**EASTER VIGIL 2020**

*~ LAUDS ~*

*(Adapted from the Glenstal Book of Daily Prayer, A Benedictine Celtic Book of Hours)*

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*The sign of the cross is traced on the lips while saying:*

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall praise your name.

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

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

World without end, Amen.

 **HOLY WEEK INVOCATION OF THE LIGHT**

*Candle is lit by icon, statue, Bible...*

Glory be to God who has shown us the light!

Lead me from darkness to light.

Lead me from sadness to joy.

Lead me from death to immortality.

Glory be to God who has shown us the light!

And Christ, the Light of the World,

Humbled Himself, even to accepting death, death on a cross.

God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him,

we might become the righteousness of God. (Phil 2:8; Cor 5:21)

*A deep bow or gesture of reverence may be made while the following verses are read:*

**PSALMS**

Psalm 51: 1-10

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.

In your compassion, blot out my offense.

O wash me more and more from my guilt

And cleanse me from my sin.

My offenses truly O know them:

My sin is always before me.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned;

what is evil in your sight I have done.

That you may be justified with you give sentence

and be without reproach when you judge,

O see, in guilt I was born,

a sinner was I conceived.

Indeed you love truth in the heart;

Then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom.

O purify me, then I shall be clean;

O wash me, I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me hear rejoicing and gladness

that the bones you have crushed may revive.

From my sins turn away your face

And blot out all my guilt.

***Prayer***

Take away, good Lord, the sin that corrupts us;

and give us the sorrow that heals and the joy that praises

and restore by grace your own image within us,

that we may take our place among your people;

In Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Psalm 148: 1-6, 14

Praise the Lord from the heavens,

Praise God in the heights.

Praise God, all you angels,

Praise him, all you hosts.

Praise God, sun and moon.

Praise him, shining stars.

Praise God, highest heavens

and the waters above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord.

The Lord commanded and they were made.

God fixed them forever,

gave a law which shall not pass away.

God exalts the strength of the people,

is the praise of all the saints,

of the sons and daughters of Israel,

of the people to whom he comes close.

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:*

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,*

*World without end, Amen.*

***Prayer***

O glorious God,

Your whole creation sings your marvelous work; May heaven’s praise so echo in our hearts

that we may be good stewards of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

**CANTICLE**

Isaiah 33:13-16

Hear, you who are far away, what I have done;

and you who are near, acknowledge my might.

The sinners of Zion are afraid:

trembling has seized the godless.

Who among us can live with the devouring fire?

Who among us can live with everlasting flames?

Those who walk righteously and speak uprightly,

who despise the gain of oppression,

Who wave away a bribe instead of accepting it,

who stop their ears from hearing of bloodshed,

and shut their eyes from looking upon evil,

They will live in the heights;

Their refuge will be the fortresses of rocks;

Their food will be supplied, their water assured.

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:*

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,*

*World without end, Amen.*

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Hebrews 5:7-10

In the days of His flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His reverent submission. Although He was a Son, He learned obedience through what He suffered; and having been made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey Him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

*Pause for silent reflection*

**GOSPEL CANTICLE**

“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path”

*The sign of the cross may be made at the beginning of the reading*

Luke 1: 68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;

He has come to His people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior,

born of the house of his servant David.

Through His holy prophets he promised of old

that He would save us from our enemies,

from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers

and to remember His holy covenant.

This was the oath He swore to our father Abraham:

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

free to worship Him without fear,

Holy and righteous in His sight all the days of our lives.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,

for you will go before the Lord to prepare His way,

to give His people knowledge of salvation

by forgiving them their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God

The dawn from on high shall break upon us,

to shine on those who dwell in darkness

and the shadow of death,

and to guide our feet on the road of peace.

“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path”

**PRAYERS**

Thanksgiving:

- For Christ’s humble example on the cross…

- For the assurance of the forgiveness of sin…

- For the example of all who lay down their lives for others…

*Silently offer up your own prayers…Followed by reciting the* ***LORD’S PRAYER***

**HOLY WEEK COLLECT**

God of Mercy, Your Son Jesus hose suffering and the cross in place of the joy that was held out to him; teach us to carry one another’s burdens, that we may die and rise again to live in him who is our Savior, forever and ever, Amen.

**HOLY WEEK BLESSING**

May the King of This Good Friday lead us into paradise…

To the holy and undivided Trinity; to the Father of all good gifts;

to the humanity of our Lord Jesus Christ, crucified and risen,

be all praise, honor and adoration at this time and forevermore.

May the glorious cross of the Son of God protect us in life and death,

and lead us safely to our heavenly home, Amen.