2 Samuel 22:1-7

¹Then David spoke to the LORD the words of this song, on the day when the LORD had delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul. ²And he said: "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; ³ The God of my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, My stronghold and my refuge: My Savior. You save me from violence. ⁴ I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: So shall I be saved from my enemies. 5 'When the waves of death surrounded me, The floods of ungodliness made me afraid. ⁶ The sorrows of Sheol surrounded me: The snares of death confronted me. ⁷ In my distress I called upon the LORD. And cried out to my God: He heard my voice from His temple, And my cry entered His ears.

Ephesians 5:1-9

¹Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. ²And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling aroma. ³But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; ⁴neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. ⁵For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. 6Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷Therefore do not be partakers with them.

⁸For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness, righteousness, and truth),

St. Luke 11:14-28

¹⁴And He was casting out a demon, and it was mute. So it was, when the demon had gone out, that the mute spoke: and the multitudes marveled. ¹⁵But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons." ¹⁶Others, testing *Him*, sought from Him a sign from heaven. ¹⁷But He, knowing their thoughts, said to them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and a house divided against a house falls. 18"If Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? Because you say I cast out demons by Beelzebub. 19"And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. ²⁰"But if I cast out demons with the finger of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²¹"When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are in peace. ²²"But when a stronger than he comes upon him and overcomes him, he takes from him all his armor in which he trusted, and divides his spoils. ²³"He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters.

²⁴"When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' ²⁵"And when he comes, he finds *it* swept and put in order. ²⁶"Then he goes and takes with *him* seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first." ²⁷And it happened, as He spoke these things, that a certain woman from the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts which nursed You!" ²⁸But He said, "More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

Oculi, The Third Sunday in Lent, (Violet)

PSALM 43/86



Introit.

Ant. MINE EYES || are ever toward the | LORD | -:
for He shall pluck my feet out | of | the | net.
|| Turn Thee unto me, and have mercy up- | on | me:
for I am desolate and | af- | flic- | ted.

Psalm. || Unto Thee, O LORD, do I lift up my | soul | -:
O My God, I trust in Thee; let me not be | a- | sham- | ed.
GLO-RY || be to the Father and to the | Son | -:
and to the | Ho- | ly | Ghost.

AS IT || was in the beginning, is now, and ever | shall | be:
world without | end. | A- | men. (Ant. Repeated.)

Collect.

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 defense against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever One God, world without end. *Amen*.

Epistle. Ephesians 5:1–9 Gospel. Luke 11:14–28 Additional reading: 2 Samuel 22:1–7

Gradual.

|| Arise, O Lord; let not man | pre- | vail:
| let the heathen be judged | in | Thy | sight.
|| When mine enemies are turned | back | -:
| they shall fall and perish at | Thy | pre- | sence.

Tract. || Unto Thee lift I up mine eyes, O Thou that dwellest in the | heav- | ens:
| have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy | up- | on | us.

Oculi - 3rd Sunday in Lent

22. A Mighty Fortress Is Our God





3. Though devils all the world should fill,
All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill,
They shall not overpower us.
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none, He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.

4. The Word they still shall let remain,
And not a thank have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life, Goods, fame, child, and wife;
Let these all be gone, They yet have nothing won;
The kingdom ours remaineth.