



Ash Wednesday
February 17, 2021

AS WE GATHER

Today we begin a sermon series on the Old Testament prophet Zechariah—Your Kingdom Come. God's kingdom comes when we put first things first. That means we repent.

***INVOCATION**

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

***OPENING SENTENCES**

P Behold, your King comes to you—
C **Righteous and having salvation.**
P Speaking peace to the nations.
C **And ruling from sea to sea—**
P To the ends of the earth!
C **God's kingdom comes—**
P To us!
C **Through Jesus Christ our Lord!**

CONFESSIONAL ADDRESS

Joel 2:12

P As we begin this Lenten season, we may not be wearing sackcloth and ashes, but we are heeding our Lord's call to "return to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments."

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Genesis 3:19

P Almighty and everlasting God, You spoke to Adam and Eve in the garden and said, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." Your people of ancient times wore sackcloth and ashes as a sign of repentance. We remember our sinfulness through the ashes and remember the gracious gift of forgiveness through the cross of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

Those who wish to receive the mark of ashes upon their forehead may come forward. The ashes are an ancient sign of mortality and death, sorrow and forgiveness, used at the beginning of Lent. All may meditate on Psalms 6, 32, 38, 51, 103, 130, and 143. Bibles are available in the church narthex.

*HYMN

Come to Calv'ry's Holy Mountain

LSB 435, vs. 1, 3



1 Come to Cal - v'ry's ho - ly moun - tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined
3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound - ed, im - po -



by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain
tent, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,



Flows for you, for me, for all, In a full, per -
Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain



pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.
will re - store; They that drink shall thirst no more.

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*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Come to Calvary's holy mountain, sinners ruined by the fall.

C **Here a pure and healing fountain flows for you, for me for all.**

P In a full, perpetual tide—

C Opened when our Savior died!

P Coming to Calvary's holy mountain, we confess our sins.

Silence for reflection and confession

P Merciful Father—

C I am wrapped up in myself.

P I cling to comfort and choose the easy way.

C I want tweaking, not transformation.

P Greed, envy, intolerance and jealousy mark my life.

C I fail to learn, and what I have learned, I fail to practice.

P I judge others with a standard I never use for myself.

C Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

P Zechariah 13:1 states, "On that day there will be a fountain opened to cleanse from sin and uncleanness." Because of Christ's cross and crucifixion—Zechariah's day is today. Here a pure and healing fountain flows for you, for me for all. In a full, perpetual tide opened when our Savior died. In Jesus' name, you are absolved, forgiven and loved! God's kingdom comes to us—

C Through Jesus Christ our Lord!

***HYMN**

Come to Cal'vry's Holy Mountain

LSB 435, vs. 4

4 They that drink shall live for - ev - er; 'Tis a soul - re -
new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er
Break His cov - e - nant of blood, Signed when our Re -
deem - er died, Sealed when He was glo - ri - fied.

Text and tune: Public domain

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray.

Gracious and merciful God and Father, Your mercy calls us to return to You time and time again to be reconciled and receive Your forgiveness.

C As we receive this free reward, lead us to live lives of righteous service in Your name;

P through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Zechariah 1:1–6

¹In the eighth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to the prophet Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, son of Iddo, saying, ²"The LORD was very angry with your fathers. ³Therefore say to them, Thus declares the LORD of hosts: Return to me, says the LORD of hosts, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts. ⁴Do not be like your fathers, to whom the former prophets cried out, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, Return from your evil ways and from your evil deeds.' But they did not hear or pay attention to me, declares the LORD. ⁵Your fathers, where are they? And the prophets, do they live forever? ⁶But my words and my statutes, which I commanded my servants the prophets, did they not overtake your fathers? So they repented and said, As the LORD of hosts purposed to deal with us for our ways and deeds, so has he dealt with us."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Romans 2:1–5

¹Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things. ²We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who do such things. ³Do you suppose, O man—you who judge those who do such things and yet do them yourself—that you will escape the judgment of God? ⁴Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? ⁵But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

VERSE spoken by the Pastor

Joel 2:13b

Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

*HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 5:27–32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁷After this he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth. And he said to him, "Follow me." ²⁸And leaving everything, he rose and followed him.

²⁹And Levi made him a great feast in his house, and there was a large company of tax collectors and others reclining at table with them. ³⁰And the Pharisees and their scribes grumbled at his disciples, saying,

“Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?” ³¹And Jesus answered them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ³²I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*CREED

P We join together in confessing Luther's explanation to the Second Article of the Creed from Luther's Small Catechism.

C **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.**

SERMON

Your Kingdom Come

HYMN

My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less

LSB 575, vs. 1, 2, 3



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less Than Je - sus'
2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on
3 His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood Sup - port me



blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my
His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and
in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly



own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.
prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; All oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

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***PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

P Our King comes to us, righteous and having salvation. May God hear our prayers, because of our crucified and risen King—Christ Jesus.

P Heavenly Father, we invite you into our lives—

C We make ourselves available to your holy will.

P Help us become living examples of your love in the world.

C Open our hearts to the areas of our lives that need to change—

P So we carry out the mission of our church—

C Connecting People to Jesus.

P Inspire us to live the Christian life—

C In ways that are dynamic and engaging.

P Bring renewal to our church.

C And make us hunger and thirst for more of Jesus.

P Give us courage when we are afraid.

C Hope when we are discouraged.

P And clarity in times of decision.

P They that drink shall live forever, 'tis a soul renewing flood.

C God is faithful, God will never, break his covenant of blood.

P Signed when our Redeemer died—

C Sealed when he was glorified. Amen.

OFFERING

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***PREFACE**

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

***PROPER PREFACE**

*SANCTUS

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*WORDS OF OUR LORD

*PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

*LORD'S PRAYER

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

DISTRIBUTION AND DISMISSAL

*HYMN

Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

LSB 434, vs. 1



1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,



Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.



All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:



Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

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*POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

*BENEDICTION

P People of God, who have returned and are reconciled and rewarded, receive the blessing of our Lord.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Abide With Me

LSB 878, vs. 1, 6



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
6 Hold Thou Thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
In life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

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Serving our Lord this evening

Officiant: Rev. James Kroonblawd

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing

Elder: Kurt Vallin

Altar Guild: Karen Turnmire and Nancy Strand

Organist: Diane Streich

Cantor: Andy Koch

Usher: Andy Olson

Live Stream: Jim Nicklas

Projectionist: Jean Peterson



Devotions for Lent

Pick up your copy in the narthex and take one for a friend! Both regular and large print available.