

The Benedictus

(The Song of Zechariah)

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel;
for He has visited and redeemed His people
and has raised up a horn of salvation for us
in the house of His servant David,

as He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets,
who have been since the world began;
that we should be saved from our enemies
and from the hand of all who hate us;

to perform the mercy promised to our fathers
and to remember His holy covenant,
the oath that He swore to our father Abraham,
to grant us that we,

being delivered from the hand of our enemies,
might serve Him without fear,
in holiness and righteousness before Him
all the days of our life.

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare His ways;
to give knowledge of salvation to His people
in the forgiveness of their sins,

through the tender mercy of our God;
when the day shall dawn upon us from on high
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.