Morning Prayer

Saturday, May 2, 2009

Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor

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

This Is the Day

This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice, we will rejoice,
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Death is conquered by his love;
all creation sings with gladness:
praise him, earth below and heaven above.

At the break of Easter morning
Mary came and found the tomb;
but the stone was rolled away, and
Jesus met her in the gloom.

Now the Lord of life is risen;
now our sorrow turns to song;
we who walked in death's dark shadow
are set free from all that long.

Psalm 119 *Grant Me Understanding (Gimel)*

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

Repay your servant; enliven me and I will keep your words.

Remove the veil from my eyes, and I will consider the wonders of your law.

I am a newcomer on the earth; do not hide your commandments from me.

My soul has longed to desire your justifications at all times.

You have rebuked the arrogant; those who decline from your commandments are cursed.

Remove from me reproach and contempt, for I have sought your testimonies.

For leaders were seated and spoke against me, but your servant was meditating on your justifications.

For your testimony is my meditation and your justifications are my counsel.

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 121 *I Rejoiced When They Said to Me*

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

I rejoiced at the things that were said to me: "We will go into the house of the Lord."

Our feet were standing in your courts, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem, which is built as a city, which is compact together.

For there the tribes went up, the tribes of the Lord; the testimony of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.

For there the thrones have sat in judgment, the thrones over the house of David.

Ask for the things that are for the peace of Jerusalem, and abundance for those who love you.

Let peace be in your strength, and abundance in your towers.

For the sake of my brethren and my neighbors, I spoke peace about you.

Because of the house of the Lord our God, I sought good things for 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. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed; let us therefore celebrate the feast. Alleluia.*

OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE

OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE (BARUCH 1:15; 2:11–16)

Justice is with the Lord our God; but to us confusion of face this day.

And now, O Lord our God, who brought your people out of the land of Egypt with a strong hand and with signs and with wonders, and with great power and with a stretched out arm.

And you have made yourself a name as at this day.

We have sinned, we have done wickedly, O Lord our God, against all your ordinances.

Let your indignation be turned away from us, for we are left a few among the nations where you have scattered us.

Hear, O Lord, our prayers and our petitions, and deliver us for your own sake.

And grant that we may find favor in the sight of those who have led us away,

that all the earth may know that you are the Lord our God, and that your name has been called upon Israel and upon his posterity.

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

1 PETER 1:3

> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

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.

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

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

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

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

MORNING INTERCESSIONS

Rejoicing in the resurrection of the Lord, let us offer our prayers, saying:

For the church throughout the world, that it may proclaim the resurrection with boldness and joy: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear us. Alleluia.*

For the newly baptized, that they may grow in the faith they have received and be sustained by the Easter community: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear us. Alleluia.*

For all who are in darkness or despair, that the light of Easter may dawn in their lives: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear us. Alleluia.*

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

For all nations, that the peace of the risen Christ may overcome division and bring reconciliation: we pray to you, O Lord. — *Lord, hear us. Alleluia.*

For ourselves, that we may live as Easter people, bringing the good news of new life to those around us: 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

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son Jesus Christ to overcome death and open for us the gate of everlasting life. Grant us grace to believe in his resurrection and to seek those things which are above; through the same 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.