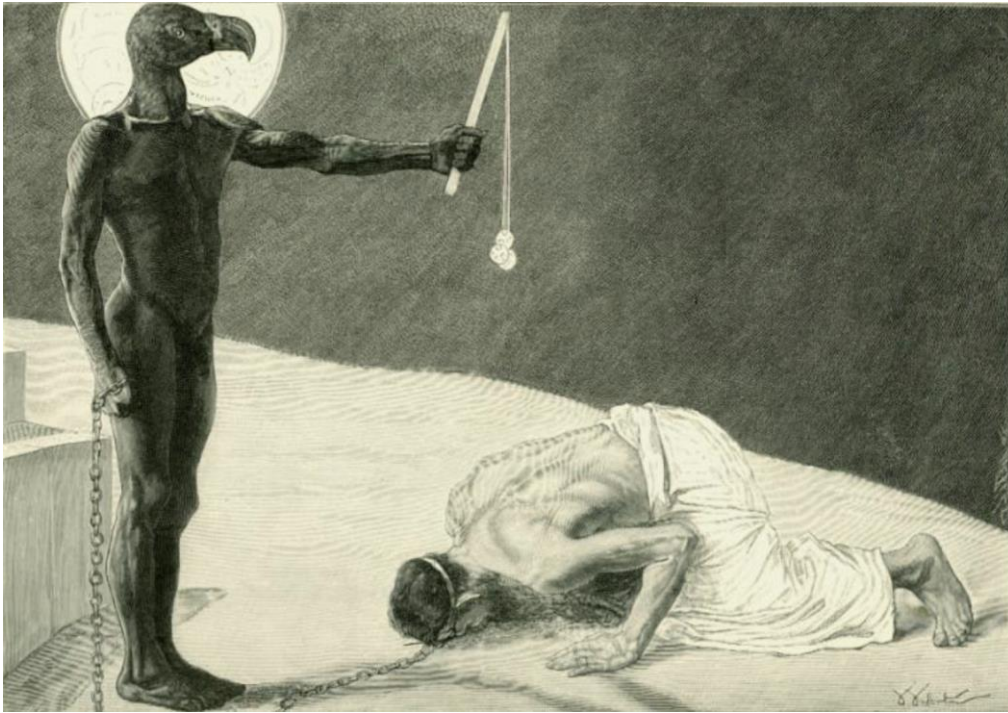




St Mark's
NATIONAL THEOLOGICAL CENTRE



Mammon and His Slave by Sascha Schneider (1870-1927)

Morning Prayer

Thursday 16th March 2023

Welcome to our livestreamed chapel. Join live 10.30am

<https://charlessturt.zoom.us/j/692025370>

further info: <https://stmarks.edu.au/about/worship-at-st-marks/>

If what we do is new to you, please feel free to let it wash over you, and join in as you are able. We say the short **bold sections** together, not caring if internet latency makes it a little garbled. If you are attending in person please make sure you are registered as being on site.

This is the message we have heard from Christ:

**that God is light, in whom there is
no darkness at all.**

1 John 1.5

Glory to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

as in the beginning, so now, and forever. Amen.

The Opening Canticle, A Song of God's Herald

Go up to a high mountain
herald of good tidings to Zion:
lift up your voice with strength,
herald of good tidings to Jerusalem.
Lift up your voice, fear not:
say to the cities of Judah, 'Behold your God!'
See the Lord God, coming with power:
coming to rule with his mighty arm.
He brings his reward for the people of God:
the recompense for those who are saved.
God will feed his flock like a shepherd:
and gather the lambs in his arms;
He will hold them to his breast:
and gently lead those that are with young.

Isaiah 40.9-11

The Opening Prayer

The night has passed and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence may be kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and forever.

Amen.

The Psalms as appointed. A pause is observed after each.

Psalm 39

¹ I said 'I will keep watch over my ways,

lest I sin with my tongue:

I will keep a guard on my mouth

while the wicked are in my sight.'

² **I held my tongue and said nothing:**

I kept silent, but found no comfort.

³ **My pain was increased, my heart grew hot within me:**

while I mused, the fire blazed,

and I spoke with my tongue;

⁴ 'Lord, let me know my end:

and the number of my days,

⁵ 'That I may know how short my time is:

for you have made my days but a handsbreadth

and my whole span is as nothing before you.'

⁶ **Surely everyone who stands secure is but breath:**

we live as a passing shadow.

⁷ **The riches we heap are but a puff of wind:**

and we cannot tell who will gather them.

⁸ And now, Lord, what is my hope?:

truly my hope is in you.

⁹ O deliver me from all my transgressions:

do not make me the butt of fools.

¹⁰ **I was dumb, I did not open my mouth:**

for surely it was your doing.

¹¹ **Take away your plague from me:**

I am brought to an end by the blows of your hand.

¹² When with rebukes you chastise us for sin:
you cause our fair looks to dissolve in putrefaction—
surely everyone is but breath.

¹³ Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear to my cry:
be not silent at my tears.

¹⁴ For I am but a stranger with you:
a passing guest as all my forebears were.

¹⁵ Turn your eye from me, that I may smile again:
before I go hence and am no more.

At the end of the (last) pause there may follow

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us in your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share our human nature, so we may be partakers in his divine glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

One or two Readings from the Bible as appointed.

Luke 16.1-13

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, "What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer." ³ Then the manager said to himself, "What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes." ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, "How much do you owe my master?" ⁶ He answered, "A hundred jugs of olive oil." He said to him, "Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty." ⁷ Then he asked another, "And how much do you owe?" He replied, "A hundred containers of wheat." He said to him, "Take your bill and make it eighty." ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the

children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. 9 And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. 10 'Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. 11 If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? 12 And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? 13 No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.'

The readings may be followed by a period of silence for reflection, a hymn or

May your word live in us

and bear much fruit to your glory.

The Canticle, The Hymn of the Word

In the beginning was the Word:
and the Word was with God,
And the Word was God:
He was in the beginning with God.
All things were made through him:
and without him, was not anything made that was made.
In him was life:
and the life was the light of all people.
The light shines in the darkness:
and the darkness has not overcome it.
He was in the world:
and the world was made through him
yet the world knew him not.
He came to his own home:
and his own people received him not.
But to all who received him who believed on his name:
he has given power to become children of God;
Who were born not of blood
nor of the will of the flesh:
nor of the will of a man but of God.
And the Word became flesh:
and dwelt among us full of grace and truth;
We have beheld his glory:
glory as of the only Son from the Father.
And from his fullness have we all received:
and grace upon grace.

The Prayers

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

The Lord's Prayer and the Collect of the Day

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Gracious God,
out of your love and mercy
you breathed into dust the breath of life,
creating us to serve you and one another:
call forth our penitence and acts of love,
and strengthen us to face our mortality,
so that we may look with confidence for your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings may be made according to local custom and need.

The Morning Collect

Lord and heavenly Father,
you have brought us safely to this new day:
keep us by your mighty power, protect us from sin,
guard us from every kind of danger,
and in all we do this day
direct us in the fulfilling of your purpose,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May the God of peace equip us with everything good so that we may do his will; and may he work in us that which is pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever.

Amen.

see Hebrews 13.20-21