The Saint Bede's Breviary: Companions of St. Luke Edition

Vespers for Tuesday after the Fifth Sunday of Easter

(Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishop and Theologian, 389)

Commemoration of Fifth Sunday of Easter

Opening Sentence

Worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him. Psalm 96:9

The Invitatory

V: O God, make speed to save us.

R: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Alleluia

O Gracious Light Phos hilaron

O gracious Light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,

O Son of God, O Giver of life,

and to be glorified through all the worlds.

The Psalms Appointed

Psalm 75 Confitebimur tibi

I will rejoice for ever; I will sing praises to the God of Jacob, hallelujah.

- ¹ We give you thanks, O God, we give you thanks, * calling upon your Name and declaring all your wonderful deeds.
- ² I will appoint a time, says God; * I will judge with equity.
- ³ Though the earth and all its inhabitants are quaking, * I will make its pillars fast.
- ⁴ I will say to the boasters, 'Boast no more, '* and to the wicked, 'Do not toss your horns;
- ⁵ Do not toss your horns so high, * nor speak with a proud neck."
- ⁶ For judgment is neither from the east nor from the west, * nor yet from the wilderness or the mountains.
- It is God who judges; *
 he puts down one and lifts up another.
- ⁸ For in the LORD'S hand there is a cup, full of spiced and foaming wine, which he pours out, * and all the wicked of the earth shall drink and drain the dregs.
- ⁹ But I will rejoice for ever; *I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.
- He shall break off all the horns of the wicked; * but the horns of the righteous shall be exalted.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

I will rejoice for ever; I will sing praises to the God of Jacob, hallelujah.

Psalm 33 Exultate, justi

The loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole earth, hallelujah.

- ¹ Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous; * it is good for the just to sing praises.
- Praise the LORD with the harp; *

play to him upon the psaltery and lyre.

- ³ Sing for him a new song; * sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet.
- ⁴ For the word of the LORD is right, * and all his works are sure.
- ⁵ He loves righteousness and justice; * the loving-kindness of the LORD fills the whole earth.
- ⁶ By the word of the LORD were the heavens made, * by the breath of his mouth all the heavenly hosts.
- ⁷ He gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a water-skin * and stores up the depths of the sea.
- ⁸ Let all the earth fear the LORD; * let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of him.
- ⁹ For he spoke, and it came to pass; * he commanded, and it stood fast.
- ¹⁰ The LORD brings the will of the nations to naught; * he thwarts the designs of the peoples.
- But the LORD'S will stands fast for ever, * and the designs of his heart from age to age.
- Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD! * blessed the people he has chosen to be his own!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole earth, hallelujah.

Psalm 33 (cont.)

To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory, hallelujah.

- 13 The LORD looks down from heaven, * and beholds all the people in the world.
- ¹⁴ From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze * on all who dwell on the earth.
- ¹⁵ He fashions all the hearts of them * and understands all their works.
- ¹⁶ There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army; * a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.

- ¹⁷ The horse is a vain hope for deliverance; * for all its strength it cannot save.
- ¹⁸ Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon those who fear him, * on those who wait upon his love,
- ¹⁹ To pluck their lives from death, * and to feed them in time of famine.
- Our soul waits for the LORD; * he is our help and our shield.
- ²¹ Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, * for in his holy Name we put our trust.
- Let your loving-kindness, O LORD, be upon us, * as we have put our trust in you.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory, hallelujah.

The Lessons

A reading from 'Luke 8:1-15 (NRSV)'

Soon afterwards he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their resources. When a great crowd gathered and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell on the path and was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. Some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered for lack of moisture. Some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. Some fell into good soil, and when it grew, it produced a hundredfold." As he said this, he called out, "Let anyone with ears to hear listen!" Then his disciples asked him what this parable meant. He said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but to others I speak in parables, so that 'looking they may not perceive, and listening they may not understand.' "Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones on the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. The ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe only for a while and in a time of testing fall away. As for what fell among the thorns, these are the ones who hear; but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. But as for that in the good soil, these are the ones who, when they hear the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance.

Here ends the Reading.

The Song of Mary Magnificat Luke 1:46-55

God who raised Jesus to life will with Jesus raise us, too, and bring us in to the holy presence, hallelujah.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in you, O God my Savior, *

for you have looked with favor on your lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:*

you, the Almighty, have done great things for me, and holy is your name.

You have mercy on those who fear you *

from generation to generation.

You have shown strength with your arm *

and scattered the proud in their conceit,

Casting down the mighty from their thrones *

and lifting up the lowly.

You have filled the hungry with good things *

and sent the rich away empty.

You have come to the help of your servant Israel, *

for you have remembered your promise of mercy, The promise made to our forebears, *

to Abraham and his children for ever

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

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

God who raised Jesus to life will with Jesus raise us, too, and bring us in to the holy presence, hallelujah.

The Prayers

V: The Lord be with you.

R: And also with you.

Let us 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. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Suffrages B

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

We entreat you, O Lord.

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

We entreat you, O Lord.

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ, We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of [the glorious and ever-blessed Virgin Mary, St. Michael the Defender, _____ and] all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ, We entreat you, O Lord.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, who has revealed to your Church your eternal Being of glorious majesty and perfect love as one God in Trinity of Persons: Give us grace that, like your bishop Gregory of Nazianzus, we may continue steadfast in the confession of this faith, and constant in our worship of you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; who live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

Commemoration of Fifth Sunday of Easter

I have been with you all this time and you do not know me? Philip, who sees me, sees my Father, alleluia...

V. Stay with us, Lord, alleluia.

R. For it is evening, alleluia.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Collect for Aid against Perils

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer for Mission

O God, you manifest in your servants the signs of your presence: Send forth upon us the spirit of love, that in companionship with one another your abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Pause and add prayers for healing, and intercessory and thanksgiving prayers here.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen*.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:20

Regina Caeli

O Queen of heaven, be joyful: Alleluia

For he who was born of your body: Alleluia

Has arisen as he promised : Alleluia

Pray for us to the Father : Alleluia

V: Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia.

R: For the Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia.

Let us pray:

O God, who by the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ gave gladness to the world: Grant, we pray, that we, aided by the prayers of the Virgin Mary his mother, may attain to the joys of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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