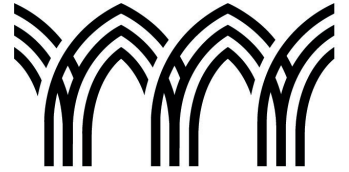


EXPANSIVE EVENSONG

25 MARCH 2026

The Annunciation of Our Lord



TRINITY
CATHEDRAL
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

Tonight's service is taken from the Iona Abbey Community. The Iona Community is an ecumenical movement based on the Isle of Iona in Scotland, founded in 1938 by George MacLeod. It is known for its focus on social justice, peace, and environmental stewardship, drawing inspiration from early Celtic Christianity. The community emphasizes communal living, inclusive worship, and outreach to marginalized groups.

The People's responses are in bold

Prelude

Be Thou My Vision

Trad. Irish

Welcome and Introduction

The People stand

Song *The First One Ever*



1 The first one ev - er, oh, ev - er to know of the
2 The first one ev - er, oh, ev - er to know of Me -
3 The first ones ev - er, oh, ev - er to know of the



birth of Je - sus, was the maid Ma - ry, was
si - ah, Je - sus, when he said, "I am he," was the Sa -
ris - ing of Je - sus, his glo - ry to be, were



Ma - ry the maid of Gal - i - lee, and
mar - i - tan wo - man who drew from the well, and
Ma - ry, Jo - an - na, and Mag - da - lene, and



bles - ed is she, is she who be - lieves. Oh,
is bles - ed she, is she who per - ceives. Oh,
bles - ed are they, are they who see. Oh,



bles - ed is she who bel - ieves in the Lord, oh,
bles - ed is she who per - ceives the Lord, oh,
bles - ed are they who see the Lord, oh,



bles - ed is she who be - lieves. She was
bles - ed is she who per - ceives. 'Twas the Sa -
bles - ed are they who see. They were



Ma - ry the maid of Gal - i - lee, and
mar - i - tan wo - man who drew from the well, and
Ma - ry, Jo - an - na, and Mag - da - lene, and



bles - ed is she, is she who be - lieves.
bles - ed is she, is she who per - ceives.
bles - ed are they, are they who see.

Opening Responses

This is the time when light fades and shadows lengthen and sounds are subdued – all as God intended. **Amen.**

This is the time when bodies relax, minds unwind, and tiredness comes – all as God intended. **Amen.**

This is the time when others greet the morning, while we meet the night, and the world continues to sing, in all the accents of creation, a love-song to its Maker. **Blessed be God's Name.**

Prayers

Come, brother Jesus, be our guest, stay with us for day is ending.

Let us pray.

Holy One, **uniting earth and heaven, nurturing us and all things,**

bringing us together in your kingdom: may it happen here and everywhere.

Give us bread to eat today and forgiveness for the way we cheat others of their bread, as we forgive those who have stolen ours.

May we not take revenge, and keep us safe from corruption,

as we try to pursue your kingdom of equality, peace and justice, giving you thanks and glory. Amen.

Bring to this place your poverty,
for then shall we be rich.

Bring to this place your pain,
that in sharing it, we may also share your joy.

Bring to this place your understanding of us,
that we may be freed to learn more of you.

Bring to this place your Holy Spirit,
that we and all things might be made new.

With friend, with stranger, with the unknown and well known ones be among us tonight,
for the doors of this house are open, and the doors of our hearts we leave ajar.

The People sit

Scripture

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:10-14 (NRSV)

Canticle of Turning



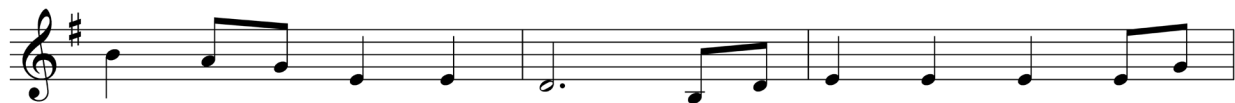
1. My _____ soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the God of my heart is
2. Though _____ I am small, my _____ God, my all, you _____ work great _____ things for
3. From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a stone will be left on
4. Though the na - tions rage from _____ age to age, we re - mem - ber who holds us



great, and my spir - it _____ sings of the won - drous _____ things that you
me, and your mer - cy will last from the depths of the past to the
stone. Let the king be - ware for your jus - tice _____ tears ev - 'ry
fast: God's _____ mer - cy _____ must de - liv - er _____ us from the



bring to the ones who wait. You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
end of the age to be. Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
ty - rant _____ from his throne. The hun - gry poor shall _____ weep no more, for the
con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp. This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, 'til the spear and rod can be



name be _____ blest. Could the world be a - bout to _____ turn?
strong to _____ flight, for the world is a - bout to _____ turn.
mouth be _____ fed, for the world is - a - bout to _____ turn.
crushed by _____ God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a -



way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to _____ turn!

IN the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Luke 1:26-38 (NRSV)

At this time, silence, a reflection, or a discussion may be offered

Musical Reflection

Improvisation on *St Patrick's Breastplate*

Night Prayers

What if the darkness covers us and the day around us turns to night? Darkness is not too dark for God to whom dark and light are one.

You never sleep, God. You are always awake, always watching, always willing the world and its people to turn in the right direction. So tonight, will you comfort those who cannot sleep because of illness, or worry, or fear; or for reasons they cannot understand.

God, be near them.

God, be near them.

And tonight will you be close to those who wait patiently or impatiently for a birth or a death, for a visit, or for the pieces of their life's jigsaw to fit together.

God, be near them.

God, be near them.

And tonight will you be close to those who wonder, who look for inspiration, who long to be with the one or the ones they love, who hope to recognise the right time when they can say 'I'm sorry,' or 'I love you,' or even 'Enough is enough.'

God, be near them.
God, be near them.

And God, listen to us as we share with you whatever joys or sorrows, discoveries or questions we will take with us into the night.

God, be near them.
God, be near them.

Into your hands we commit ourselves – our souls, our bodies, our minds, our futures – for all things come from you and are best kept in your care. **Amen.**

Song *An Irish Blessing*

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be ever at you back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
And the rain fall soft upon your fields,
And until we meet again,
May god hold you,
Ever in the palm of his hand.

May god hold you,
Ever in the palm of his hand.

An Irish Blessing
Text: Trad.
Music: Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)

Closing Responses

For the day now done,
thanks be to God.

For the rest before us,
thanks be to God.

Because God never sleeps so that we can,
thanks be to God.

But before the day is done, let God's holy name be praised; and let God's people say Amen.
Amen.

Postlude

My Lagan Love

Trad. Irish

Participants in Today's Service

The Rev. Megan Allen-Miller, *officiant*

Beth Billings, *lector*

Hannah Irvine, Tess Hosler, Tommy Star, Ronnie Dailey, *vocalists*

Anna O'Connell, *harp*

Shiloh Roby, *piano*

Services At Trinity Cathedral *(Academic Year)*

SUNDAY

8A

Spoken Eucharist

9A

The Abundant Table
Eucharist

11:15A

Choral Eucharist

4P*

Solemn Eucharist
**first Sunday of the month*

WEDNESDAY

6P

Choral Evensong
**first, third, & fifth Wednesday of the month*

6P

Expansive Evensong
**second and fourth Wednesday of the month*

THURSDAY

12:10P

Healing Eucharist

Trinity Cathedral is an active and lively congregation serving downtown Cleveland, northeast Ohio, and the people of the Diocese of Ohio. We celebrate God's gift of diversity, and welcome people of every race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, age, physical and mental ability, national origin, and economic station.

Trinity Cathedral
2230 Euclid Ave, Cleveland, OH 44115
216.771.3630

