Office of Readings

Sunday, April 18, 2004

2nd Sunday of Easter

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.

INVITATORY

Ant. Alleluia! The Lord is truly risen. Come, let us adore him. Alleluia!

Come, let us exult in the Lord; let us shout with joy to God our salvation.

Let us come before his face with praise and exult in him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods.

For the Lord does not cast off his people; for in his hand are all the ends of the earth.

And the heights of the mountains belong to him.

For the sea is his, and he made it; and his hands formed the dry land.

Come, let us adore and fall down before God; let us weep before the Lord who made us.

For he is the Lord our God; and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Today, if you will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

As in the provocation, according to the day of temptation in the wilderness,

where your fathers tempted me; they tried me and saw my works.

For forty years I was close to this generation, and I said: "They always err in heart."

And these people have not known my ways, so I swore in my wrath that they will not enter into my rest.

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. Alleluia! The Lord is truly risen. Come, let us adore him. Alleluia!

HYMN

The Day of Resurrection

> The day of resurrection!
> Earth, tell it out abroad;
> the Passover of gladness,
> the Passover of God.

PSALMODY

Psalm 22 *A Psalm of David Not Attributed*

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

The Lord governs me, and nothing will be lacking for me; he has placed me in a place of pasture.

He has led me to the water of refreshment; he has converted my soul.

He has led me along the paths of justice, for the sake of his name.

For even if I walk in the midst of the shadow of death, I will not fear evil, for you are with me.

Your rod and your staff: these have comforted me.

You have prepared a table before me against those who trouble me.

You have anointed my head with oil, and my chalice which inebriates me, how excellent it is!

And your mercy will follow me all the days of my life. And so may I dwell in the house of the Lord 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. This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it. Alleluia.*

Psalm 23 *The Lord Is My Shepherd*

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

The Lord governs me, and nothing will be lacking for me; he has placed me in a place of pasture.

He has led me to the water of refreshment; he has converted my soul.

He has led me along the paths of justice, for the sake of his name.

For even if I walk in the midst of the shadow of death, I will not fear evil, for you are with me.

Your rod and your staff: these have comforted me.

You have prepared a table before me against those who trouble me.

You have anointed my head with oil, and my chalice which inebriates me, how excellent it is!

And your mercy will follow me all the days of my life. And so may I dwell in the house of the Lord 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. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed; let us therefore celebrate the feast. Alleluia.*

Psalm 24 *The King of Glory Enters*

> *Ant. Death is swallowed up in victory; thanks be to God who gives us the victory. Alleluia.*

The earth is the Lord's and its fullness: the world and all who dwell in it.

For he founded it upon the seas and prepared it upon the rivers.

Who will ascend the mountain of the Lord? Or who will stand in his holy place?

The innocent in hands and clean in heart, who has not received his soul in vain nor sworn deceitfully to his neighbor.

He will receive a blessing from the Lord and mercy from God his Savior.

This is the generation of those who seek him, of those who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Lift up your gates, O princes, and be lifted up, O eternal gates, and the King of Glory will enter.

Who is this King of Glory? The Lord who is strong and powerful, the Lord powerful in battle.

Lift up your gates, O princes, and be lifted up, O eternal gates, and the King of Glory will enter.

Who is this King of Glory? The Lord of hosts; he is the King of Glory.

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. Death is swallowed up in victory; thanks be to God who gives us the victory. Alleluia.*

FIRST READING: SCRIPTURE

2 CORINTHIANS 5:15

And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

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.

SECOND READING: PATRISTIC OR HAGIOGRAPHIC

Saint Ephrem the Syrian

Hymns on the Resurrection 1

Praise to the Risen One

> Death became a gate of life for those who love life; in it life lay hidden until through death it appeared, and from the grave it showed itself. Thanks be to you, the living One, for you died and then returned to life. You went down to the realm of the dead and returned from it carrying spoils. You captured death as a prisoner. All the world was exulting because of you, O Master of the world. And each creature cried out: Glory and honor to you, Jesus, king of the world! You tasted death so that we who taste death should not die in our sins. You descended to the realm of the dead so that the souls of the dead might ascend. You rose and broke through the bars that confined the dead from ages past. You broke those bars and the captive ones came forth. They praised you, the living One who came into the realm of the dead and delivered them. May we too praise you and your resurrection by which you gave life to all the dead. Amen.

TE DEUM

1

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Almighty God, you have given us the hope of resurrection. Let that hope inform our reading, our prayer, and all our living; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Let us praise the Lord.
And give him thanks.