December 19, 2022
23rd Day of Advent
Psalm 113

Read the attached Psalm 113

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! This hymn of praise could be a daily practice of focusing on God. When rising to see a beautiful sunrise and the blessing of the creation only a hymn of praise will do. Praise the Lord! This particular hymn of praise, however, is especially appropriate for the Advent season as it concludes with what might be called a mini-Magnificat, Mary's hymn of praise to God for blessing her with a son who would be the Messiah. A son who would usher in great changes to the life of the people of Israel. He would bring good news to the poor and needy, the lowly like the barren woman will be blessed. The marginalized and powerless will be lifted up to sit with princes. God's heart is drawn particularly to the most in need. The agenda for the one coming at Christmas will be the same. Praise the Lord!

Let us pray. Blessed Lord, lift us all up in our times of need. When we are feeling lost and far from your blessing, send your love and hope into our hearts. Remind us that your gracious care is always near us ready to hold us and comfort us when we open our hearts to you in prayer. Praise and thanksgiving to you for your special care for the downtrodden. Amen.

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