



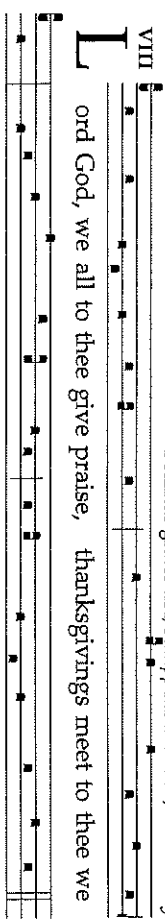
SAINTS MICHAEL, GABRIEL AND RAPHAEL,  
ARCHANGELS

VESPERS

HYMN

*Dicimus grates tibi, Philipp Melancthon, 16th century*

VIII



Lord God, we all to thee give praise, thanksgivings meet to thee we  
raise, that angel hosts thou didst create around thy glorious throne to wait.

2. They shine with light and heavenly grace  
And constantly behold thy face;  
They heed thy voice, they know it well,  
In godly wisdom they excel.
3. The ancient Dragon is their foe;  
His envy and his wrath they know.  
It always is his aim and pride  
Thy Christian people to divide.
4. A roaring lion, round he goes,  
No halt nor rest he ever knows;  
He seeks the Christians to devour  
And slay them in his dreadful power.
5. But watchful is the angel band  
That follows Christ on every hand  
To guard his people where they go  
And break the counsel of the foe.
6. For this, now and in days to be,  
Our praise shall rise, O Lord, to thee,  
Whom all the angel hosts adore  
With grateful songs forevermore. Amen.

**K**ing of the angels, your splendour surpasses that of the heavens.

*Ps 8*

How great is your name, O Lord our God \* through all the earth!

Your majesty is praised above the heavens; \*  
on the lips of children and of babes  
you have found praise to foil your enemy, \*  
to silence the foe and the rebel.

When I see the heavens, the work of your hands, \*  
the moon and the stars which you arranged,  
what is man that you should keep him in mind, \*  
mortal man that you care for him?

Yet you have made him little less than a god; \*  
with glory and honour you crowned him,  
gave him power over the works of your hands, \*  
put all things under his feet.

All of them, sheep and cattle, \*  
yes, even the savage beasts,  
birds of the air, and fish \*  
that make their way through the waters.

How great is your name, O Lord our God \*  
through all the earth!

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.

*Repeat antiphon*

**B**efore the angels, I will bless you, O my God.

*Ps 137(138)*

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, \* you have heard the words of my mouth.  
In the presence of the angels I will bless you. \*  
I will adore before your holy temple.

I thank you for your faithfulness and love \*  
which excel all we ever knew of you.

On the day I called, you answered; \*  
you increased the strength of my soul.  
All earth's kings shall thank you \*

when they hear the words of your mouth.

They shall sing of the Lord's ways: \*  
'How great is the glory of the Lord!'

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly \*  
and the haughty he knows from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of affliction \*  
you give me life and frustrate my foes.

You stretch out your hand and save me, \*  
your hand will do all things for me.

Your love, O Lord, is eternal, \*  
discard not the work of your hands.

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.

*Repeat antiphon*

**I**A saw the Lamb standing, as it were slain, and occupying the throne;

all around arose the sound of angel choirs.

*Colossians 1:12-20*

Let us give thanks to the Father, † who has qualified us to share \*

in the inheritance of the saints in light.

He has delivered us from the dominion of darkness \*  
and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved son,  
in whom we have redemption, \*

the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, \*  
the firstborn of all creation,

for in him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, \*  
visible and invisible.

All things were created through him and for him. †

He is before all things, \*

and in him all things hold together.

He is the head of the body, the Church; †

he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, \*

that in everything he might be pre-eminent.

For in him all the fulness of God was pleased to dwell, \*

and through him to reconcile to himself all things,

whether on earth or in heaven, \*

making peace by the blood of his cross.

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.

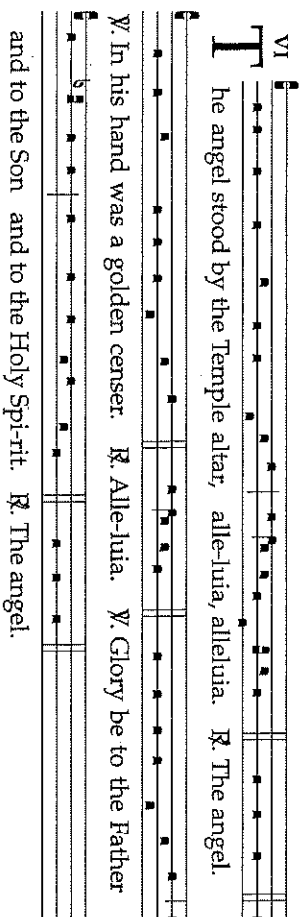
*Repeat antiphon*

SHORT READING

RESPONSORY

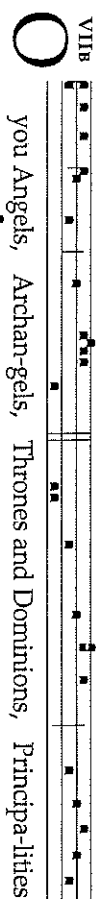
VI  
The angel stood by the Temple altar, alle-luia, alleluia. R. The angel.

V. In his hand was a golden censer. R. Alle-luia. Y. Glory be to the Father  
and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. R. The angel.



MAGNIFICAT

VIII  
O you Angels, Archangels, Thrones and Dominions, Principa-lities



and Powers, Virtues of the heavens, praise the Lord from the heavens,

alleluia.

*Luke 1:46-55*

My soul magnifies the Lord, \* and my spirit rejoices in God my saviour.

For he has regarded the lowliness of his handmaid: \*

for behold henceforth all generations will call me blessed;

for he who is mighty has done great things for me \*

and holy is his name,

and his mercy is on those who fear him \*

from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm: \*

he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He has put down the mighty from their thrones \*

and exalted the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things \*

and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel \*

in remembrance of his mercy,

as he spoke to our fathers, \*

to Abraham and to his children for ever.

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.

*Repeat antiphon*

