



**REFLECTIONS**  
**on**  
**REPENTANCE**

ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, MONROE, MI

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

First Midweek Lenten Worship

Order of Service

March 12, 2025

**WELCOME TO ZION.** It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will strengthen your faith and fill your heart with the peace only God can give and the joy we have in believing that JESUS CHRIST is our Savior from sin.

**Worship Focus:** We are called to repentance and renewal as we begin the disciplines of Lent.

OPENING HYMN: CW 111

"Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing"

LENT

111 Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing



1 Sweet the mo - ments, rich in bless - ing, Which be -  
2 Here we rest in won - der, view - ing All our  
3 Here we find the dawn of heav - en While up -  
4 Oh, that, near the cross a - bid - ing, We may  
5 Lord, in lov - ing con - tem - pla - tion Fix our



fore the cross we spend, Life and health and peace pos -  
sins on Je - sus laid; Here we see re - demp - tion  
on the cross we gaze, See our tres - pass - es for -  
to the Sav - ior cleave, Naught with him our hearts di -  
hearts and eyes on you Till we taste your full sal -



sess - ing From the sin - ner's dy - ing friend.  
flow - ing From the sac - ri - fice he made.  
giv - en, And our songs of tri - umph raise.  
vid - ing, All for him con - tent to leave!  
va - tion And your un - veiled glo - ry view.

Text: Walter Shirley, 1725–86, alt.

Tune: RINGE RECHT (87 87) *Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz*, Basel, 1745, alt.

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son  $\text{✙}$  and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

P: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

P: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**C: Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins  
with his holy life and innocent death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray:**

**God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection.*

## ABSOLUTION

P: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice 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.

**C: Amen.**

## LITANY PRAYER

P: O God the Father, you are not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to the saving knowledge of the Truth.

**C: Have mercy on us.**

P: O God the Son, you carried the sin of the whole world and laid down your life to draw all people to yourself.

**C: Have mercy on us.**

P: O God the Holy Spirit, you make the hearts of the spiritually dead alive and transform rebellious people into your children.

**C: Have mercy on us.**

P: Most holy and triune God, we offer our praise for your mercy and grace which you pour out through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: We praise you, O Lord.**

P: For revealing yourself in the Book of Truth, for gathering nations to faith by that Word,  
for bringing our souls to believe and rejoice,

C: **We thank you, O Lord.**

P: For martyrs, reformers, and steadfast Christians who scorned personal danger to  
proclaim the gospel,

C: **We thank you, O Lord.**

P: Stir up our hearts with the joy of our salvation and increase our love and loyalty to you.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: Constantly cleanse, reform, and protect your Church in this day of spreading error and  
confusion.

C: **Christ, have mercy.**

P: Bring your kingdom to all blood-bought souls who remain lost.

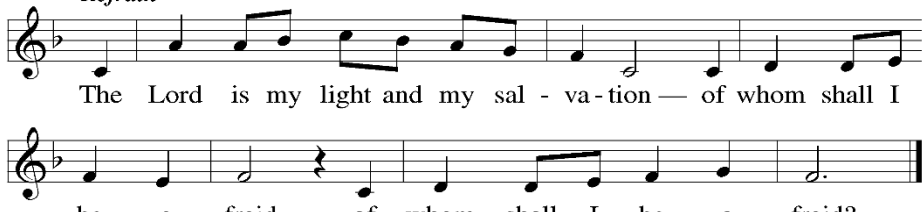
C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: The Lord Almighty is with us; he is our mighty fortress. Let us exalt his holy name.

## PSALM 27


CW 75

*Refrain*



The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion — of whom shall I  
be a - fraid, of whom shall I be a - fraid?

*Psalm tone*



Hear my voice when I call, O LORD;\*  
be merciful to me and answer me.

Do not hide your face from me,\*  
do not turn your servant away in anger;  
you have been my helper.

Do not reject me or forsake me,\*  
O God my Savior.

*Refrain*

The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion — of whom shall I  
be a - fraid, of whom shall I be a - fraid?

*Psalm tone*

***Refrain***

Though my father and mother forsake me,\*  
the LORD will receive me.

I am still confident of this: \*  
I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

Wait for the LORD; \*  
be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

***Refrain***

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**PASSION HISTORY RESPONSIVE READING**

**THE PASSION HISTORY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
LESSON ONE**

**Pastor:** The Festival of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover, was approaching. Jesus said to his disciples,

**Men:** “You know that after two days it will be the Passover, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified.”

**Pastor:** Then the chief priests and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas.

**Women:** They plotted together how to arrest Jesus in some deceitful way and kill him.

**Congregation:** But they said, “Not during the Festival, or else there might be a riot among the people.”

Pastor: Satan entered Judas, called Iscariot, who was one of the Twelve. He went away and spoke with the chief priests and officers of the temple guard about how he could betray Jesus to them. They were glad and agreed to give him money. He promised to do it and was looking for an opportunity to betray Jesus to them away from the crowd.<sup>1</sup>

**Women: On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples asked him,**

**Men: “Where do you want us to go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?”**

Pastor: He sent two of his disciples and said to them, “Go into the city, and there a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. Wherever he enters, tell the owner of the house that the Teacher says, ‘Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ He will show you a large upper room, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.”

**Women: They went and found things just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.**

Pastor: When the hour had come, Jesus reclined at the table with the twelve apostles.

**Men: He said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer, for I tell you, I will not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.”<sup>2</sup>**

**Congregation: A dispute arose among the disciples about which of them was considered to be greatest.**

Pastor: But he told them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who have authority over them are called Benefactors. But it is not to be that way with you. Instead, let the greatest among you become like the youngest, and the one who leads like the one who serves. For who is greater, one who reclines at the table or one who serves? Isn’t it the one who reclines at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. You are those who have remained with me in my trials. I am going to grant a kingdom to you, just as my Father granted to me, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom. And you will sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”<sup>3</sup>

**Women: Before the Passover Festival, Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father.**

**Congregation: Having loved those who were his own in the world, he loved them to the end.<sup>4</sup>**

**Men: By the time the supper took place, the Devil had already put the idea into the heart of Judas, son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus.**

**Congregation: Jesus knew that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God.**

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<sup>1</sup> Matthew 26:1-5; Mark 14:1-2; Luke 22:1-6

<sup>2</sup> Matthew 26:17-20; Mark 14:12-17; Luke 22:7-17

<sup>3</sup> Luke 22:24-30

<sup>4</sup> Or to the fullest extent

Pastor: He got up from the supper and laid aside his outer garment. He took a towel and tied it around his waist.

**Women: Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.**

**Men: He came to Simon Peter, who asked him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"**

Pastor: Jesus answered him, "You do not understand what I am doing now, but later you will understand."

**Men: Peter told him, "You will never, ever, wash my feet!"**

Pastor: Jesus replied, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with me."

**Men: "Lord, not just my feet," Simon Peter replied, "but also my hands and my head!"**

**Congregation: Jesus told him, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet, but his body is completely clean. And you<sup>5</sup> are clean, but not all of you." Indeed, he knew who was going to betray him. That is why he said, "Not all of you are clean."**

**Women: After Jesus had washed their feet and put on his outer garment, he reclined at the table again.**

Pastor: "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. "You call me Teacher and Lord. You are right, because I am. Now if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. Yes, I have given you an example so that you also would do just as I have done for you. Amen, Amen,<sup>6</sup> I tell you: A servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them."<sup>7</sup>

**Congregation: He took a cup, gave thanks, and said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves, for I tell you, from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."<sup>8</sup>**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: CW 396**

**"In Adam We Have All Been One"**

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<sup>5</sup> You is plural.

<sup>6</sup> Usually people say *Amen* at the end of a prayer, but Jesus used this Hebrew word at the beginning of a statement, which was unique. The inspired writer simply transliterated the Hebrew word that Jesus spoke, instead of using a Greek term. This translation does the same in English. The basic meaning is *I solemnly tell you the truth*. Here it is emphasized by being used twice. See FAQ #1 at [wartburgproject.org/faqs/](http://wartburgproject.org/faqs/)

<sup>7</sup> John 13:1-17

<sup>8</sup> Luke 22:17-18

In Adam We Have All Been One



1 In Ad - am we have all been one, One  
 2 We fled our God, and los - ing him, We  
 3 But your strong love, it sought us still And  
 4 O Sav - ior, when we loved you not, You  
 5 Send us your Spir - it; teach us truth To



huge re - bel - lious man; We all have fled that  
 lost our broth - er too. Each sin - gly sought and  
 sent your on - ly Son That we might hear his  
 loved and saved us all; O great good Shep - herd  
 purge our van - i - ty. From fan - cied wis - dom,



eve - ning voice That sought us as we ran.  
 claimed his own; Each man his broth - er slew.  
 shep - herd - voice And, hear - ing him, be one.  
 of man - kind, Oh, hear us when we call.  
 self - sought ways, O Sav - ior, set us free.

6 Then shall our song united rise  
 To your eternal throne,  
 Where with the Father evermore  
 And Spirit you are one.

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76, alt. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.  
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Tune: ADAM (CM) Kurt J. Eggert, 1923-93. © 1993 Kurt J. Eggert. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

SERMON TEXT AND THEME

Psalm 51:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Be gracious to me, God, according to your mercy. Erase my acts of rebellion according to the greatness of your compassion. <sup>2</sup> Scrub me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin.

REALIZING OUR NEED FOR REPENTANCE



## PRAYER

P: Gracious Lord, according to your will and promise,

**C: you sent your Son into our world to atone for sin and restore eternal life.**

P: You planned his path to the cross,

**C: and he followed it perfectly.**

P: He confronted the blindness of unbelief, the confusion of doubt, and the hurt of death

**C: but was not deterred as he proclaimed your kingdom to the least, the last, and the lost.**

P: As we hear and contemplate the holy record of our Savior's passion and death,

**C: use the sharp message of the law to empty us of pride and self-reliance.**

P: Humble us as we view the Savior in his humility,

**C: remembering and believing that he endured the cross so we might be freed from its horror.**

P: In his suffering show us our healing,

**C: in his grief show us our joy,**

P: and in his death show us our life.

**C: Hear our prayers, Lord, for the sake of Jesus. Amen.**

## CONSECRATION OF ELEMENTS

### DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: *CW 304*

**“Jesus Sinners Does Receive”**

Jesus Sinners Does Receive



1 Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive; Oh, may all this  
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet his words, rich  
 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray Are not by the  
 4 Come, O sin - ners, one and all, Come, ac - cept his  
 5 I, a sin - ner, come to you With a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live  
 grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;  
 Lord for - sak - en; Wea - ry souls who lost their way  
 in - vi - ta - tion. Come, o - bey his gra - cious call;  
 tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, show me mer - cy, too;



And from God and heav - en wan - der. Here is hope  
 Here their ills have per - fect heal - ing Who with hum -  
 Are by Christ, the shep - herd, tak - en In his arms  
 Come and take his free sal - va - tion! Firm - ly in  
 Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words



for all who grieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.  
 ble hearts be - lieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.  
 that they may live— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.  
 these words be - lieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.  
 my soul re - ceive— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.

6 Oh, how blest it is to know,  
 Were as scarlet my transgression,  
 It shall be as white as snow  
 By your blood and bitter passion,  
 For these words I do believe—  
 Jesus sinners does receive.

7 Jesus sinners does receive.  
 Even I have been forgiven.  
 And when I this earth must leave,  
 I shall find an open heaven.  
 Dying, still to him I cleave—  
 Jesus sinners does receive.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: MEINEN JESUM LASS ICH NICHT (78 78 77) *Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch*, Darmstadt, 1699, alt.

## CLOSING PRAYER

## APOSTOLIC BLESSING

C: Amen (*sings*)

CLOSING HYMN: *CW 109*

“When O’er My Sins I Sorrow”

LENT

109

## When O’er My Sins I Sorrow



1 When o’er my sins I sor - row, Lord, I will  
2 Oh, what a mar - v’lous of - f’ring! Be - hold, the  
3 My man - i - fold trans - gres - sion Hence - forth can  
4 There - fore I will for - ev - er Give thanks con -



look to you And hence my com - fort bor - row  
Mas - ter spares His ser - vants, and their suf - f’ring  
harm me none Since Je - sus’ blood - y pas - sion  
tin - ual - ly, O Je - sus, lov - ing Sav - ior,



That you were slain for me. Your pre - cious  
And grief for them he bears. Our God comes  
For me God’s grace has won. His blood my  
For what you did for me. I’ll spend my



blood was of - fered For me, oh, most un -  
down from heav - en; For me, his guilt - y  
debt has can - celed; Of hell and all its  
breath in prais - es For your sad cry, your



wor - thy, To take a - way my guilt.  
crea - ture, He deigns as man to die.  
tor - ments I am no more a - fraid.  
suf - f’rings, Your wounds, your guilt - less death.

Text: Justus Gesenius, 1601–73, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: HERR CHRIST, DER EING GOTTS SOHN (76 76 776) *Eyn Enchiridion oder Handbüchlein*, Erfurt, 1524, alt.

Officiants

Accompanist: Deanna Schneck

Liturgist & Preacher: Pastor Bill Finn