



Bless the Lord, you angels of his, you mighty ones who do his bidding and hearken to the voice of his word.

Psalm 103:20

Praising:

Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!

Let all cry aloud, and honour the Son:

the praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,

fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

Reading:

Revelation 12:7-12 War in heaven

A mysterious and symbolic few verses! Thanks to Christ, time has been called on Battle One. In Battle Two there remains all to fight for. Wherever the Christian Church is bearing testimony and possibly shedding blood for doing so, earthly wars between good and evil stand some chance of being settled. To the world that may sound hopelessly optimistic,

but surely it's not hopelessly optimistic if evil has already lost? Only because life has triumphed over death can we make any serious call for people to desist from violence and to reject hatred. That central victory makes every personal judgment, every moral choice, every ethical decision an invitation for us to take the winning side – the side of the angels. What Scripture reminds us, is that angels always represent the divine assistance. Where angels are, God is never far away.

Listening:

Praying:

In all our spiritual battles Lord, we claim the power of Christ's Easter victory

In all our spiritual battles Lord, we claim the power of Christ's Easter victory

- over the forces of evil, injustice and oppression which vie for control all around us
- over the cynicism which scorns faith and the doubt which rejects hope
- over the personal temptations and weaknesses which trip us up, over and over again

Father: in Christ the final triumph has been won so grant me courage to hold out for you to the very end, whatever the assaults and opposition, whatever the stumbles and failures. Amen

Doing: