

Saint Thomas's Church

The Tenth Sunday After Trinity

Sunday, August 8, 2021

on Zoom

Evensong at 4:00 pm

followed by Coffee Hour



Scenes from the Life of Absalom,
Leaf from the Morgan Picture Bible, c. 1250
J. Paul Getty Museum

Saint Thomas's Anglican Church

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Officiant: Fr. D'Angelo
Cantors: Elizabeth Anderson & David Yung

EVENSONG PRELUDE:

HYMN 44 – The day hath now an ending

- 1 The day hath now an ending,
O Light, all light transcending,
Be with us as we pray;
O stay thou close beside us,
Jesus, our Saviour, hide us,
Until the earth's shadows flee away.
- 2 And then, for those, and our nearest,
Our friends belov'd and dearest,
God keep you in his sight!
His sheltering arms defend you,
Till morning breaks with golden light.

INNSBRÜCK
Tr. From the German of Paul Gerhardt 1649

Ascribed to Heinrich Isaac, 1539
Adapted and harmonized by J.S. Bach, 1685-1750

V / O Lord, open thou our lips;
R / *And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.*
V / O God, make speed to save us;
R / *O Lord, make haste to help us.*

V / Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
R / *As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,*
world without end. Amen.

V / Praise ye the Lord;
R / *The Lord's Name be praised.*

PSALM 51, *Tone II, 1*

- 1 Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness; /
according to the multitude of thy mercies do away mine offences.
- 2 Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, / and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I acknowledge my faults, / and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against thee only have I sinned, and done that which is evil in thy sight;
that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest,
and clear when thou dost judge.
- 5 Behold, I was brought forth in wickedness, /
and in sin hath my mother conceived me.
- 6 But lo, thou requirest truth in the inward parts, /
and shalt make me to understand wisdom secretly.
- 7 Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; /
thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- 8 Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness, /
that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.
- 9 Turn thy face from my sins, / and put out all my misdeeds.
- 10 Make me a clean heart, O God, / and renew a right spirit within me.
- 11 Cast me not away from thy presence, /
and take not thy holy spirit from me.
- 12 O give me the comfort of thy help again, /
and stablish me with a free spirit.
- 13 Then shall I teach thy ways unto the wicked, /
and sinners shall be converted unto thee.
- 14 Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God,
thou that art the God of my salvation; /
and my tongue shall sing of thy righteousness.
- 15 O Lord, open thou my lips, / and my mouth shall show forth thy praise.
- 16 For thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it; /
but thou delightest not in burnt offerings.
- 17 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit: /
a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt thou not despise.
- 18 O be favourable and gracious unto Sion; /
build thou the walls of Jerusalem.

19 Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness,
with the burnt offerings and oblations; /
then shall they offer young bullocks upon thine altar.

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.

FIRST LESSON – 2 Samuel 18

Then David mustered the men who were with him, and set over them commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds. And David sent forth the army, one third under the command of Joab, one third under the command of Abishai the son of Zeruiah, Joab's brother, and one third under the command of Ittai the Gittite. And the king said to the men, "I myself will also go out with you." But the men said, "You shall not go out. For if we flee, they will not care about us. If half of us die, they will not care about us. But you are worth ten thousand of us; therefore it is better that you send us help from the city." The king said to them, "Whatever seems best to you I will do." So the king stood at the side of the gate, while all the army marched out by hundreds and by thousands. And the king ordered Joab and Abishai and Ittai, "Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom." And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders about Absalom. So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim. And the men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty thousand men. The battle spread over the face of all the country; and the forest devoured more people that day than the sword. And Absalom chanced to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding upon his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak, and his head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on. And a certain man saw it, and told Joab, "Behold, I saw Absalom hanging in an oak." Joab said to the man who told him, "What, you saw him! Why then did you not strike him there to the ground? I would have been glad to give you ten pieces of silver and a girdle." But the man said to Joab, "Even if I felt in my hand the weight of a thousand pieces of silver, I would not put forth my hand against the king's son; for in our hearing the king commanded you and Abishai and Ittai, 'For my sake protect the young man

Absalom.' On the other hand, if I had dealt treacherously against his life (and there is nothing hidden from the king), then you yourself would have stood aloof." Joab said, "I will not waste time like this with you." And he took three darts in his hand, and thrust them into the heart of Absalom, while he was still alive in the oak. And ten young men, Joab's armor-bearers, surrounded Absalom and struck him, and killed him. Then Joab blew the trumpet, and the troops came back from pursuing Israel; for Joab restrained them. And they took Absalom, and threw him into a great pit in the forest, and raised over him a very great heap of stones; and all Israel fled every one to his own home. Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and set up for himself the pillar which is in the King's Valley, for he said, "I have no son to keep my name in remembrance"; he called the pillar after his own name, and it is called Absalom's monument to this day. Then said Ahimaaz the son of Zadok, "Let me run, and carry tidings to the king that the LORD has delivered him from the power of his enemies." And Joab said to him, "You are not to carry tidings today; you may carry tidings another day, but today you shall carry no tidings, because the king's son is dead." Then Joab said to the Cushite, "Go, tell the king what you have seen." The Cushite bowed before Joab, and ran. Then Ahimaaz the son of Zadok said again to Joab, "Come what may, let me also run after the Cushite." And Joab said, "Why will you run, my son, seeing that you will have no reward for the tidings?" "Come what may," he said, "I will run." So he said to him, "Run." Then Ahimaaz ran by the way of the plain, and outran the Cushite.

Now David was sitting between the two gates; and the watchman went up to the roof of the gate by the wall, and when he lifted up his eyes and looked, he saw a man running alone. And the watchman called out and told the king. And the king said, "If he is alone, there are tidings in his mouth." And he came apace, and drew near. And the watchman saw another man running; and the watchman called to the gate and said, "See, another man running alone!" The king said, "He also brings tidings." And the watchman said, "I think the running of the foremost is like the running of Ahimaaz the son of Zadok." And the king said, "He is a good man, and comes with good tidings." Then Ahimaaz cried out to the king, "All is well." And he bowed before the king with his face to the earth, and said, "Blessed be the LORD your God, who has delivered up the men who raised their hand against my lord the king." And the king said, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" Ahimaaz answered, "When Joab sent your servant, I saw a great tumult, but I do not know what it was." And the king said, "Turn aside, and stand

here.” So he turned aside, and stood still. And behold, the Cushite came; and the Cushite said, “Good tidings for my lord the king! For the LORD has delivered you this day from the power of all who rose up against you.” The king said to the Cushite, “Is it well with the young man Absalom?” And the Cushite answered, “May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up against you for evil, be like that young man.” And the king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; and as he went, he said, “O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!”

Here endeth the First Lesson.

THE MAGNIFICAT
Canticles, Tone I, 4

MY soul doth magnify the Lord, /
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded / the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth / all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me; / and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him / throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm; /
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, /
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things; /
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy / hath holpen his servant Israel;
As he promised to our forefathers, / Abraham and his seed for ever.
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.

SECOND LESSON – Acts 15.1-31

But some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brethren, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.” And when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and the elders about this question. So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, reporting the conversion of the Gentiles, and they gave great joy to all the brethren. When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they declared all that God had done with them. But some believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees rose up, and said, “It is necessary to circumcise them, and to charge them to keep the law of Moses.” The apostles and the elders were gathered together to consider this matter. And after there had been much debate, Peter rose and said to them, “Brethren, you know that in the early days God made choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. And God who knows the heart bore witness to them, giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us; and he made no distinction between us and them, but cleansed their hearts by faith. Now therefore why do you make trial of God by putting a yoke upon the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? But we believe that we shall be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.” And all the assembly kept silence; and they listened to Barnabas and Paul as they related what signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles. After they finished speaking, James replied, “Brethren, listen to me. Simeon has related how God first visited the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name. And with this the words of the prophets agree, as it is written, ‘After this I will return, and I will rebuild the dwelling of David, which has fallen; I will rebuild its ruins, and I will set it up, that the rest of men may seek the Lord, and all the Gentiles who are called by my name, says the Lord, who has made these things known from of old.’ Therefore my judgment is that we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God, but should write to them to abstain from the pollutions of idols and from unchastity and from what is strangled and from blood. For from early generations Moses has had in every city those who preach him, for he is read every sabbath in the synagogues.” Then it seemed good to the apostles and the elders, with the whole church, to choose men from among them

and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They sent Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leading men among the brethren, with the following letter: "The brethren, both the apostles and the elders, to the brethren who are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia, greeting. Since we have heard that some persons from us have troubled you with words, unsettling your minds, although we gave them no instructions, it has seemed good to us, having come to one accord, to choose men and send them to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, men who have risked their lives for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will tell you the same things by word of mouth. For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things: that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols and from blood and from what is strangled and from unchastity. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell." So when they were sent off, they went down to Antioch; and having gathered the congregation together, they delivered the letter. And when they read it, they rejoiced at the exhortation.

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

NUNC DIMITTIS

Canticles, Tone I, 4

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, / according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, /
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, /
and to be the glory of thy people 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.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God
the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth:
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of
the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended
into hell; The third day he rose again from the
dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on
the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholic Church;
The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins;
The Resurrection of the body,
And the Life everlasting. Amen.

V / The Lord be with you;

R / And with thy spirit.

V / Let us pray.

V / Lord, have mercy upon us.

R / Christ, have mercy upon us.

V / Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father
who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will
be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And
forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Priest: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

People: And grant us thy salvation.

Priest: O Lord, save the Queen;

People: And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Priest: Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

People: And make thy chosen people joyful.

Priest: O Lord, save thy people;

People: And bless thine inheritance.

Priest: Give peace in our time, O Lord;

People: And evermore mightily defend us.

Priest: O God, make clean our hearts within us;

People: And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let thy merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of thy humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

COLLECT FOR PEACE

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*

COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

PRAYERS

(the General Thanksgiving may be said)

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, We thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks For all thy goodness and loving-kindness To us and to all men; We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; But above all for thine inestimable love In the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; For the means of grace, And for the hope of glory. And we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, That our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, And that we show forth thy praise, Not only with our lips, but in our lives; By giving up ourselves to thy service, And by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; Through Jesus Christ our Lord, To whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end.
Amen.

A PRAYER OF SAINT CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

THE GRACE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

2 Corinthians 13.14