The Rev. Candace Veon-Nyiri '96

Sunday, December 19, 2010

Morning Psalms 24; 150
First Reading Isaiah 11:10-16
Second Reading Revelation 20:1-10
Gospel John 5:30-47
Evening Psalms 25; 110

1 Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament! 2 Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness! 3 Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! 4 Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! 5 Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! 6 Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

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LET EVERYTHING WITH BREATH PRAISE THE LORD!

Psalm 150 reminds me of an invitation to a party! It gives us the who, what, where, why, and how of throwing a celebration in God's honor. All that have life and breath are invited to fulfill their very purpose for existence by praising the Creator, who gives us breath.

In a few days a celebration will be taking place and all people of this world are included to join in the crescendo of praise for our good and great and glorious God! For many of us, this most joyful celebration of God gets buried under the burdens and stress of everyday living. We forget our call to praise and worship! Let us refocus and remember that God has done great things for us. Let us celebrate with abandonment and enthusiasm the amazing fact that God came to earth as a child, the long awaited Messiah…and that child lived and breathed and grew to be the man who died and rose again so that we might have the gift of eternal life. It is time for a party.

LET EVERYTHING WITH BREATH PRAISE THE LORD!

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Prayer: Gracious God, as we approach Christmas, may we join in the celebration like the heavenly hosts and angels, shepherds, wise men, and people of all times and places praising and saying: "Glory to God in the Highest"! May we be open and attuned to the wonder of celebrating the One who Christmas is all about. With grateful hearts we thank you, God!