

Evening Prayer
Wednesday, February 24, 2021

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.**

Ant. 1 The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?

Psalm 27

The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink?

**When evil-doers draw near
to devour my flesh,
it is they, my enemies and foes,
who stumble and fall.**

Though an army encamp against me
my heart would not fear.

Though war break out against me
even then would I trust.

**There is one thing I ask of the Lord,
for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord,
all the days of my life,
to savor the sweetness of the Lord,
to behold his temple.**

For there he keeps me safe in his tent
in the day of evil.

He hides me in the shelter of his tent,
on a rock he sets me safe.

**And now my head shall be raised
above my foes who surround me
and I shall offer within his tent
a sacrifice of joy.**

I will sing and make music for the Lord.

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 is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?

Ant. 2 I long to look on you, O Lord; do not turn your face from me.

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken:
“Seek his face.”

**It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face.
Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help.**

Do not abandon or forsake me,
O God my help!
Though father and mother forsake me,
the Lord will receive me.

**Instruct me, Lord, in your way;
on an even path lead me.
When they lie in ambush protect me
from my enemy's greed.
False witnesses rise against me,
breathing out fury.**

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord!

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. I long to look on you, O Lord; do not turn your face from me.

Ant. 3 He is the first-born of all creation; in every way the primacy is his.

Colossians 1:12-20

Let us give thanks to the Father
for having made you worthy
to share the lot of the saints
in light.

**He rescued us
from the power of darkness
and brought us
into the kingdom of his beloved Son.
Through him we have redemption,
the forgiveness of our sins.**

He is the image of the invisible God,
the first-born of all creatures.
In him everything in heaven and on earth was created,
things visible and invisible.

**All were created through him;
all were created for him.
He is before all else that is.
In him everything continues in being.**

It is he who is head of the body, the church!
he who is the beginning,
the first-born of the dead,
so that primacy may be his in everything.

**It pleased God to make absolute fullness reside in him
and, by means of him, to reconcile everything in his person,
both on earth and in the heavens,
making peace through the blood of his cross.**

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. He is the first-born of all creation; in every way the primacy is his.

BRIEF READING James 1:19-25

Know this, my dear brothers: everyone should be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath, for the wrath of a man does not accomplish the righteousness of God. Therefore, put away all filth and evil excess and humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls. Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves.

For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his own face in a mirror. He sees himself, then goes off and promptly forgets what he looked like.

But the one who peers into the perfect law of freedom and perseveres, and is not a hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, such a one shall be blessed in what he does.

RESPONSORY

To you, O Lord, I make my prayers for mercy.

— **To you, O Lord, I make my prayers for mercy.**

Heal my soul for I have sinned against you.

— **I make my prayers for mercy.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

— **To you, O Lord, I make my prayers for mercy.**

CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. As Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the whale, so will the Son of Man spend three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

Luke 1:46-55

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

**From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.**

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

**He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

**He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.**

He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children 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. As Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the whale,
so will the Son of Man spend three days and three nights in the heart of
the earth.

INTERCESSIONS

Blessed be almighty God, who watches over us as a Father; he knows all
our needs but wants us to seek first his kingdom. Let us cry out to him
as his people:

May your kingdom come, that justice may reign.

Father of all holiness, you gave us Christ as the shepherd of our souls;
stay with your shepherds and the flock entrusted to them, do not leave
this flock without the loving care of its shepherd,

do not leave your shepherds without an obedient flock to follow them.

May your kingdom come, that justice may reign.

Teach Christians to help the weak with loving care,
and in serving them to serve your Son.

May your kingdom come, that justice may reign.

Gather into your Church those who do not yet believe,
and help them to build it up by good deeds done for love of you.

May your kingdom come, that justice may reign.

Help us to turn to you for forgiveness,
and, as you forgive us, reconcile us also with your Church.

May your kingdom come, that justice may reign.

May the dead pass from this world to eternal life,
to be with you forever.

May your kingdom come, that justice may reign.

Our Father...

Concluding Prayer

Look kindly,

Lord, we pray,

on the devotion of your people,

that those who by self-denial are restrained in body
may by the fruit of good works be renewed in mind.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, forever and ever.

Amen.