Daytime Prayer

Saturday, December 25, 2004

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

OPENING

O God, come to my assistance.

Lord, make haste to help 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.

HYMN

> **Sing Alleluia Forth**
>
> Sing alleluia forth in duteous praise,
> O citizens of heaven, who know the festal days;
> and by your singing learn how God may be adored.

PSALMODY

Psalm 141 *Rescue Me From My Persecutors*

> *Ant. Today Christ is born for us; glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.*

With my voice I have cried out to the Lord; with my voice I have prayed to the Lord.

I will pour out, in his sight, my supplication; and before him I will declare my tribulation.

When my spirit failed within me, even then you knew my paths.

In the way on which I was walking, the proud hid a snare for me.

I looked to the right and I saw, and there was no one who would recognize me.

Flight has perished from me, and there is no one who has regard for my soul.

I cried out to you, O Lord; I said: "You are my hope, my portion in the land of the living."

Attend to my supplication, for I have been humbled exceedingly.

Free me from those who persecute me, for they have been made stronger than me.

Lead my soul out of custody to confess to your name; the just wait for me, until you repay 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.

> *Ant. Today Christ is born for us; glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.*

Psalm 145 *Praise the Lord, O My Soul (Part I)*

> *Ant. Today Christ is born for us; glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.*

Praise the Lord, O my soul; in my life I will praise the Lord; I will sing to my God as long as I live.

Do not trust in leaders, in the sons of men, in whom there is no salvation.

His spirit will depart, and he will return to his earth; on that day all their thoughts will perish.

Blessed is he whose helper is the God of Jacob; his hope is in the Lord his God,

who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them.

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. Today Christ is born for us; glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.*

SHORT READING

HEBREWS 1:3

He is the refulgence of God's glory, the very imprint of his being, and who sustains all things by his mighty word.

RESPONSORY

V. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

R. Full of grace and truth.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

> *Lord, the shepherds left their flocks to find the Christ-child. Give us that same single-minded devotion in all our tasks this day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

DISMISSAL

Let us praise the Lord.

And give him thanks.