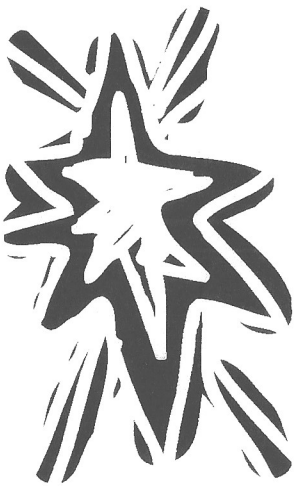
ADVENT MORNING PRAYER

December 23



Please Stand

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.

Morning Hymn: "The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns"

1. *The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks; when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.*

2. *Not as of old, a little child, to bear to fight, to die; but crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky.*

3. *The King shall come when morning dawns and earth's dark night is past; O haste the rising of the morn, the day that aye shall last.*

Test translated by John Brownlie, tune Consolation. Copyright 1967 Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO. All rights reserved.

Psalmody

(Repeat antiphon after Leader)

Ant: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; come and rescue me, for you are my refuge and my strength.

Psalm 25

L: Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.

R: Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me your paths,

L: Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior.

R: Good and upright is the Lord; thus he shows sinners the way. .

L: He guides the humble to justice, he teaches the humble his way.

R: All the paths of the Lord are kindness and constancy toward those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

L: The friendship of the Lord is with those who fear him, and his covenant, for their instruction.

R: Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.

Psalm Prayer

Lord Jesus, early in the morning of your resurrection you made your love known and brought the first light of dawn to those who dwell in darkness. Your death has opened a path for us. Do not enter into judgment with your servants; let your good Spirit guide us together into the land of justice.

(Antiphon all together)

Ant: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; come and rescue me, for you are my refuge and my strength.

Reading: Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24

Thus says the Lord God: Lo, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me; and suddenly there will come to the temple the Lord whom you seek, and the messenger of the covenant whom you desire. Yes, he is

coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who will endure the day of his coming? And who can stand when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire, or like the fuller's lye. He will sit refining and purifying silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi, refining them like gold or like silver that they may offer due sacrifice to the Lord. Then the sacrifice of Judah and Jerusalem will please the Lord, as in the days of old, as in years gone by. Lo, I will send you Elijah, the prophet, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and terrible day, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with doom. The word of the Lord.

Permission to stream music in this service obtained from One License with license A-701559.

Psalm 85: "Lord, Let Us See Your Kindness"

Please repeat after cantor the first time:

Lord, let us see your kindness; Lord, let us see your kindness.

By Marty Haugen. Copyright 1983 by G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. One License. Net License #1-701559.

Psalm Prayer

Lord God, great builder of the heavenly Jerusalem, you know the number of the stars and call each of them by name. Heal hearts that are broken, gather together those who have been scattered, and enrich us all from the plenitude of your eternal wisdom.

Reading: Luke 1:57-66

When the time arrived for Elizabeth to have her child she gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy toward her, and they rejoiced with her. When they came on the eighth day to circumcise the child, they were going to call him Zechariah after his father, but his mother said in reply, "No. He will be called John." But they answered her, "There is no one among your relatives who has this name." So they made signs, asking his father what he wished him to be called. He asked for a tablet and wrote, "John is his name," and all were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened, his tongue freed, and he spoke blessing God. Then fear came upon all their neighbors, and all these matters were discussed throughout the hill country of Judea. All who heard these things took them to heart, saying,"What, then, will this child be?" For surely the hand of the Lord was with him. The Gospel of the Lord.

Quiet Reflection

Intercessions Respond: "Lord, hear our prayer."

Lord's Prayer

Kiss of Peace

Closing Prayer

Lord, we contemplate the birth of your Son. He was born of the Virgin Mary and came to live among us. May we receive forgiveness and mercy through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Dismissal

May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil and bring us to life everlasting. Amen.

SHARE THE FAITH