Celebrating Common Prayer

Society of St Francis

Midday Prayer – Tuesday or any Day in Advent *(amended)*

THE PREPARATION

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to God, Creator, Word, Spirit
As it was in the beginning, is now,
And shall be forever. Amen

Alleluia! *(Omitted in Lent)*

A Gathering Prayer from Enfleshed.com

Spirit of Love,
We welcome you.
We celebrate your coming to abide with us.
And we remember the ways you have been faithfully companioning us since the beginning.
It was you who wove all life together.
Your glory is painted across all of creation.
Throughout history, over and over again, you have taken on flesh,
in the ordinary and the extraordinary,
in the vulnerability of infants,
the fierce proclamations of prophets,
the enduring hope of those who persevere under evil's threats.
Where there is grief, where there is holy rage,
where there is fear or sacred imagination growing,
You abide across the ages.

Bless our time together, as we remember again the still-unfolding story of your love:
A love that comes to dwell among us.

A love that surprises and disrupts.
A love that reveals the way of liberation.
May it be so among us. Amen.

A HYMN is said or sung

O God of truth, O Lord of might,
You order time and change aright,
And send the early morning ray
And light the glow of perfect day.

Extinguish every sinful fire
And banish all our ill desire;
And, while you keep the body whole,
Shed forth your peace upon the soul.

O Father, that we ask be done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son,
Who, with the Spirit, reigns above,
Three Persons in one God of love. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE PSALMODY

Psalm 70
Refrain:Come to me quickly, O God.

1 O God, make speed to save me; *
O Lord, make haste to help me.

2 Let those who seek my life
be put to shame and confusion; *
let them be turned back and disgraced
who wish me evil.

3 Let those who mock and deride me *
turn back because of their shame.

4 But let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; *
let those who love your salvation say always, 'Great is the Lord!'

5 As for me, I am poor and needy; *
come to me quickly, O God.

6 You are my help and my deliverer; *
O Lord, do not delay.

Glory to God, Creator, Word, Spirit
As it was in the beginning, is now,
And shall be forever. Amen

THE READING

Jesus said to Peter, James, John and Andrew, 'It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake — for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.' *Mark 13.34 - end*

THE RESPONSE:

Unless the Lord builds the house,
Those who build it labour in vain.

Unless the Lord defends the city,
The guard keeps watch in vain.

It is in vain that you rise up early
And go so late to rest.

Vain, also, to eat the bread of toil,

For God gives to God's belovèd sleep.

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil;
Your Maker will guard your life.

God will keep your going out and your coming in,
Now and for evermore.

THE PRAYERS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE KYRIES may be used as part of the intercessions

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT:

God of timeless grace,
you fill us with joyful expectation:
make us ready for the message that prepares the way,
so that with uprightness of heart and holy joy
we may eagerly await the coming of your Son,
Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever. **Amen**.

As we look for the coming of God's reign in fullness,
Lord, teach us to pray:
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name;

your kingdom come;
your will be done;
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Keep us from the time of trial
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory, are yours
now and ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May God bless the work of our hands. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.