

**A Service of Morning Prayer
Wednesday, March 15, 2023
Lent 3**



Salome with the Head of John the Baptist, by Andrea Solario ca. 1507–09
Displayed at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, May 27–August 15, 2004.

Welcome:

CP 174 Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church

1 Eternal Lord of love, behold your church
walking once more the pilgrim way of Lent
led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
moved by your love and toward your presence bent:
far off yet here—the goal of all desire.

2 So daily dying to the way of self,
so daily living to your way of love,
we walk the road, Lord Jesus, that you trod,
knowing ourselves baptized into your death:
so we are dead and live with you in God

3 If dead in you, so in you we arise,
you the firstborn of the faithful dead;
and as through stony ground the green shoots break,
glorious in springtime dress of leaf and flower,
so in the Father's glory shall we wake.

Gathering: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the love of God,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
Be with you all.

And also with you.

May his grace and peace be with you.
May he fill our hearts with joy.

Almighty God,
**To you all hearts are open,
 All desires known,
 And from you no secrets are hidden.
 Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
 By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
 That we may perfectly love you,
 And worthily magnify your holy name.
 Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Trisagion: Holy God,
 Holy and mighty,
 Holy and immortal one,
 Have mercy on us. (3x)

Psalm 82 *Refrain:* Incline your ear, O Lord, and save us.

¹ God has taken his place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods he holds judgement:

² 'How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked?

³ Give justice to the weak and the orphan; maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute.

⁴ Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.'

⁵ They have neither knowledge nor understanding, they walk around in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

⁶ I say, 'You are gods, children of the Most High, all of you;

⁷ nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, and fall like any prince.'

⁸ Rise up, O God, judge the earth; for all the nations belong to you!

The Gospel:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Mark 6:13-29

¹³ They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

¹⁴ King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, 'John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him.'

¹⁵ But others said, 'It is Elijah.' And others said, 'It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.'

¹⁶ But when Herod heard of it, he said, 'John, whom I beheaded, has been

raised.'

¹⁷ For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her.

¹⁸ For John had been telling Herod, 'It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.'

¹⁹ And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not,

²⁰ for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him.

²¹ But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee.

²² When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, 'Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it.'

²³ And he solemnly swore to her, 'Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.'

²⁴ She went out and said to her mother, 'What should I ask for?' She replied, 'The head of John the baptizer.'

²⁵ Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, 'I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.'

²⁶ The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her.

²⁷ Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison,

²⁸ brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother.

²⁹ When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

The Gospel of Christ,

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

CP 546 God Moves in a Mysterious Way

1 God moves in a mysterious way
his wonders to perform;
he plants his footsteps in the sea
and rides upon the storm.

2 Deep in unfathomable mines
of never failing skill
he treasures up his bright designs
and works his sovereign will.

3 Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take,
the clouds ye so much dread
are big with mercy, and shall break
in blessings on your head.

4 Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
but trust him for his grace;
behind a frowning providence
he hides a smiling face.

5 His purposes will ripen fast,
unfolding every hour;
the bud may have a bitter taste,
but sweet will be the flower.

6 Blind unbelief is sure to err
and scan his work in vain;
God is his own interpreter
and he will make it plain.

Meditation: – Rev. Alison WesterveltCCLI 106879 Wonderfu, Merciful Saviour

1 Wonderful merciful Savior
Precious Redeemer and Friend
Who would have thought that a Lamb
Could rescue the souls of men
Oh You rescue the souls of men

2 Counselor Comforter Keeper
Spirit we long to embrace
You offer hope when our hearts
Have hopelessly lost the way
Oh we hopelessly lost the way

Chorus

***You are the One that we praise
You are the One we adore
You give the healing and grace
Our hearts always hunger for
Oh our hearts always hunger for***

3 Almighty infinite Father
Faithfully loving Your own
Here in our weakness You find us
Falling before Your throne
Oh we're falling before Your throne

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven.
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again
to judge the living 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.**

Healing Litany:

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers: For Sandra...
Merle..... Mary..... Irene Helen.....Tony and Mary Jean..... Bill.....
Geraldine.... Florence..... Joan..... Shirley and Cyril..... Lisa..... Marijke.....
Chrissie, Cathy, and the family..... Diane..... Janelle..... Rosemary..... Roald.....
Sandy..... Luci.

Let us offer our prayers for God's healing, saying, Hear and have mercy.

Hear and have mercy

Blessed Jesus, your Holy name is medicine for healing and a promise of eternal life.

Hear and have mercy

Grant us your grace to heal those who are sick. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy

Give courage and faith to all who are disabled through injury or illness. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy

Comfort, relieve, and heal all sick children. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy

Give courage to all who await surgery. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy

Support and encourage those who live with chronic illness. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy

Strengthen those who endure continual pain and give them hope. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy

Grant the refreshment of peaceful sleep to all who suffer. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy

Up hold those who keep watch over the sick. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy.

Jesus, Lamb of God,

Hear and have mercy.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,

Hear and have mercy

Jesus, redeemer of the world,

Hear and have mercy

Compassionate God, you so loved the world that you sent us Jesus to bear our infirmities and afflictions. Through acts of healing, he revealed you as the true source of health and salvation. For the sake of your Christ who suffered and died for us, conquered death, and now reigns with you in glory, hear the cry of your people. Have mercy on us, make us whole, and bring us at last into the fulness of your eternal life. Amen

Collect

Almighty God,
 whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life,
 may we always thirst for you,
 the spring of life and source of goodness;
 through him who lives and reigns with you
 and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.
 For thine is the kingdom,
 the power, and the glory,
 for ever and ever. Amen.**

CP 172 Now Let Us All With One Accord

1 Now let us all with one accord,
In company with ages past,
Keep vigil with our heavenly Lord
In His temptation and his fast.

2 The covenant, so long revealed
To those of faith in former time,
Christ by his own example sealed,
The Lord of love, in love sublime.

3 Your love, O Lord, our sinful race
Has not returned, but falsified.
Author of mercy, turn your face
And grant repentance for our pride.

4 Remember, Lord, though frail we be,
In your own image were we made;
Help us, lest in anxiety,
We cause your name to be betrayed.

5 Therefore, we pray you, Lord, forgive;
So when our wanderings here shall cease,
We may with you forever live
In love and unity and peace.

The Dismissal:

Let us bless the Lord, giving thanks for his living word.
Thanks be to God.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power
of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.