



It Is Finished

The Holy Week Prophecies of Zechariah

Wednesday, February 18, 2026
Ash Wednesday



Divine Word
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Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

51D God, Be Merciful to Me

Psalm 51D sts. 1-4



1 God, be mer - ci - ful to me, on your grace I
2 My trans - gres - sions I con - fess, grief and guilt my
3 I am e - vil, born in sin; you de - sire all
4 Bro - ken, hum - bled to the dust by your wrath and



rest my plea; your com - pas - sions o - ver - flow,
soul op - press; I have sinned a - gainst your grace
truth with - in. You a - lone my Sav - ior are,
judg - ment just, let my con - trite heart re - joice



blot out my trans - gres - sions now; wash me, make me
and pro - voked you to your face; I con - fess your
teach your wis - dom to my heart; make me pure, your
and in glad - ness hear your voice; from my sins, O



pure with - in, cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.
judg - ment just, speech - less, in your mer - cy trust.
grace be - stow, wash me whit - er than the snow.
hide your face, blot them out in bound - less grace.

Text: Psalter, 1912, alt. Tune: Richard Redhead Text and tune: Public domain

Psalm Prayer

Almighty and merciful Father, you freely forgive those who, as David of old, acknowledge and confess their sins. Create in us pure hearts, and wash away all our sins in the blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Introduction for the Beginning of Lent

Brothers and sisters in Christ, God created us to know joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbours, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. By our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment but to turn to him and live. Therefore, God in his mercy has sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take our place under the law, to suffer for us, and to die the death we deserve. God made Jesus, who had no sin, to be sin for us so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.

During the 40 days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from the love of God and our neighbour.

I invite you, therefore, to confess your sins, to ask our Heavenly Father for forgiveness, and to open your heart before Him.

Confession of Sins

Holy and merciful Father,

We confess to you and to one another that we have sinned

**by our own fault,
by our own grievous fault
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved the Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

All our past unfaithfulness - the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives -

We confess to you, O Lord.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, our manipulation of other people –

We confess to you, O Lord.

Our anger when our selfish aims are denied and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves –

We confess to you, O Lord.

Our love of worldly goods and comforts and our dishonesty in daily life and work –

We confess to you, O Lord.

Our negligence in worship and prayer, and our failure to show the faith that is in us –

We confess to you, O Lord.

Forgive us for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty -

Forgive us, O Lord.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward others, and for our prejudice and contempt for those who differ from us –

Forgive us, O Lord.

For what we think or say or do that is at variance with your will –

Forgive us, O Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us—
Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.

982 With Broken Heart and Contrite Sigh CW 982 sts. 1-2, 4



1 With bro - ken heart and con - trite sigh, a trem - bling
2 I bow my head by sin dis - tressed, with deep and
4 No gifts, no deeds that I have done can for a



sin - ner, Lord, I cry. Your par - d'ning grace is
pain - ful guilt op - pressed, the cross of Christ my
sin - gle sin a - tone. To Cal - va - ry a -



rich and free— O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!
on - ly plea— O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!
lone I flee— O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!

(A moment of silence for reflection and personal confession)

Absolution

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. He is ready, willing, and able to forgive all your sins.

Therefore, as a called servant of the word – and by His authority - I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father, and of the Son †, and of the Holy Spirit.

May the LORD's forgiveness strengthen your faith, awaken peace and joy in your heart, and move you to thank Him by living according to his Word.

Amen.

51D God, Be Merciful to Me

Psalm 51D sts. 5-8



5 Gra - cious God, my heart re - new, make my spir - it
6 Sin - ners then shall learn from me and to God re -
7 No at - tempt - ed sac - ri - fice has ac - cept - ance
8 Pros - per Zi - on in your grace and her bro - ken



right and true; let me not a - ban - doned be,
stored shall be; Sav - ior, all my guilt re - move,
in your eyes; bro - ken hearts are in your sight
walls re - place; then our right - eous sac - ri - fice



let your Spir - it dwell in me; your sal - va - tion's
and my tongue shall sing your love; touch my si - lent
more than sac - ri - fi - cial rite; con - trite spir - it,
shall de - light your ho - ly eyes; free - will of - f'ings,



joy im - part, stead - fast make my will - ing heart.
lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall praise ac - cord.
plead - ing cries, you, O God, will not de - spise.
glad - ly made, on your al - tar shall be laid.

Text: Psalter, 1912, alt. Tune: Richard Redhead Text and tune: Public domain

Old Testament Lesson Zechariah 1:1–6 EHV

¹In the eighth month of the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to the prophet Zechariah son of Berekiah, the son of Iddo.

²The LORD was very angry with your forefathers.

³Therefore, now you are to tell this people that this is what the LORD of Armies says to them.

Return to me, declares the LORD of Armies, and I will return to you, says the LORD of Armies. ⁴Do not be like your forefathers, to whom the earlier prophets proclaimed, “This is what the LORD of Armies says. Return, return from your evil ways and from your evil deeds.”

But our forefathers did not listen, nor did they pay attention to me, declares the LORD. ⁵Your forefathers—where are they now? And those prophets—did they go on living indefinitely? ⁶But my words and my statutes, which I commanded to my servants the prophets, caught up with our forefathers, didn't they?

Then they returned and said, “Because of our ways and our deeds, the LORD of Armies has done to us just as he planned to do to us.”

393 Savior, When in Dust to You

CW 393

1 Sav - ior, when in dust to you low we bow in hom - age due,
2 By your help - less in - fant years, by your life of want and tears,
3 By your hour of dire de - spair, by your ag - o - ny of prayer,
4 By your deep ex - pir - ing groan, by the sad se - pul - chral stone,

when, re - pent - ant, to the skies scarce we lift our weep - ing eyes,
by your days of deep dis - tress in the sav - age wil - der - ness,
by the cross, the nail, the thorn, pierc - ing spear, and tor - turing scorn,
by the vault whose dark a - bode held in vain the ris - ing God,

O, by all your pains and woe suf - fered once for us be - low,
by the dread, mys - te - rious hour of th' in - sult - ing tempt - er's pow'r,
by the gloom that veiled the skies o'er the dread - ful sac - ri - fice,
O, from earth to heav'n re - stored, might - y, re - as - cend - ed Lord,

bend - ing from your throne on high, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
turn, O turn a fa - v'ring eye, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
lis - ten to our hum - ble sigh, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
bend - ing from your throne on high, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!

Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, abr., alt. Tune: Joseph Parry, 1841–1903 Text and tune: Public domain

Epistle Lesson

2 Corinthians 7:8–13a (EHV)

⁸For even if I caused you sorrow with my letter, I do not regret it (even though I did regret it, for I see that my letter caused you sorrow—yet only for a little while).

⁹Now I rejoice, not because you were made to feel sorrow, but because this sorrow resulted in repentance. Yes, you were made sorry in a godly way.

So you were not harmed in any way by us. ¹⁰In fact, godly sorrow produces repentance, which leads to salvation, leaving no regret. On the other hand, worldly sorrow produces death.

¹¹Yes, look what godly sorrow produced in you: what diligence, what eagerness to clear yourself, what indignation, what alarm, what longing, what zeal, what correction! In every way you proved yourselves to be pure in this matter. ¹²So although I wrote to you, it was not because of the one who did what was wrong, or because of the one who was harmed by it. I wrote instead so that your genuine concern for us would be revealed to you in the sight of God. ¹³For that reason we have been comforted.

Prayer

Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, you never despise what you have made and always forgive those who turn to you. Create in us such new and contrite hearts that we may truly repent of our sins and obtain your full and gracious pardon; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21 (EHV)

¹Be careful that you do not do your righteous works in front of people, so that they will notice. If you do, you have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. ²So whenever you perform acts of mercy, do not sound a trumpet for yourself, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets to be praised by people. Amen I tell you: They have received their reward. ³Instead, when you perform acts of mercy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing. ⁴Then your acts of mercy will be in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you.

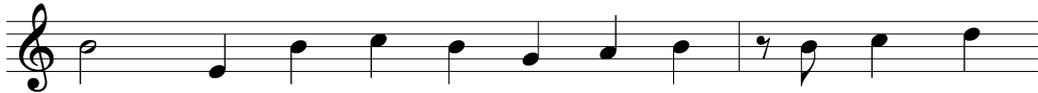
⁵Whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites. They love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they may be seen by people. Amen I tell you: They have received their reward. ⁶But whenever you pray, go into your private room, close your door, and pray to your Father who is unseen. And your Father, who sees what others cannot see, will reward you.

¹⁶Whenever you fast, do not make yourself look sad like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces to show everyone that they are fasting. Amen I tell you: They have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that it is not apparent to people that you are fasting, but only to your Father who sees what is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

¹⁹Do not store up treasures for yourselves on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰But store up treasures for yourselves in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹Because where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

650 From Depths of Woe, Lord God, I Cry

CW 650



1 From depths of woe, Lord God, I cry; O hear my
 2 What we have done on our best day is flawed from
 3 Thus an - y mer - it of my own is void and
 4 If it de - lays in - to the night or waits un -
 5 Al - though our sin is great in - deed, the grace of



hum - ble plead - ing! Lis - ten in mer - cy to my sigh,
 its be - gin - ning; on - ly your grace can clear a - way
 un - a - vail - ing; I trust in God and God a - lone,
 til to - mor - row, my heart will lean on God's great might,
 God is great - er; no loss we suf - fer can ex - ceed



my prayer for res - cue heed - ing! Were you, O
 the guilt of all our sin - ning. Be - fore you
 he is my hope un - fail - ing. Since he is
 dis - card - ing doubt and sor - row. The Spir - it
 the help of our Cre - a - tor. Our shep - herd



Lord, to fix your gaze on our re - bel - lious,
 pride must dis - ap - pear; each soul must live in
 good, I soon will see the com - fort he has
 of the Lord is near, pro - vid - ing strength to
 good and true is he, who will at last his



sin - ful ways, then who could stand be - fore you?
 rev - 'rent fear, up - on your grace re - ly - ing.
 prom - ised me; I wait for its ar - ri - val.
 per - se - vere; de - pend on God to help you!
 peo - ple free from all their sin and sor - row.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963 Tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546, alt.

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Lenten Devotional Text & Theme

Zechariah 1:1–6 (EHV)

“Return to me,” declares the LORD of Armies

- 1) Take His warning to heart.
- 2) Return to Him, and He will fight for you.

Prayer for Ash Wednesday

Holy and righteous God, as we begin again the solemn spiritual journey of Lent, we come before you in deep humility. We confess that we are sinners, both by the nature we inherit and by the sinful thoughts and desires, words and actions that nature produces. Because of our sins, we deserve only your wrath and punishment. Yet you reveal yourself, not only as a God of holiness and justice but as a God of mercy and love. Despairing of our own merits and worthiness, and in response to your gracious invitation, we come pleading for your forgiveness.

Lord, have mercy on us for your holy name’s sake.

You have revealed your love and mercy for us sinners in Jesus Christ, your Son, our Saviour. You sent him into our world to be the atoning sacrifice for the sins of all people. Help us grasp by faith the great truth that the pain and suffering, the mockery and ridicule, and the death and punishment he endured should have been ours. Help us understand that in incomprehensible love he suffered and died for us.

Lord, have mercy on us for Jesus’ sake.

God of grace and mercy, may your Spirit continue to be with us as we follow the way of the cross. As we contemplate the story of our Saviour's passion, build us up in our faith. Renew in us the zeal to serve you by reflecting your love in our lives. Give us the desire and the ability to boldly proclaim the grace in which we stand, so that all for whom you lived and died may join us in fellowship now and in your presence forever.

We offer our humble thanks and praise, our prayers and petitions, and ourselves in body and spirit to you, Lord God. Hear us, according to your promise, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

**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.**

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen**

658 With All My Heart I Praise You, Lord

CW 658



1 With all my heart I praise you, Lord, that in your
 2 When I con - fess my sin and shame, peace and for -
 3 Lord, I re - joice to be your guest, at your rich



Son you saved me. You saw in me what you de - plored;
 give - ness seek - ing, you grant me par - don in your name
 ta - ble feed - ing, there, by your mer - cy, find - ing rest



my griev - ous sin en - slaved me. Yet, Lord, you paid
 be - fore I've fin - ished speak - ing! In love you lis -
 and all my soul is need - ing. Let your good Spir -



the high - est price, Je - sus' a - ton - ing sac - ri - fice,
 ten care - ful - ly to all our sighs of mis - er - y,
 it work with - in to show that all my wretch - ed sin



that you might ev - er own me. Were I to bless
 our ev - 'ry need ad - dress - ing. Our guilt should make
 has tru - ly been for - giv - en. Thus, well pre - pared,



you all my days, it would be in - suf - fi - cient praise
 you turn a - way; in - stead you turn toward us and say:
 Lord, I be - lieve that in your sup - per I re - ceive



for kind - ness you have shown me.
 "Re - ceive my gra - cious bless - ing."
 life, par - don, peace, and heav - en.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who willingly died under the curse of this world's sin so that we may live forever in the light of God's blessing. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

1074 Sanctus (Eve) - SEELENBRÄUTIGAM

CW 1074

Tune: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM



1 Round God's throne on high blaz - ing an - gels cry, sing - ing,
2 Blest be Da - vid's Son! In God's name he comes, grace and



“Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord, we praise you for your glo - ry,
par - don to pro - vide us. Sing, “Ho - san - na in the high - est!”



shin - ing bright - ly forth, fill - ing heav'n and earth.”
Je - sus, hear our plea: come and set us free!

Text: Michael D. Schultz Tune: Adam Drese

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Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (+) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

947 Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

CW 947 sts. 1, 3



1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, who on the cross did suf - fer,
 3 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, who on the cross did suf - fer,



ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, your-self to scorn did of - fer.
 ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, your-self to scorn did of - fer.



All sin you car - ried for us, else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
 All sin you car - ried for us, else had de - spair reigned o'er us:



have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!
 your peace be with us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

Text: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941
 Tune: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546 Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution And Thanksgiving

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

And his mercy endures forever.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen.

405 On My Heart Imprint Your Image

CW 405

On my heart im - print your im - age, bless-ed Je - sus, King of grace,
that life's rich - es, cares, and plea-sures have no pow'r to hide your face.
Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,
is my life, my hope's foun-da - tion, and my glo-ry and sal - va - tion.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'On My Heart Imprint Your Image'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first two staves cover the first line of lyrics, the third staff covers the second line, and the fourth staff covers the third line. The score ends with a double bar line.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703, abr.; tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856–1921, alt.
Tune: Johann B. König, 1691–1758 Text and tune: Public domain

Midweek Lent Services – “It is Finished”

The Holy Week Prophecies of Zechariah

Jesus came to keep all of God’s commandments perfectly and to fulfill all the promises about the Saviour contained in the Old Testament so that he could triumphantly say about his redemptive work for our salvation, “It is finished!”

Our Lenten series takes us through some of Zechariah’s prophecies, particularly as they relate to the events of Holy Week, and what Jesus’ fulfilment of those prophecies means for God’s people—now and in eternity.

Feb. 25 – Scattered Sheep
Zechariah 13:7-9
Led by: Pastor Digman

Mar. 4 – Gone in a Single Day
Zechariah 3:1-10
Led by: Pastor Kock

Mar. 11 – Look at the One Who Was Pierced
Zechariah 12:10-13
Led by: Pastor Sullivan

Mar. 18 – Nothing but the Truth
Zechariah 8:14-17
Led by: Pastor Digman

Mar. 25 – The Kingly Priest
Zechariah 6:9-13
Led by: Pastor Kock