Morning Prayer

Wednesday, April 16, 2003

Holy Wednesday

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

Morning Has Broken Upon Us

Now is the time of morning prayer,
when darkness yields to growing light;
we rise to greet the Lord who made
the day that follows holy night.

O God, whose word called forth the sun,
whose breath renews the face of earth,
grant us this day to walk in truth,
and fill our hearts with joy and worth.

We offer you this waking hour,
our work, our rest, our prayer, our praise;
guide all we think and do and say
through all the hours of this day.

Glory be to God on high,
to Christ the Lord, the living Son,
and to the Spirit, Comforter;
as ever was, and shall be done.

Psalm 86 *All Nations Will Come to God*

> *Ant. Zion is founded on holy mountains.*

His foundations are in the holy mountains.

The Lord loves the gates of Zion, above all the tabernacles of Jacob.

Glorious things are said of you, O city of God.

I will remember Rahab and Babylon who know me.

Behold, the foreigners and Tyre and the people of the Ethiopians, these were there.

A man will say, "Zion is my mother," and this one was born in her.

And the Most High himself has founded her.

The Lord will tell the glory of the scriptures and of the leaders who were born in her.

As of those who rejoice, so also will all dwell in you.

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. Zion is founded on holy mountains.*

Psalm 98 *Joy Before the Lord*

> *Ant. Sing a new song to the Lord, for he has done wondrous deeds.*

Sing to the Lord a new song, because the Lord has done wonders.

His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation to himself.

The Lord has made known his salvation; in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice.

He has remembered his mercy and his truth toward the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Shout with joy to God, all the earth; sing and exult and sing psalms.

Sing to the Lord with a harp; with a harp and the voice of the psalm.

With trumpets of hammered metal and the voice of the horn of leather; shout with joy in the sight of the Lord our King.

Let the sea be moved and its fullness, the world and those who dwell in it.

The rivers will clap their hands; the mountains will exult together at the face of the Lord.

Because he comes to judge the earth; he will judge the world with justice and the peoples with equity.

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. Sing a new song to the Lord, for he has done wondrous deeds.*

OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE

OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE (ISAIAH 45:15–25)

Truly you are a hidden God, the God of Israel the Savior.

They are all confounded and ashamed; the makers of errors have gone in shame together.

Israel is saved in the Lord with an everlasting salvation.

You will not be confounded and you will not be ashamed to all eternity.

For thus says the Lord who created the heavens, God himself who formed the earth.

He did not create it in vain; he formed it to be inhabited.

"I am the Lord, and there is no other god."

"I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth; I have not said to the seed of Jacob: 'Seek me in vain.'"

"I am the Lord who speaks justice, who declares right things."

Gather yourselves together and come; draw near together, you that are saved from the Gentiles.

They have no knowledge who carry about the wood of their graven idol and pray to a god that cannot save.

"Tell and come near; and consult together: Who has declared this from the beginning?"

"I am the Lord, and there is no other."

"By myself I have sworn; truth has gone out of my mouth, a word that will not return."

"To me every knee will bend, and every tongue will swear."

"Surely, one will say: 'In the Lord are my justices and my dominion.'"

"To him they will come, and all that fight against him will be confounded."

"In the Lord will all the seed of Israel be justified and praised."

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

MICAH 6:8

> You have been told, O man, what is good, and what the Lord requires of you: only to do right and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God.

RESPONSORY

V. Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on us.

R. Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on us.

V. You who rose from the dead,

R. have mercy on us.

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

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

> *Ant. Blessed is the Lord, the God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people.*

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. Blessed is the Lord, the God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people.*

MORNING INTERCESSIONS

Let us offer our prayers to God as we begin this day, saying:

For the holy church throughout the world, that it may proclaim Christ faithfully and serve the poor generously: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For our bishop and all who lead us in faith, that they may shepherd their flocks with wisdom and compassion: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the leaders of nations and all in authority, that they may govern with justice and work for the common good: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For those who are suffering in body, mind, or spirit, that they may know the comfort of your presence: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For all who labor this day, that their work may be dignified and their families protected: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the grace to seek you in all things today, to see your face in every person we meet, and to love as you have loved us: we pray to you, O Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

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 and everlasting God, open our minds to your truth and our hearts to your love, that in all we do this day we may seek your glory and the good of our neighbors; through 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.