

Choral Evensong: The Fourth Sunday of Lent

THE OFFICE

The Introit: Purge me, O Lord (Thomas Tallis)
Purge me, O Lord, from all my sin,
and save thou me by faith from ill,
that I may rest and dwell with thee,
upon thy holy blessed hill.

And that done, grant that with true heart
I may without hypocrisy
affirm the truth, detract no man,
but do all things with equity.

The Minister may read a sentence of Scripture.

Beloved in Christ, we are here in the presence of the living God and of the whole company of heaven, to offer to him, through our Lord Jesus Christ, our worship and praise and thanksgiving; that we may know more truly the greatness of his love, and that his grace may bear fruit in our lives. We have come to hear and receive God's holy Word, to seek the strengthening power of the Holy Spirit, and to pray for ourselves and all mankind that we may be given those things which are necessary for our true well-being. But first let us confess our sins, and seek our Father's pardon and peace:

**We confess to God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.
Wherefore we pray God to have mercy upon us.**

SIT or KNEEL

**Almighty God have mercy upon us,
forgive us all our sins and deliver us from evil,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and bring us to life everlasting. Amen.**

The Minister (if a Priest) says:

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

STAND

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 Spirit;
**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 13

- 1 How long wilt thou utterly for-/get me • O / Lord:
how long wilt thou / hide thy / face / from me?
- 2 How long shall I suffer anguish in my soul, * and daily be so /
grieved • in my / heart: how long shall mine / ene • mies /
triumph / over me?
- 3 Consider and hear me O / Lord my / God:
lighten mine eyes that I / sleep / not in / death;
- 4 Lest mine enemy should say * 'I have pre-/vailed a-/ gainst him':
lest, if I be cast down, * they that / trouble • me / should re- /
joice at it.
- 5 But my trust is / in thy / mercy:
may my heart be / joyful • in / thy sal- / vation.
- 6 I will sing to the Lord, * because he hath dealt so / loving • ly /
with me: yea I will praise the / name • of the / Lord Most / Highest.

Psalm 14

- 1 The fool hath spoken / in his / heart:
he hath / said 'There / is no / God.'**
- 2 Men are corrupt * and are become abominable / in their / doings:
there is none that doeth / good, / no not / one.**
- 3 The Lord looked down from heaven upon the / children • of /
men: to see if there were any that would under-/ stand and / seek
• after / God.**
- 4 But they are all gone out of the way, * they are all alike be-/come
cor- / rupt: there is none that doeth / good, / no not / one.**
- 5 As for all the workers of mischief, / are they • not / punished:
who eat up my people as it were bread, * and / call • not up-/on
the / Lord?**
- 6 There are they brought into / great / fear:
for God is with the gener-/ation / of the / righteous.**

7 Though ye mock at the counsel / of the / poor:
yet he / putteth • his / trust • in the / Lord.

8 O that deliverance were given unto Israel / out of / Zion: when
the Lord restoreth the prosperity of his people, * then shall
Jacob rejoice and / Israel / shall be / glad.

The first lesson: **Exodus 6. 2-13**

Office Hymn:

Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by your name: you are mine.

When you walk through the waters I'll be with you.

You will never sink beneath the waves.

Do not be afraid...

When the fire is burning all around you,

You will never be consumed by the flames.

Do not be afraid...

When the fear of loneliness is looming,

Then remember I am at your side.

Do not be afraid...

**When you dwell in the exile of the stranger,
Remember you are precious in my eyes.
*Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by your name: you are mine.***

**You are mine, O my child; I am your Father,
And I love you with a perfect love.
*Do not be afraid...***

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MAGNIFICAT (*Luke 1.46*) *Orlando Gibbons Short Service*

STAND

- 1 My soul doth / magnify • the / Lord: and my spirit hath re- / joiced in / God
my / Saviour.
- 2 For he / hath re- / garded: the / lowli • ness / of his / handmaiden.
- 3 For be-/hold, from /henceforth: all gener- / ations • shall / call me /blessed.
- 4 For he that is mighty hath / magni- • fied / me: and / holy / is his / name.
- 5 And his mercy is on / them that / fear him: through-/out all / gener- /ations,
- 6 He hath showed / strength • with his / arm: he hath scattered the proud *
in the imagin- / ation / of their / hearts.
- 7 He hath put down the mighty / from their / seat: and hath ex- / alted • the /
humble • and / meek.
- 8 He hath filled the hungry with / good / things: and the rich he hath / sent /
empty • a- / way.
- 9 He re- /membering • his / mercy: hath / holpen his / servant / Israel;
- 10 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. / A- / men.

The second lesson is read from the New Testament.

SIT

Romans 5. 1-11

NUNC DIMITTIS (*Luke 2.29*)

STAND

**1 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant de- / part in / peace:
ac-/ cording / to thy / word.**

**2 For mine eyes have / seen • thy sal- / vation:
which thou hast prepared before the / face of / all / peoples.**

**3 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. / A- / men.**

THE 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 Spirit,
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 is seated
at 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 Spirit;
the Holy Catholic Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

SIT or KNEEL

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

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

**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 those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;
And grant us thy salvation.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness;
And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people;
And bless thine inheritance.

O Lord, save the King;
And give his counsellors wisdom.

Give peace in our time, O Lord;
And evermore mightily defend us.

Make clean our hearts, O God;
And renew a right spirit within us.

The Collect of the day.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

The Second Collect, for Peace

Almighty 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 that, being defended by thee from the fear of our enemies, we may pass our time in rest and quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Third 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.**

The Anthem: The Lord bless you and keep you (*Rutter*)

The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make His face to shine upon you

And be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you

And give you peace.

The Intercessions

The Grace

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

**Through all the changing scenes of life,
In trouble and in joy,
The praises of my God shall still
My heart and tongue employ.**

**Oh, magnify the Lord with me,
With me exalt His name;
When in distress to Him I called,
He to my rescue came.**

**The hosts of God encamp around
The dwellings of the just;
Deliverance He affords to all
Who on His succour trust.**

**Oh, make but trial of His love,
Experience will decide
How blest they are, and only they,
Who in His truth confide.**

**Fear Him, ye saints, and you will then
Have nothing else to fear;
Make you His service your delight,
Your wants shall be His care.**

**To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
The God whom we adore,
Be glory, as it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.**