Midday Prayer – Wednesday (can be used daily at Christmastime)

An order adapted from Celebrating Common Prayer: Society of St Francis

You are welcome to respond with the parts in **bold** type

Preparation

God is with you And also with you

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!

Hymn sung or said

Lord Christ, you came on us to shine True light from the eternal Light! And now the Father's brightness rests On those who long have dwelt in night.

O see how all that lives and breathes True homage gives in deed and word: The glory of almighty God, The Father's image, Christ our Lord.

We bless the Father, Fount of light, And you, O Christ, beloved Son, Who, with the Spirit, dwell in us; The only God; the Three in One. Amen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

Psalm 127

- 1 Unless the Lord builds the house,* their labour is in vain who build it.
- 2 Unless the Lord watches over the city,* in vain the guard keeps vigil.

- 3 It is in vain that you rise so early and go to bed so late;* vain, too, to eat the bread of toil, for he gives to his beloved sleep.
- 4 Children are a heritage from the Lord,* and the fruit of the womb is a gift.
- 5 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior* are the children of one's youth.
- 6 Happy are they who have their quiver full of them!* they shall not be put to shame when they contend with their enemies in the gate.

Psalm 128

- 1 Happy are they all who fear the Lord,* and who follow in his ways!
- 2 You shall eat the fruit of your labour;* happiness and prosperity shall be yours.
- 3 Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine within your house,* your children like olive shoots round about your table.
- 4 Whoever fears the Lord* shall thus indeed be blessed.
- 5 The Lord bless you from Zion,* and may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.
- 6 May you live to see your children's children;* may peace be upon Israel.

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

Short Reading

Jesus said "Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

Mark 3. 35

Hear what the Spirit is saying

Thanks be to God

Responsory

That which we heard from the beginning,

Which we saw with our own eyes and touched with our hands,

The Word of life, which was from the beginning, **We now proclaim to you.**

The old world is passing away

And the new world emerging.

God is our life, Who brings us new life

The Prayers

THE KYRIES may be used

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The Collect

Loving God, from birth to death, you hold us in your hand: make us strong to bear each others burdens and humble to share our own, that as one family we may rest in your power and trust in your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen

The Disciples Prayer

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, let us pray in faith and trust:

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 forever.
Amen

Blessing

May Christ dwell in our hearts by faith.

Amen.

Let us bless our Loving God.

Thanks be to God.