Evening Prayer

Monday, December 24, 2007

Advent, Week 4 — Monday

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

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, O Wisdom from on high,
who ordered all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show,
and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Dayspring, from on high,
and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!

Psalm 136 *By the Waters of Babylon (Part I)*

> *Ant. Come, Lord, and do not delay; have mercy on us, who have sinned against you.*

Upon the rivers of Babylon, there we sat and wept as we remembered Zion.

On the willows in their midst, we hung up our instruments.

For there those who had led us captive asked us the words of song.

And those who had carried us away said: "Sing to us a hymn from the songs of Zion."

How will we sing the song of the Lord in a foreign land?

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. Come, Lord, and do not delay; have mercy on us, who have sinned against you.*

Psalm 136 *By the Waters of Babylon (Part II)*

> *Ant. Come, Lord, and do not delay; have mercy on us, who have sinned against you.*

If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand be forgotten.

Let my tongue cling to my jaws if I do not remember you,

if I do not set Jerusalem forth as the beginning of my joy.

Remember, O Lord, the sons of Edom, on the day of Jerusalem,

who said: "Tear it down, tear it down, even to its foundation!"

O daughter of Babylon, you are wretched; blessed is he who repays you your payment,

which you have paid to us.

Blessed is he who will hold and dash your little ones against the rock.

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. Come, Lord, and do not delay; have mercy on us, who have sinned against you.*

NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE

NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE (COLOSSIANS 1:12–20)

Giving thanks to God the Father, who has made us worthy to be partakers of the lot of the saints in the light.
He has rescued us from the power of darkness, and has transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of his love,
in whom we have redemption through his blood, the remission of sins.
He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature.
For in him all things were created in the heavens and on earth, the visible and the invisible.
Whether thrones or dominations or principalities or powers, all things were created through him and in him.
And he exists before all others, and all things continue in him.
And he himself is the head of the body, the Church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,
so that he may hold the primacy in all things.
For it has pleased the Father that all fullness would dwell in him,
and that through him all things would be reconciled to himself, making peace through the blood of his cross, both as to the things on earth and the things in heaven.

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

ISAIAH 45:8

> Let justice descend, O heavens, like dew from above, like gentle rain let the skies drop it down. Let the earth open and salvation bud forth; let justice also spring up.

RESPONSORY

V. Come and set us free, Lord God of power.
R. Let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.
V. Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,
R. and grant us your salvation.

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

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

> *Ant. The Lord will come; go out to meet him, saying: "Great is his dominion, and his peace will have no end."*

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 will come; go out to meet him, saying: "Great is his dominion, and his peace will have no end."*

EVENING INTERCESSIONS

As evening falls during this holy season of waiting, let us pray to the Lord who comes, saying:

For the church, that our Advent waiting may be active and hopeful, not passive or fearful: we pray to you, O Lord.	*Come, Lord Jesus.*
For those who hunger for justice and for peace, that the promise of your kingdom may sustain them: we pray to you, O Lord.	*Come, Lord Jesus.*
For the sick and those who care for them, that the healing touch of Christ may be near: we pray to you, O Lord.	*Come, Lord Jesus.*
For all who will travel during this season, that they may journey safely: we pray to you, O Lord.	*Come, Lord Jesus.*
For those who have died, especially those we remember in our hearts this evening, that they may share in the joy of the Lord's coming: we pray to you, O Lord.	*Come, Lord Jesus.*
For our parish community, that our Advent journey together may prepare us well for the joy of Christmas: we pray to you, O Lord.	*Come, Lord Jesus.*

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

Come, Lord Jesus, as we await your coming in glory. Let the hope of your coming fill our prayers tonight and let us wake tomorrow ready to serve you; who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. 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

ALMA REDEMPTORIS MATER

Loving Mother of the Redeemer, gate of heaven, star of the sea, assist your people who have fallen, yet strive to

rise again. To the wonderment of nature you bore your Creator, yet remained a virgin after as before. You who received Gabriel's joyful greeting, have pity on us poor sinners.