Wednesday, December 4, 2019

Opening Versicles

P: O Lord, open my lips.
C: and my mouth will declare Your praise.
P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C: make haste to help me, O Lord.

C: Glory be 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. Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

Hymn: “Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People” ........................................... # 347

Holden Evening Prayer, pp. 2-7
Service of Light
Psalmody, Readings and Canticles

Scripture Readings

Old Testament: Isaiah 1:1-18
1 The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.
2 Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth; for the Lord has spoken:
“Children have I reared and brought up, but they have rebelled against me.
3 The ox knows its owner, and the donkey its master’s crib, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand.” 4 Ah, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, offspring of evildoers, children who deal corruptly!
They have forsaken the Lord, they have despised the Holy One of Israel, they are utterly estranged. 5 Why will you still be struck down? Why will you continue to rebel? The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint.
6 From the sole of the foot even to the head, there is no soundness in it, but bruises and sores and raw wounds; they are not pressed out or bound up or softened with oil. 7 Your country lies desolate; your cities are burned with fire; in your very presence foreigners devour your land; it is desolate, as overthrown by foreigners. 8 And the daughter of Zion is left like a booth in a vineyard, like a lodge in a cucumber field, like a besieged city. 9 If the Lord of hosts had not left us a few survivors, we should have been like Sodom, and become like Gomorrah.
10 Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom! Give ear to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah! 11 “What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or
of goats. 12 “When you come to appear before me, who has required of you this trampling of my courts? 13 Bring no more vain offerings; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations—I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly. 14 Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hates; they have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. 15 When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood.

16 Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, 17 learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow’s cause.

18 “Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Stand


26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin’s name was Mary. 28 And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” 29 But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. 30 And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” 34 And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?” 35 And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. 36 And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God.” 38 And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

Responsory for Advent

P: Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.
C: This is the name by which He will be called: The LORD Is Our Righteousness.
P: In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.
C: This is the name by which He will be called: The LORD is Our Righteousness.
P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit
C: This is the name by which He will be called: The LORD is Our Righteousness.

Hymn: “Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring” ......................... # 353

Sermon

Offering

(We continue with Holden Evening Prayer on page 8 with the response below)

Leader: The Light shines in the darkness.
All: and the darkness has not overcome it.

The Annunciation (page 8)
The Magnificat (page 8)
Litany and Prayers (pp. 10-11)

Leader: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises we are bold to pray:
All: Our Father who art in heaven,
     Hallowed by 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.

Leader: Let us bless the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

Leader: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son,
     and the Holy Spirit, bless us and preserve us.
All: Amen.

Hymn: “Now the Light Has Gone Away” ............................ # 887