Daytime Prayer

Friday, June 9, 2006

Saint Ephrem of Syria, Deacon and Doctor

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

God of the Morning

God of the morning, God of the midday hour,
grant us your wisdom and your guiding power;
we pause amid the tasks and toils of day
to seek your face and learn to walk your way.

All things are yours: the sunlight and the rain,
the labor of our hands, the joy and pain;
receive our offering of this broken hour
and bless our work with your renewing power.

To God the Father be all glory given,
and to the Son who drew us close to heaven,
and to the Spirit, fire within the soul,
now and forever, making all things whole.

PSALMODY

Psalm 139 *Deliver Me From Evil Men (Part II)*

> *Ant. Praise to you, Lord God, now and forever.*

Do not hand me over, O Lord, to the desire of the wicked; they have conspired against me; do not abandon me, lest they prevail.

The head of their encirclement: the labor of their lips will overwhelm them.

Burning coals will fall upon them; you will cast them into the fire, into miserable ruin, and they will not endure.

A man of tongue will not be established on the earth; evil will capture the unjust man for his destruction.

I know that the Lord will effect the judgment of the poor, and the vindication of the needy.

Yet truly the just will confess to your name, and the upright will dwell with your face.

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. Praise to you, Lord God, now and forever.*

Psalm 140 *Let My Prayer Rise Like Incense*

> *Ant. Praise to you, Lord God, now and forever.*

Lord, I have cried out to you; hear me; give ear to my voice when I cry out to you.

Let my prayer be directed like incense in your sight; the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.

Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth, and a surrounding door over my lips.

Do not let my heart turn to words of malice, or to making excuses for sin.

With men who work iniquity, and I will not communicate with the elect of them.

The just man will correct me with mercy and will rebuke me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.

For my prayer is still against their desires; their judges have been swallowed up, joined to the rock.

They will hear my words, for they have been made sweet.

As if a thickness of earth being broken up on the ground, our bones have been scattered beside hell.

For to you, O Lord, Lord, are my eyes; in you I have hoped; take not away my soul.

Keep me from the snare they have laid for me, and from the stumbling blocks of those who work iniquity.

Sinners will fall in his net; I am alone until I pass through.

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. Praise to you, Lord God, now and forever.*

SHORT READING

ROMANS 12:10–11

Love one another with mutual affection; anticipate one another in showing honor. Do not grow slack in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

RESPONSORY

V. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
R. We bless you from the house of the Lord.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

O God, you neither slumber nor sleep and your care for us is without ceasing. At this midday hour renew our energy for the tasks before us and keep us mindful of your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Let us praise the Lord.
And give him thanks.