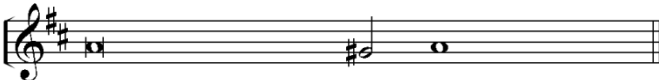
*Stand*

**P** O Lord, open my lips.

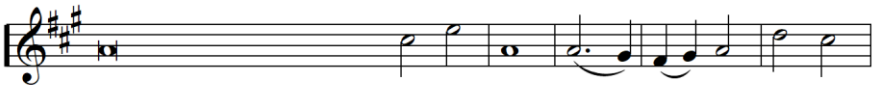


**R** And my mouth will de-clare Your praise.

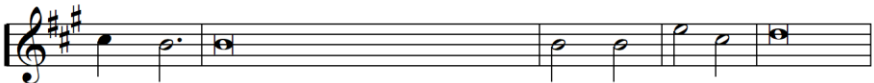
**P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me.



**R** Make haste to help me, O Lord.



Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Ho - ly



Spir-it; as it was in the beginning, is now and ev - er shall be,



for - ev - er - more. A - men. Al - le - lu - ia!

## Psalmody

*Psalm 11*

*The verses are spoken antiphonally between the Pastor and Congregation.*

**P** (*Antiphon*) The LORD is in His holy temple, the LORD's throne is in heaven; His eyes behold, His eyelids test the sons of men.

In the LORD I put my trust; How can you say to my soul,  
**"Flee as a bird to your mountain"?**

For look! The wicked bend their bow,  
**They make ready their arrow on the string,**  
That they may shoot secretly  
**at the upright in heart.**

If the foundations are destroyed,  
**What can the righteous do?**

The LORD is in His holy temple,  
**The LORD's throne is in heaven;**

His eyes behold,

**His eyelids test the sons of men.**

The LORD tests the righteous,

**But the wicked and the one who loves violence His soul hates.**

Upon the wicked He will rain coals;

**Fire and brimstone and a burning wind shall be the portion of their cup.**

For the LORD is righteous, He loves righteousness;

**His countenance beholds the upright.**

**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, \***

**forevermore. A- | men.**

**P** (*Antiphon*) The LORD is in His holy temple, the LORD's throne is in heaven; His eyes behold, His eyelids test the sons of men.

*Sit*

## First Lesson

*Ephesians 1:3-6*

*After each Lesson:*

**P** O Lord, have mercy upon us.



**R** Thanks be to You, O Lord!

## Second Lesson

*John 20:24-31*

### Responsory



Be- hold, the days are coming, says | the Lord,

**When I will raise up to David a righteous | Branch,**

And a King shall reign and | prosper

**And shall execute judgment and justice in the | earth.**

And this is His name by which He shall | be called,

**The Lord Our Righteous- | ness.**

In His days shall Judah | be saved,

**And Israel shall dwell safe- | ly.**

And this is His name by which He shall | be called,

**The Lord Our Righteous- | ness.**

Glory be to the Father and to | the Son

**And to the Holy Spir- | it.**

And this is His name by which He shall | be called,

**The Lord Our Righteous- | ness.**

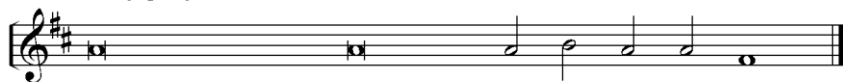
## Hymn

*We Walk by Faith (insert)*

## Sermon

Stand

**P** Let my prayer be set before You as incense.



**R** And the lifting up of my hands as the eve-ning sac - ri - fice.

*The Magnificat — Luke 1:46-55*



My — | soul | magni- | fies | the | Lord, \*

And my spirit rejoices in | God | my | Sav- | ior.

For — | He | has | re- | gard- | ed \*

the lowly estate of | His | hand- | maid- | en:

For, — | be- | hold, | from | hence- | forth \*

all generations shall | call | me | bless- | ed.

For — | He who is mighty has | done to | me | great | things; \*

and ho- | ly | is | His | name.

And His | mercy is on | those | who | fear | Him \*

from generation to | gen- | er- | a- | tion.

He has | shown | strength | with | His | arm; \*

He has scattered the proud in the imagi- | nation | of | their | hearts.

He has | put down the | mighty | from | their | seats, \*

and exalted those | of | low | de- | gree.

He has | filled the | hungry | with | good | things; \*

and the rich He has | sent a- | way | emp- | ty.

He has | come to the aid of His servant Israel, in remembrance | of | His | mer- | cy; \*

As He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his | seed | for- | ev- | er.

Glo-ry | be to the Father, | and | to | the | Son, \*

and to the | Ho- | ly | Spir- | it;

As it | was in the beginning, is now, and | ev- | er | shall | be, \*

forev- | er- | more. | A- | men.

## Prayers



**C** Lord, have mer- cy up-on us. Christ, have mer- cy up-on us.



Lord, have mer - cy up-on us.

**C** Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

**P** The Lord be with you.



**R** And with your spir - it.

*The Pastor says one or more Collects. After each, the congregation sings:*



**R** A - men.

**P** Let us bless the Lord.



**R** Thanks be to God.

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.



**R** A - men.

**St. Thomas**, known as Didymus or Twin, was one of the Twelve Apostles. Only the Evangelist John records his words (John 11:16, 14:5, 20:24-28). He is best known for demanding proof before he would believe the report of his fellow apostles that Jesus had risen from the dead, and also for his clear confession of Jesus' divinity ("my God") after seeing the risen Lord. He is said to have taken the Gospel to India, founding the Christian church in that country.