

Psalms, readings and collect

Date: 23rd December – O Emmanuel

Psalm:

(128) BLESSED are all they that fear the Lord : and walk in his ways.
2 For thou shalt eat the labours of thine hands : O well is thee, and happy shalt thou be.
3 Thy wife shall be as the fruitful vine : upon the walls of thine house.
4 Thy children like the olive-branches : round about thy table.
5 Lo, thus shall the man be blessed : that feareth the Lord.
6 The Lord from out of Sion shall so bless thee : that thou shalt see Jerusalem in prosperity all thy life long.
7 Yea, that thou shalt see thy children's children: and peace upon Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

(129) MANY a time have they fought against me from my youth up : may Israel now say.
2 Yea, many a time have they vexed me from my youth up : but they have not prevailed against me.
3 The plowers plowed upon my back : and made long furrows.
4 But the righteous Lord : hath hewn the snares of the ungodly in pieces.
5 Let them be confounded and turned backward: as many as have evil will at Sion.
6 Let them be even as the grass growing upon the house-tops : which withereth afore it be plucked up;
7 Whereof the mower filleth not his hand : neither he that bindeth up the sheaves his bosom.
8 So that they who go by say not so much as, The Lord prosper you : we wish you good luck in the Name of the Lord.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

(130) OUT of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord : Lord, hear my voice.
2 O let thine ears consider well : the voice of my complaint.
3 If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss : O Lord, who may abide it?
4 For there is mercy with thee : therefore shalt thou be feared.
5 I look for the Lord; my soul doth wait for him : in his word is my trust.
6 My soul fleeth unto the Lord : before the morning watch, I say, before the morning watch.
7 O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy : and with him is plenteous redemption.
8 And he shall redeem Israel : from all his sins.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

(130) LORD, I am not high-minded : I have no proud looks.
2 I do not exercise myself in great matters : which are too high for me.
3 But I refrain my soul, and keep it low, like as a child that is weaned from his mother : yea, my soul is even as a weaned child.
4 O Israel, trust in the Lord : from this time forth for evermore.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Reading:

A Reading from the Gospel according to Saint Luke.

The time came for Elizabeth to be delivered, and she gave birth to a son. And her neighbors and kinsfolk heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. And on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; and they would have named him Zechari'ah after his father, but his mother said, "Not so; he shall be called John." And they said to her, "None of your kindred is called by this name." And they made signs to his father, inquiring what he would have him called. And he asked for a writing tablet, and wrote, "His name is John." And they all marvelled. And immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God. And fear came on all their neighbors. And all these things were talked about through all the hill country of Judea; and all who heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, "What then will this child be?" For the hand of the Lord was with him.

Antiphon for the Benedictus and Magnificat:

O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver, the Desire of all nations, and their Salvation: Come and save us O Lord, our God.

Collect of the day:

O Lord, raise up (we pray Thee) Thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour us: that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, Thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through the satisfaction of Thy Son our Lord, to Whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory; God, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.