

A painting of two African people in prayerful poses against a warm, textured background. On the left, a man in a blue robe and a patterned headwrap has his hands clasped in prayer. On the right, a woman in a white robe and a grey headwrap has her hands open in a gesture of prayer or praise. The background is composed of warm, earthy tones with visible brushstrokes.

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Year C

Joel 2:23-32 and Psalm 65 • Sirach 35:12-17 or Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22 and Psalm 84:1-7 • 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 • Luke 18:9-14

... be glad and rejoice in the LORD your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain ...

Joel 2:23b



April Showers -- Martin Heade, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

You visit the earth and water it,
you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;

Psalm 65:9a

The Effect of Rain, Yverres
River

Gustave Caillebotte
Indiana Art Museum
Bloomington, IN



We look for peace, but find no
good; for a time of healing, but
there is terror instead. We
acknowledge our wickedness,
O LORD ...

Jeremiah 14:19c, 20a



Tribute to the Lost Community Members from the Civil War -- Nuevo Gualcho, El Salvador

How lovely is your dwelling place, O
LORD of hosts! ... Even the sparrow
finds a home, and the swallow a nest
for herself, where she may lay her
young ...

Psalm 84:1, 3a

Savannah
Sparrow
Nestlings

Nest
Monitoring
Project of
Sensitive
Birds
Alberta, CA



I have fought the good fight,
I have finished the race,
I have kept the faith.

2 Timothy 4:7

The Prophetess
Anna, or, The Artist's
Mother

Rembrandt,
Kunsthistorisches
Museum, Vienna,
Austria



He also told this parable to some
who ... were righteous and
regarded others with contempt:

Luke 18:9ac

"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

Luke 18:10

The Pharisee and the
Tax Collector

James Tissot
Brooklyn Museum
Brooklyn, NY



The Pharisee, standing by himself,
was praying thus, 'God, I thank you
that I am not like other people:
thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even
like this tax collector.

Luke 18:11



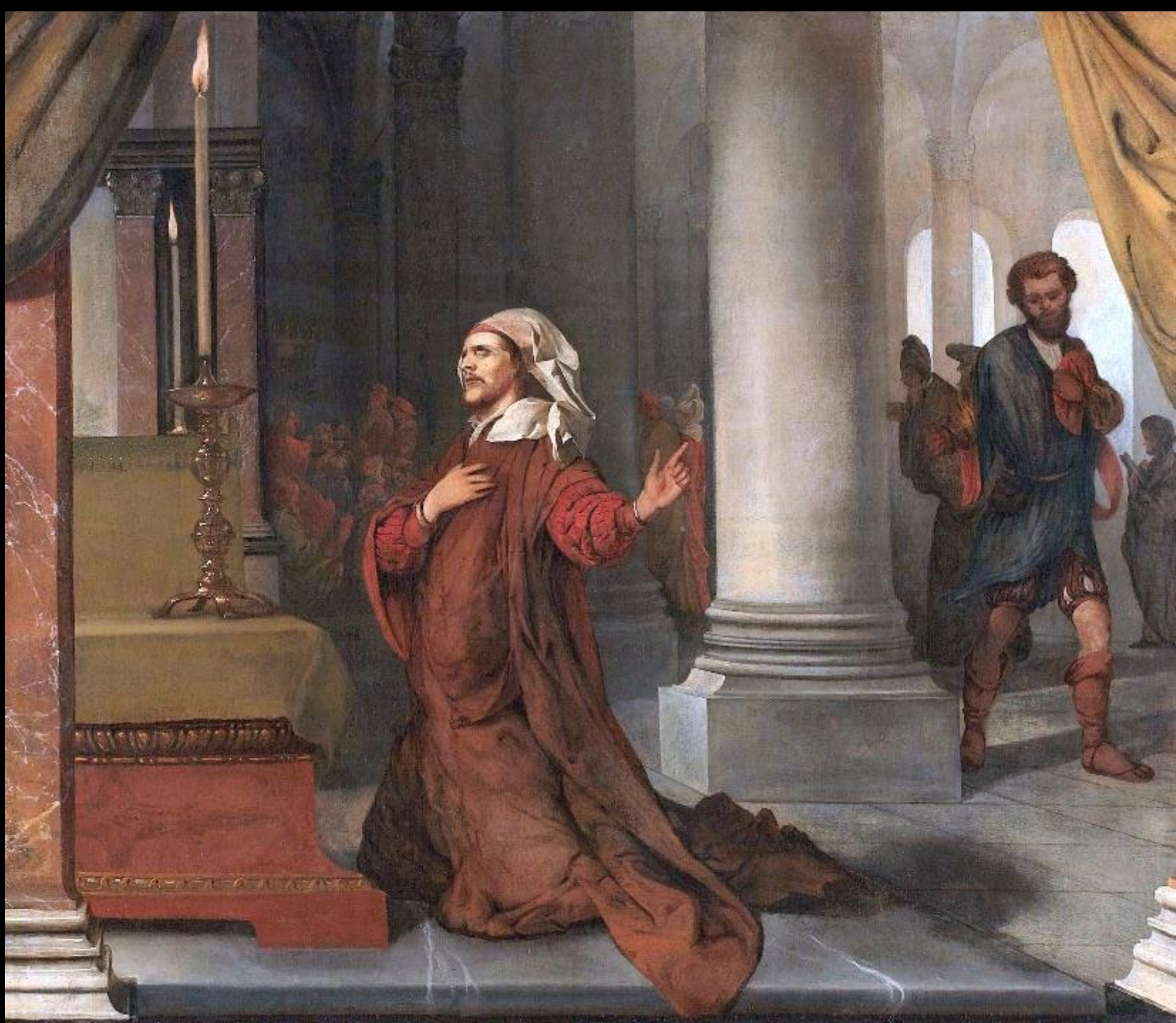
The Pharisee and the Tax Collector -- JESUS MAFA, Cameroon

I fast twice a week; I give a tenth
of all my income.'

Luke 18:12

The Pharisee
and the Tax
Collector

Barent
Fabritius
Rijksmuseum
Amsterdam,
Netherlands



But the tax collector, standing far off,
would not even look up to heaven,
but was beating his breast and saying,
'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!'

Luke 18:13

The Pharisee and the Publican

John Everett Millais
Tate Britain
London, England



I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

Luke 18:14

The Pharisee and
the Tax Collector

Aristakes
Armenia, 1475
Walters Art
Museum
Baltimore, MD



Credits

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition Bible, copyright 2022, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Martin_Johnson_Heade_-_April_Showers_-_47.1173_-_Museum_of_Fine_Arts.jpg

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:G._Caillebotte_-_L%27Yerres,_pluie.jpg

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:War_memorial_mural_-_Nuevo_Gualcho,_El_Salvador.JPG – Amelia Hunt

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Savannah_Sparrow,_Passerculus_sandwichensis,_nestlings_baby_birds,_in_nest_AB_Canada_\(1\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Savannah_Sparrow,_Passerculus_sandwichensis,_nestlings_baby_birds,_in_nest_AB_Canada_(1).jpg)

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Rembrandt_Harmensz._van_Rijn_085b.jpg

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tissot_The_Pharisee_and_the_publican_Brooklyn.jpg

<http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48268>

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:De_Farizee%C3%ABr_en_de_tollenaar_Rijksmuseum_SK-A-2959.jpeg

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:MillaisThe_Pharisee_and_the_publican_Tate.jpg

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Gospel_Book,_Publican_and_the_Pharisee,_Walters_Manuscript_W.540,_fol._179r.jpg

Additional descriptions can be found at the Art in the Christian Tradition image library, a service of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/>. All images available via Creative Commons 3.0 License.