Evening Prayer

Wednesday, May 31, 2006

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus, his the scepter, his the throne;
alleluia! His the triumph, his the victory alone.
Hark, the songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation has redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;
alleluia! He is near us; faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received him, when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise: "I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! Bread of angels, thou on earth our food, our stay;
alleluia! Here the sinful flee to thee from day to day;
intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

Psalm 109 *A Prayer Against Enemies*

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

O God, do not be silent in my praise.

For the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of the deceitful have been opened against me.

They have spoken against me with a deceitful tongue, and they surrounded me with words of hatred.

And they fought against me without cause.

In return for my love, they were detractors; but I prayed.

And they repaid me evil for good, and hatred for my love.

Set the sinner over him, and may the devil stand at his right hand.

When he is judged, may he go out condemned; and may his prayer be turned to sin.

May his days be few, and may another receive his episcopate.

May his sons be orphans, and his wife a widow.

Let his sons be wandering and begging, and let them be cast out of their dwellings.

May a moneylender search out all of his goods, and let strangers pillage his labors.

May there be no one to help him, nor any to have mercy on his fatherless children.

May his posterity be destroyed; in one generation may his name be blotted out.

May the iniquity of his fathers return to the remembrance of the Lord, and may the sin of his mother not be erased.

Let them be in the sight of the Lord always, and may their memorial be removed from the earth.

Because he did not remember to show mercy, and he persecuted a poor and needy man.

And the brokenhearted, so as to put him to death.

And he loved cursing, and it will come upon him; and he did not will a blessing, so it will be far from him.

And he clothed himself with cursing like a garment, and it entered into his interior like water, and like oil in his bones.

May it be to him like a garment that covers him, and like a belt that always girds him.

This is the work of those who detract me before the Lord, and who speak evil against my soul.

But you, O Lord, Lord, do for me according to your name; for your mercy is sweet.

Rescue me, for I am poor and needy, and my heart is troubled within me.

I have been taken away like a shadow when it declines; and I have been scattered like locusts.

My knees have been weakened from fasting, and my flesh has been changed because of oil.

And I have become a reproach to them; they saw me and they shook their heads.

Help me, O Lord my God; save me according to your mercy.

And let them know that this is your hand, and that you, O Lord, have done it.

They will curse, and you will bless; let those who rise up against me be confounded, but your servant will rejoice.

Let those who detract me be clothed with shame, and let them be covered with their confusion as with a double cloak.

I will confess greatly to the Lord with my mouth, and in the midst of many I will praise him.

Because he has stood at the right hand of the poor, to save my soul from those who persecute it.

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 111 *Praise for God's Wonders*

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

I will confess to you, O Lord, with my whole heart, in the council of the just and in the congregation.

Great are the works of the Lord, exquisite in all his purposes.

His work is praise and magnificence, and his justice remains forever and ever.

He has made a remembrance of his wonders, being the merciful and compassionate Lord.

He has given food to those who fear him; he will be mindful of his covenant forever.

He will proclaim the power of his works to his people, so that he may give them the inheritance of the Gentiles.

The works of his hands are truth and judgment; all his commandments are faithful,

confirmed forever and ever, made in truth and equity.

He has sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever.

Holy and terrible is his name; the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

All who practice it have good understanding; his praise endures forever and ever.

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.*

NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE

NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE (EPHESIANS 1:3–10)

Blessed is God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, in Christ.

Just as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, so that we would be holy and immaculate in his sight, in charity.

He predestined us into the adoption of sons through Jesus Christ for himself,

according to the purpose of his will, unto the praise of the glory of his grace,

with which he has favored us in his beloved Son.

In him, we have redemption through his blood, the remission of sins, according to the riches of his grace,

which has abounded in us with all wisdom and prudence.

So that he might make known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure,

as he purposed in him, for the stewardship of the fullness of time,

to recapitulate all things in Christ, those in the heavens and those on earth.

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

ROMANS 6:4

> We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

RESPONSORY

V. Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening. Alleluia.

R. The day is now far spent. Alleluia.

V. Make our hearts burn within us,

R. as you open to us the scriptures. Alleluia.

GOSPEL CANTICLE: MAGNIFICAT (LUKE 1:46-55)

THE CANTICLE OF MARY (MAGNIFICAT) (LUKE 1:46–55)

> *Ant. The Lord is risen indeed, and he appeared to Simon. Alleluia.*

My soul magnifies the Lord.

And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.

Because he has regarded the humility of his handmaid; for behold, from henceforth all generations will call me blessed.

Because he who is powerful has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

And his mercy is from generation to generation for those who fear him.

He has shown might with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart.

He has deposed the powerful from their seat, and he has exalted the humble.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has received Israel, his servant, being mindful of his mercy.

As he spoke to our fathers: to Abraham and to his offspring forever.

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. The Lord is risen indeed, and he appeared to Simon. Alleluia.*

EVENING INTERCESSIONS

As we close this day in the joy of the resurrection, let us pray, saying:

For the newly baptized throughout the church, that their Easter faith may grow strong: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear us. Alleluia.*

For all who have yet to hear the good news of the resurrection, that the gospel may reach them: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear us. Alleluia.*

For the sick and suffering, that the power of the risen Christ may bring them healing and comfort: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear us. Alleluia.*

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

For our world, troubled by conflict and injustice, that the peace of the risen Lord may transform it: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear us. Alleluia.*

For ourselves, that we may always live as people of the resurrection, spreading Easter hope wherever we go: 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

Lord of life, you have conquered death for us. Grant that we who celebrate your resurrection may live as those who have already passed from death to life; through 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.

MARIAN ANTIPHON

REGINA CAELI

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia. For he whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia. Has risen as he said, alleluia. Pray for us to God, alleluia. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia. For the Lord has truly

risen, alleluia.