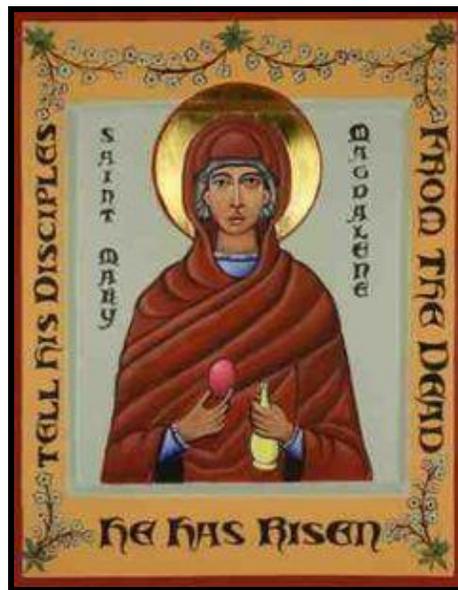




THE MISSION OF SAINT MARY MAGDALENE



THE ORDER FOR EVENSONG FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 8, 2026
(Year 2)

**According to pp. 20-24 the Book of Common Prayer (BCP)
and the Use of the Anglican Catholic Church of Canada (ACCC)
(together with traditional devotions and ceremonial directions)**

THE VERSICLES & RESPONSES (pp. 20-21):

Minister. ✠ O Lord, open thou our lips;

People. And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Minister. ✠ O God, make speed to save us;

People. O Lord, make haste to help us.

HERE, ALL STAND:

Minister. GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

People. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Minister. Praise ye the Lord;

People. The Lord's Name be praised.

HERE, ALL SIT:

THE PSALM OF THE DAY [Psalm 55. (*Exaudi, Deus.*) pp. 397-399]:

Minister. 1 HEAR my prayer, O God, /

ALL. 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.

THE FIRST LESSON & COMMENTARY (Genesis 44:1-45:8):

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

44 ¹ Now Joseph gave these instructions to the steward of his house: "Fill the men's sacks with as much food as they can carry, and put each man's silver in the mouth of his sack. ² Then put my cup, the silver one, in the mouth of the youngest one's sack, along with the silver for his grain." And he did as Joseph said.
³ As morning dawned, the men were sent on their way with their donkeys. ⁴ They had not gone far from the city when Joseph said to his steward, "Go after those men at once, and when you catch up with them, say to them, 'Why have you repaid good with evil? ⁵ Isn't this the cup my master drinks from and also uses for divination? This is a wicked thing you have done.'" ⁶ When he caught up with them, he repeated these words to them. ⁷ But they said to him, "Why does my lord say such things? Far be it from your servants to do anything like that! ⁸ We even brought back to you from the land of Canaan the silver we found inside the mouths of our sacks. So why would we steal silver or gold from

your master's house? ⁹ If any of your servants is found to have it, he will die; and the rest of us will become my lord's slaves."

¹⁰ "Very well, then," he said, "let it be as you say. Whoever is found to have it will become my slave; the rest of you will be free from blame."

¹¹ Each of them quickly lowered his sack to the ground and opened it. ¹² Then the steward proceeded to search, beginning with the oldest and ending with the youngest. And the cup was found in Benjamin's sack. ¹³ At this, they tore their clothes. Then they all loaded their donkeys and returned to the city.

¹⁴ Joseph was still in the house when Judah and his brothers came in, and they threw themselves to the ground before him. ¹⁵ Joseph said to them, "What is this you have done? Don't you know that a man like me can find things out by divination?"

¹⁶ "What can we say to my lord?" Judah replied. "What can we say? How can we prove our innocence? God has uncovered your servants' guilt. We are now my lord's slaves – we ourselves and the one who was found to have the cup."

¹⁷ But Joseph said, "Far be it from me to do such a thing! Only the man who was found to have the cup will become my slave. The rest of you, go back to your father in peace."

¹⁸ Then Judah went up to him and said: "Pardon your servant, my lord, let me speak a word to my lord. Do not be angry with your servant, though you are equal to Pharaoh himself. ¹⁹ My lord asked his servants, 'Do you have a father or a brother?' ²⁰ And we answered, 'We have an aged father, and there is a young son born to him in his old age. His brother is dead, and he is the only one of his mother's sons left, and his father loves him.'

²¹ "Then you said to your servants, 'Bring him down to me so I can see him for myself.' ²² And we said to my lord, 'The boy cannot leave his father; if he leaves him, his father will die.' ²³ But you told your servants, 'Unless your youngest brother comes down with you, you will not see my face again.' ²⁴ When we went back to your servant my father, we told him what my lord had said.

²⁵ "Then our father said, 'Go back and buy a little more food.' ²⁶ But we said, 'We cannot go down. Only if our youngest brother is with us will we go. We cannot see the man's face unless our youngest brother is with us.'

²⁷ "Your servant my father said to us, 'You know that my wife bore me two sons. ²⁸ One of them went away from me, and I said, "He has surely been torn to pieces." And I have not seen him since. ²⁹ If you

take this one from me too and harm comes to him, you will bring my gray head down to the grave in misery.'

³⁰ "So now, if the boy is not with us when I go back to your servant my father, and if my father, whose life is closely bound up with the boy's life, ³¹ sees that the boy isn't there, he will die. Your servants will bring the gray head of our father down to the grave in sorrow.

³² Your servant guaranteed the boy's safety to my father. I said, 'If I do not bring him back to you, I will bear the blame before you, my father, all my life!'

³³ "Now then, please let your servant remain here as my lord's slave in place of the boy, and let the boy return with his brothers.

³⁴ How can I go back to my father if the boy is not with me? No! Do not let me see the misery that would come on my father."

⁴⁵ ¹ Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all his attendants, and he cried out, "Have everyone leave my presence!" So there was no one with Joseph when he made himself known to his brothers. ² And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard him, and Pharaoh's household heard about it.

³ Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still living?" But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me." When they had done so, he said, "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! ⁵ And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. ⁶ For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. ⁷ But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

⁸ "So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt."

Minister. Here endeth the First Lesson.

Minister. There is a divine subtlety to be seen in the various traps Joseph set for his brothers. Had Joseph revealed himself at their initial meeting, they might well have been so afraid and ashamed that they would have hated him all the more. But, as it turned out, their hearts were softened by repentance, and the way toward reconciliation was paved. In his humility, Joseph was also able to understand that his brothers' crime against him was part of God's plan for the ultimate good of His people.

HERE, ALL STAND:

MAGNIFICAT (St. Luke 1:46-55; pp. 21-22):

Minister. ✠ MY soul doth magnify the Lord, /
ALL. 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.

HERE, ALL SIT:

THE SECOND LESSON & COMMENTARY (St. Luke 22:54-end):

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

22 ⁵⁴ Then seizing Jesus, they led him away and took him into the house of the high priest. Peter followed at a distance. ⁵⁵ And when some there had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together, Peter sat down with them. ⁵⁶ A servant girl saw him seated there in the firelight. She looked closely at him and said, "This man was with him." ⁵⁷ But he denied it. "Woman, I don't know him," he said. ⁵⁸ A little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them." "Man, I am not!" Peter replied. ⁵⁹ About an hour later another asserted, "Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean." ⁶⁰ Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!" Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. ⁶¹ The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times."

⁶² And he went outside and wept bitterly.

⁶³ The men who were guarding Jesus began mocking and beating him. ⁶⁴ They blindfolded him and demanded, "Prophecy! Who hit you?" ⁶⁵ And they said many other insulting things to him.

⁶⁶ At daybreak the council of the elders of the people, both the chief priests and the teachers of the law, met together, and Jesus was led before them. ⁶⁷ "If you are the Messiah," they said, "tell us."

Jesus answered, "If I tell you, you will not believe me, ⁶⁸ and if I asked you, you would not answer. ⁶⁹ But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the mighty God."

⁷⁰ They all asked, "Are you then the Son of God?"

He replied, "You say that I am."

⁷¹ Then they said, "Why do we need any more testimony? We have heard it from his own lips."

Minister. Here endeth the Second Lesson.

Minister. Love drew St. Peter to the courtyard of the high priest's house, but fear made him deny Jesus. Imagine the sorrow St. Peter must have felt when "He Who searches hearts and minds" (as per Revelation 2:23b) turned and looked at him. But, the gift of tears (in verse 62) washed away even this guilt. Notice, too, the beginning of our Lord Jesus' torture in verse 63. Consider how much one blow can hurt and one insult can sting; Jesus was to bear many more of these - and even worse tortures - for our sake. Lastly, ponder the fact that the elders (in verses 67 and 68) will neither believe, nor speak, the truth. What lies did they embrace as being sweeter than the truth - and, likewise, which do we?

HERE, ALL STAND:

NUNC DIMITTIS (St. Luke 2:29-32; p. 22):

Minister. ✠ LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, /
ALL. 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.

HERE, ALL REMAIN STANDING AND FACE THE CROSS:

THE APOSTLES' CREED (p. 22):

Minister. I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty,

ALL. 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 LESSER LITANY, LORD'S PRAYER & SUFFRAGES (p. 23):

Minister. The Lord be with you;

People. And with thy spirit.

Minister. Let us pray.

HERE, ALL KNEEL:

Minister. Lord, have mercy upon us.

ALL. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Minister. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Minister. OUR Father who art in heaven,

ALL. 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.

HERE, ONLY THE PRIEST STANDS:

(IF NO PRIEST IS PRESENT, PROCEED TO THE COLLECT OF THE DAY)

Priest. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

People. And grant us thy salvation.

Priest. O Lord, save the King;

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.

HERE, ALL KNEEL:

THE COLLECTS OF THE DAY (pp. 145, 138-139):

Minister. 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. **People.** Amen.

Minister. 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. **People.** Amen.

THE SECOND COLLECT, FOR PEACE (pp. 23-24):

Minister. 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. **People.** Amen.

THE THIRD COLLECT, FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS (p. 24):

Minister. 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. **People.** Amen.

THE TRADITIONAL DISMISSAL:

Minister. O Lord, hear our prayer.

People. And let our cry come unto thee.

Minister. Let us bless the Lord.

People. Thanks be to God.

Minister. ✠ May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.