

Saint Thomas's Church

**The Third Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 20, 2022**

Evensong at 4:00 pm

on Zoom
followed by Coffee Hour



Peter's Denial, Adam De Coster, c. 1630
This painting is in a private collection

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Officiant: Fr. Humphrey
Cantor: TBD
Organist & Director of Music: Matthew Whitfield

PRELUDE: O Mensch, bewein' dein' Sünde Groß BWV 622, *J.S. Bach*

HYMN 116 - Giver of the perfect gift

- 1 Giver of the perfect gift,
Only Hope of human race,
Hear the prayer our hearts uplift
Trembling at thy throne of grace.
- 2 Though the accusing voice within
Speaks of many a wrong to thee,
Thou canst cleanse from every sin,
Thou canst set the conscience free.
- 3 Who can save us, Lord, but thou?
Let thy mercy show thy power;
Lo, we plead thy promise now,
Now, in this the accepted hour.
- 4 Oh! may these our Lenten days,
Blest by thee, with thee be passed,
That with purer, nobler praise
We may keep thy Feast at last.
- 5 God the Holy Trinity,
Grant the mercy we implore;
God the One, all praise to thee
Through the ages evermore.

SONG 13
Orlando Gibbons, 1623

Tr (1871) from the Latin (c. 11th Cent.) by Rev. J. Ellerton

O Lord, open thou our lips;
And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
O God, make speed to save us;
O Lord, make haste to help us.
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.
Praise ye the Lord;
The Lord's Name be praised.

PSALM: 55, *Tone I, 8*

- 1 Hear my prayer, O God, / and hide not thyself from my petition.
- 2 Take heed unto me, and hear me, / how I mourn in my prayer, and am vexed.
- 3 The enemy crieth so, and the ungodly cometh on so fast; /
for they are minded to do me some mischief;
so maliciously are they set against me.
- 4 My heart is disquieted within me, / and the terrors of death are fallen upon me.
- 5 Fearfulness and trembling are come upon me, /
and an horrible dread hath overwhelmed me.
- 6 And I said, 'O that I had wings like a dove! /
for then would I fly away, and be at rest.
- 7 Lo, then would I get me away far off, / and abide in the wilderness.
- 8 I would make haste to find me a shelter / from the stormy wind and tempest.'
- 9 Destroy their tongues, O Lord, and divide them; /
for I have spied violence and strife in the city.
- 10 Day and night they go about it, upon the walls thereof: /
iniquity also and mischief are in the midst of it.
- 11 Wickedness is therein: / oppression and guile go not out of her streets.
- 12 For it is not an open enemy, that hath done me this dishonour; /
for then I could have borne it;
- 13 Neither was it mine adversary, that did magnify himself against me; /
for then I would have hid myself from him.
- 14 But it was even thou, my companion, / my guide, and mine own familiar friend.
- 15 We took sweet counsel together, / and walked in the house of God as friends.
- 16 As for me, I will call upon God, / and the Lord shall save me.
- 17 In the evening, and morning, and at noon- day will I pray, and that instantly; /
and he shall hear my voice.
- 18 He hath delivered my soul in peace from the battle that was against me; /
for there were many that strove with me.
- 19 Yea, even God, that endureth for ever, shall hear me, and bring them down; /
for they will not turn, nor fear God.
- 20 He laid his hands upon such as were at peace with him, /
and he brake his covenant.
- 21 His speech was smoother than butter, yet war was in his heart; /
his words were softer than oil, yet be they very swords.
- 22 O cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall uphold thee, /
and shall not suffer the righteous to be moved for ever.
- 23 But as for them, thou, O God, shalt bring them down /
into the pit of destruction.
- 24 The bloodthirsty and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; /
but my trust shall be in thee.

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 – Genesis 44.1 - 45.8

The First Lesson is written in the book Genesis, in the forty-fourth chapter, beginning at the first verse.

Then he commanded the steward of his house, “Fill the men’s sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put each man’s money in the top of his sack. Put my cup, the silver cup, in the top of the sack of the youngest, with his money for the grain.” And he did as Joseph told him. As soon as the morning was light, the men were sent away with their donkeys. When they had gone only a short distance from the city, Joseph said to his steward, “Go, follow after the men; and when you overtake them, say to them, ‘Why have you returned evil for good? Why have you stolen my silver cup? Is it not from this that my lord drinks? Does he not indeed use it for divination? You have done wrong in doing this.’”

When he overtook them, he repeated these words to them. They said to him, “Why does my lord speak such words as these? Far be it from your servants that they should do such a thing! Look, the money that we found at the top of our sacks, we brought back to you from the land of Canaan; why then would we steal silver or gold from your lord’s house? Should it be found with any one of your servants, let him die; moreover the rest of us will become my lord’s slaves.” He said, “Even so; in accordance with your words, let it be: he with whom it is found shall become my slave, but the rest of you shall go free.” Then each one quickly lowered his sack to the ground, and each opened his sack. He searched, beginning with the eldest and ending with the youngest; and the cup was found in Benjamin’s sack. At this they tore their clothes. Then each one loaded his donkey, and they returned to the city.

Judah and his brothers came to Joseph’s house while he was still there; and they fell to the ground before him. Joseph said to them, “What deed is this that you have done? Do you not know that one such as I can practice divination?” And Judah said, “What can we say to my lord? What can we speak? How can we clear ourselves? God has found out the guilt of your servants; here we are then, my lord’s slaves, both we and also the one in whose possession the cup has been found.” But he said, “Far be it from me that I should do so! Only the one in whose possession the cup was found shall be my slave; but as for you, go up in peace to your father.”

Then Judah stepped up to him and said, “O my lord, let your servant please speak a word in my lord’s ears, and do not be angry with your servant; for you are like Pharaoh himself. My lord asked his servants, saying, ‘Have you a father or a brother?’ And we said to my lord, ‘We have a father, an old man, and a young brother, the child of his old age. His brother is dead; he alone is left of his mother’s children, and his father loves him.’ Then you said to your servants, ‘Bring him down to me, so that I may set my eyes on him.’ We said to my lord, ‘The boy cannot leave his father, for if he should leave his father, his father would die.’ Then you said to your servants, ‘Unless your youngest brother comes down with you, you shall see my face no more.’ When we went back to your servant my father we told him the words of my lord. And when our father said, ‘Go again, buy us a little food,’ we said,

‘We cannot go down. Only if our youngest brother goes with us, will we go down; for we cannot see the man’s face unless our youngest brother is with us.’ Then your servant my father said to us, ‘You know that my wife bore me two sons; one left me, and I said, Surely he has been torn to pieces; and I have never seen him since. If you take this one also from me, and harm comes to him, you will bring down my gray hairs in sorrow to Sheol.’ Now therefore, when I come to your servant my father and the boy is not with us, then, as his life is bound up in the boy’s life, when he sees that the boy is not with us, he will die; and your servants will bring down the gray hairs of your servant our father with sorrow to Sheol. For your servant became surety for the boy to my father, saying, ‘If I do not bring him back to you, then I will bear the blame in the sight of my father all my life.’ Now therefore, please let your servant remain as a slave to my lord in place of the boy; and let the boy go back with his brothers. For how can I go back to my father if the boy is not with me? I fear to see the suffering that would come upon my father.”

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

Here endeth the First Lesson.

THE MAGNIFICAT
Canticles: *Tone VI*

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 – Luke 22.54-end

The Second Lesson is written in the Gospel according to Saint Luke, in the twenty-second chapter, beginning at the fifty-fourth verse.

Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean." But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and kept asking him, "Prophesy! Who is it that struck you?" They kept heaping many other insults on him.

When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. They said, "If you are the Messiah, tell us." He replied, "If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God." All of them asked, "Are you, then, the Son of God?" He said to them, "You say that I am." Then they said, "What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!"

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

NUNC DIMITTIS

Canticles: *Tone VI*

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.

The Lord be with you;
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
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

We beseech thee, Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of thy humble servants, and stretch forth the right hand of thy Majesty, to be our defence against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

SEASONAL COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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

A LENT PROSE

Refrain:

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
For we have sinned against thee.

- 1 To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory:
Lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings:
Listen, O Jesu, to our supplications.

Refrain

- 2 O thou chief Cornerstone, Right hand of the Father:
Way of Salvation, Gate of Life Celestial:
Cleanse thou our sinful souls from all defilement.

Refrain

- 3 God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated:
Bow down and hearken to thy weeping children:
Pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses.

Refrain

- 4 Sins oft committed now we lay before thee:
With true contrition, now no more we veil them.
Grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution.

Refrain

5 Innocent, captive, taken unresisting:
Falsely accus'd, and for us sinners sentenced:
Save us, we pray thee, Jesu our Redeemer.

Refrain

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*