Morning Prayer

Saturday, May 31, 2003

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

OPENING

O God, come to my assistance.

Lord, make haste to help me.

Lord, open my lips.

And my mouth will proclaim your praise.

Glory 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.

HYMN

This Is the Day

This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice, we will rejoice,
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Death is conquered by his love;
all creation sings with gladness:
praise him, earth below and heaven above.

At the break of Easter morning
Mary came and found the tomb;
but the stone was rolled away, and
Jesus met her in the gloom.

Now the Lord of life is risen;
now our sorrow turns to song;
we who walked in death's dark shadow
are set free from all that long.

Psalm 119 *How Shall a Young Man Cleanse His Way? (Beth)*

> *Ant. This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it. Alleluia.*

In what way does a young man correct his path? By keeping your words.

With my whole heart I have sought you; do not push me away from your commandments.

In my heart I have hidden your eloquence, so that I may not sin against you.

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your justifications.

With my lips, I have pronounced all the judgments of your mouth.

I have been delighted in the way of your testimonies, as if in all riches.

I will meditate on your commandments, and I will consider your ways.

I will think about your justifications; I will not forget your words.

Glory 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.

> *Ant. This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it. Alleluia.*

Psalm 131 *Remember David's Oath*

> *Ant. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed; let us therefore celebrate the feast. Alleluia.*

O Lord, remember David and all his meekness.

How he swore to the Lord; he made a vow to the God of Jacob.

"I will not enter into the tabernacle of my house, nor will I climb into the bed where I lie;"

"I will not give sleep to my eyes, or slumber to my eyelids,"

"or rest to my temples, until I find a place for the Lord, a tabernacle for the God of Jacob."

Behold, we heard of it in Ephrata; we found it in the fields of the forest.

We will enter into his tabernacle; we will adore in the place where his feet have stood.

Arise, O Lord, into your rest, you and the ark of your sanctification.

Let your priests be clothed with justice, and let your holy ones exult.

For the sake of your servant David, do not turn away the face of your Christ.

The Lord has sworn truth to David, and he will not make it void.

"Of the fruit of your womb, I will set upon your throne."

"If your sons will keep my covenant and my testimonies which I will teach them,"

"their sons also, even forever, will sit upon your throne."

For the Lord has chosen Zion; he has chosen it for his dwelling.

"This is my rest forever and ever; here I will dwell, for I have chosen it."

"Blessing, I will bless her widow; her poor I will satisfy with bread."

"Her priests I will clothe with salvation, and her holy ones will exult with exultation."

"There I will raise up a horn for David; I have prepared a lamp for my Christ."

"His enemies I will clothe with confusion, but upon him my sanctification will flourish."

Glory 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.

> *Ant. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed; let us therefore celebrate the feast. Alleluia.*

OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE

OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE (WISDOM 9:1–6, 9–11)

O God of my fathers and Lord of mercy, who made all things by your word,

and by your wisdom you have established man, so that he may have dominion over the creature that was made by you,

and that he may order the world in equity and justice, and execute judgment with an upright heart:

give me wisdom, the consort of your thrones, and do not reject me from among your children.

For I am your servant and the son of your handmaid, a weak man and of short life,

and too little to understand judgment and laws.

For wisdom is with you, knowing your works, which was also present when you made the world.

And she knows what is pleasing in your eyes, and what is right in your commandments.

Send her from the holy heavens, and from the throne of your majesty send her, so that she may be with me and may work with me.

Glory 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.

SHORT READING

1 PETER 1:3

> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

RESPONSORY

V. This is the day that the Lord has made. Alleluia.

R. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia.

V. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

R. his love endures forever. Alleluia.

GOSPEL CANTICLE: BENEDICTUS (LUKE 1:68-79)

THE CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH (BENEDICTUS) (LUKE 1:68–79)

> *Ant. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia.*

Blessed is the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has visited and accomplished the redemption of his people.

And he has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of David his servant.

As he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets, those who have been from the beginning:

Salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

To show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant,

the oath which he swore to our father Abraham, that he would grant to us,

that being freed from the hand of our enemies, we might serve him without fear,

in holiness and justice before him, throughout all our days.

And you, child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the face of the Lord, to prepare his ways.

To give knowledge of salvation to his people, for the remission of their sins,

through the compassionate mercy of our God, by which the Rising Sun has visited us from on high,

to illuminate those sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death, to direct our feet in the way of peace.

Glory 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.

> *Ant. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia.*

MORNING INTERCESSIONS

Rejoicing in the resurrection of the Lord, let us offer our prayers, saying:

For the church throughout the world, that it may proclaim the resurrection with boldness and joy: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear us. Alleluia.*

For the newly baptized, that they may grow in the faith they have received and be sustained by the Easter community: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear us. Alleluia.*

For all who are in darkness or despair, that the light of Easter may dawn in their lives: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear us. Alleluia.*

For those who have died in the hope of resurrection, that they may share fully in the Easter victory of Christ: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear us. Alleluia.*

For all nations, that the peace of the risen Christ may overcome division and bring reconciliation: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear us. Alleluia.*

For ourselves, that we may live as Easter people, bringing the good news of new life to those around us: we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear us. Alleluia.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as the Lord himself has taught us:

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.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son Jesus Christ to overcome death and open for us the gate of everlasting life. Grant us grace to believe in his resurrection and to seek those things which are above; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DISMISSAL

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

May almighty God bless us: the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.