

THREE WELSH CHANTS

A transcription of chants composed by a Welsh cleric c 1330 for the
Office of St David as found in the
Penpont Antiphonal MS-20541E in the Welsh National Library Aberystwyth,
and noted for modern performance

Transcribed by
Gillian Lander, 2010

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MAGNIFICAT ANTIPHON - FIRST VESPERS - EVE OF ST DAVID'S DAY

Transcribed: Gillian Lander 2010

A Mag V-I Dominum Magnificat

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is a simple, flowing line with some rests. The lyrics are: Do- mi-num mag- ni- fi- ca- vit san- cti pa- tris a- ni- ma qui nil pe- ne re- pu- ta- vit mun- di pro- ba- tis si- ma Je- su bo- ne set pro- ba- vit quod tu sis pars op- ti- ma.

Do- mi-num mag- ni- fi- ca- vit san- cti pa- tris a- ni- ma qui
 nil pe- ne re- pu- ta- vit mun- di pro-
 ba- tis si- ma Je- su bo- ne set pro- ba- vit
 quod tu sis pars op- ti- ma

The soul of the Holy Father did magnify the Lord, for he valued at near nothing the things most approved by thre world, good Jesu, but showed that thou art the best part.

ANTIPHON I - MATINS FOR ST DAVID'S DAY

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A1 Vir Beatus impiorum

The musical score consists of three staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is a simple, flowing line with some rests. The lyrics are: Vir be- a- tus im- pi- or- rum de- cli- nas con- si- li- a in di- vi- na le- ge mo- rum mes- su- it in- sig- ni- a.

Vir be- a- tus im- pi- or- rum de- cli- nas con-
 si- li- a in di- vi- na le- ge mo- rum
 mes- su- it in- sig- ni- a

The blessed man turning from the counsels of the ungodly, did harvest wonders of manners in the Divine Law. (This is the antiphon for Psalm 1, Beatus vir, as is usual for the Common of a Confessor)

RESPONSORY 3 - MATINS FOR ST DAVID'S DAY

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RESPOND

Sci - - - ens quod in Pet - ri na - - - vi
mun - - di ia - - - cta flu - - - cti - bus plus
lu - - cra - - tur in con - - cla - - vi quam tur-
-bae tu - mul - - - ti - bus in - co - la - - - tus hu - ius pra - vi
ve - - - - ris con- temp - to- - - - -
ri - bus. **Fine** VERSE. (solo)
Lo- - - - -
- - - ca so - li - ta - ri - a san - xit o - - - ra - to - ri - a Chri - sti
GLORIA
pro - fes - - - sor - ri - bus. in - co - la - - - - tus... Glo - - -
- - - ri - a pa - - - - tri et fi - - - li - o et spi - ri-
tu - - - - i san - cto..

R. Knowing that in Peter's barque, cast about by the waves of the world, it is more profitable to be in a room/cell than in the tumults of the crowd for the true despisers of this wicked place of sojourning.

V. He sanctified solitary places as oratories for the professors of the faith of Christ...

V. Glory be to the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit.

Note: The harp harmonic symbol has been used to denote breathing since the cadences are marked with a tick, and the usual piano pedal symbol has been used to indicate repeats - (since this music software does not include Gregorian symbols).