



St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

February 18, 2026

EXPLANATION OF THE THEME OF THE DAY

This year's series "It is Finished," explores the prophecies of Zechariah, offering an enriching look at our Savior Jesus, particularly as these prophecies relate to the events of Jesus' Holy Week passion, death, and resurrection.

Today's theme is "What is he worth to you." The prophecy from Zechariah mentions the silver Judas received to betray Jesus. He was worth less than 30 pieces of silver to Judas. What is he worth to us? The Creed today is a portion of the Second Article in which we confess with Luther that it wasn't with gold or silver that Jesus redeemed us, but with his holy precious blood and his innocent suffering and death.



ABOUT ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, reminding us of our mortality and calling us to repent. The ancient practice of imposing ashes on the foreheads of the faithful is what gives Ash Wednesday its name. The church father Tertullian (c. A.D. 160-215) writes of the practice as a public expression of repentance and of our human frailty that stands in need of Christ. Ashes can remind us forcefully of our need for redeeming grace as they recall words from the rite of Christian burial—"earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust..."—words that will someday be spoken over us all.

Those Serving

Pastor - Jeremy Glowicki

Accompanist – Noah Helke

Ash Wednesday

Confessional Rite

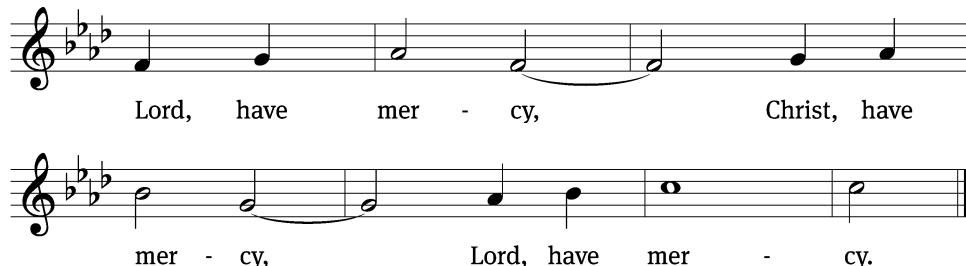


Stand for the opening Confessional Psalm

Have Mercy in Your Goodness, Lord

Psalm 51B sts. Ref-5

Refrain



Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have
mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Verses



1 Have mer - cy in your good-ness, Lord, and in your I see my
2 All my trans-gres - sions, Lord, I know; your judg-ments
3 So when you speak, Lord, it is just; in se - cret
4 For deep with - in you look for truth; and give my
* 5 Tell me of joy and glad-ness, Lord, Tell me...
grace for - give my sin; wash me from e - vil through and
sin both day and night; a - gainst you on - ly have I
all re - veal the truth; I have been wick - ed from my
make me un - der - stand; purge out my sin and I shall
bro - ken bod - y ease; Lord, hide your face from all my

through, cleanse me, O Lord, with - out, with - in. v. 2
 sinned, done what is e - vil in your sight. *Refrain*
 birth, a sin - ner e - ven from my youth. v. 4
 be pure as your ho - ly law de - mands. *Refrain*
 sin; blot out all my in - iq - ui - ties. *Refrain*

* St. 5 may be sung in canon.

Text: Christopher L. Webber

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Silence for meditation and reflection

Invocation

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

Amen.

Introduction to Confession

Brothers and sisters in Christ, God created us to know joy in fellowship with him, to love all people, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, 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 forty days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer 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 love of God and neighbor.

Let us confess our sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit ourselves to this struggle.

Confession

Most 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 neighbors 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.

We have placed our wants before your will.

We have gratified the desires of our sinful nature.

We have merited your punishment now and forever.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We confess to you, 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,
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,
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, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,
forgive us, Lord.

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

For what we think or say or do that is at variance with your will,
forgive us, Lord.

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

Imposition of Ashes

Lord, to You I Make Confession

CW 653

Those who desire to express repentance by making a cross of ash on the bann, come forward at the direction of an usher. Take ash on the thumb from the basin and make a small cross on the banner. You can wipe the ash from your thumb using the wipes. Follow the pastor's lead. When all have returned the pastor says:

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

Accomplish in us, Lord, the work of your salvation
that we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and suffering of your Son,
bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

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 sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins and for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ 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.

During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at the last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.



Prayer of the Day

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.

Be seated

The Power of The Cross

St. Paul Youth

First Reading

2 Corinthians 7:8-13a

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Joel 2:13

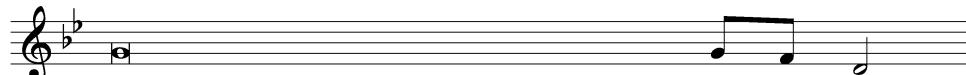


Refrain



Praise to you, Lord Je-sus Christ, king of end - less glo - ry.

Tone



Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and com - pas - sion - ate,



slow to anger and abound - ing in love.

Refrain

Gospel

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

393 Savior, When in Dust to You

CW 393

Sermon

Stand

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Offering

During the offering, please fill out the Friendship Register in the pew and pass it down to those sitting next to you.

The Sacrament

Stand



Preface

Musical notation for the phrase 'The Lord be with you.' It consists of a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a single measure containing a half note and a quarter note.

The Lord be with you.

Musical notation for the phrase 'And also with you.' It consists of a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a single measure containing four quarter notes.

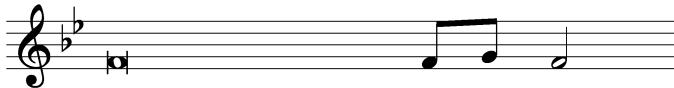
And also with you.

Musical notation for the phrase 'Lift up your hearts.' It consists of a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a single measure containing four quarter notes.

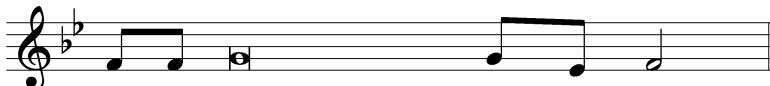
Lift up your hearts.

Musical notation for the phrase 'We lift them up to the Lord.' It consists of a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a single measure containing a half note and a quarter note.

We lift them up to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Tune: Marty Haugen

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Proper Preface

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 brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Sanctus - AURELIA

CW 1025

Tune: AURELIA



1 Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts on high,
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How blest is Christ our King,



your ev - er - last - ing glo - ry fills earth and sea and sky."
who died as our Re - deem - er, e - ter - nal life to bring!



Our voic - es cry, "Ho - san - na!" Lord, hear our hum - ble plea:
How blest are you, Lord Je - sus, now com - ing in God's name!



in mer - cy, come and save us; in love, come set us free.
“Ho - san - na in the high - est!” our grate - ful hearts pro - claim.

Text: Michael D. Schultz

Tune: Samuel S. Wesley

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son’s body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
 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 those
 who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
 and the power and the glory
 forever and ever. Amen.**

Words of Institution

Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

CW 947



1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, who on the cross did suf - fer,
2 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.
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:
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!
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

Be seated

Distribution

676 Take and Eat

CW 676

Stand

Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us 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 Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Choir

Now, Even Now, Declare a Fast