

**A Service of Morning Prayer
February 18, 2026
Ash Wednesday**



Painting of Jesus teaching, by Carl Heinrich Bloch; Year: 1877
Location: Museum of National History at Frederiksborg Castle

Lord, open our lips,

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

CP 393 Immortal, Invisible

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

3 To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish, but nought changeth thee.

2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

4 Great Source of all glory and wisdom and light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

Gathering: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the love of God,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
Be with you all.

And also with you.

May his grace and peace be with you.
May he fill our hearts with joy.

Almighty God,
**To you all hearts are open,
 All desires known,
 And from you no secrets are hidden.
 Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
 By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
 That we may perfectly love you,
 And worthily magnify your holy name.
 Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Trisagion: Holy God,
 Holy and mighty,
 Holy and immortal one,
 Have mercy on us. (3x)

Psalm 51:1-17 *Refrain: The Lord remembers that we are but dust.*

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
- ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.
- ³ For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
- ⁴ Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgement.
- ⁵ Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.
- ⁶ You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
- ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.
- ¹¹ Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.
- ¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.
- ¹⁴ Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.
- ¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.
- ¹⁶ For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt-offering, you would not be pleased.
- ¹⁷ The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

The Gospel:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21**Concerning Almsgiving**

6 'Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

2 'So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.

3 But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,

4 so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Concerning Prayer

5 'And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.

6 But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Concerning Fasting

16 'And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.

17 But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face,

18 so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Concerning Treasures

19 'Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal;

20 but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal.

21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

CP 564 Lead Us, Heeavenly Father, Lead Us

1 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing
if our God our Father be.

3 Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy;
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

2 Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us;
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.

Meditation: – Rev. Alison WesterveltCCLI 7166576 Song of Repentance

1 We've fallen short
 We've wandered far from Your ways
 Forgive us O Lord
 We've sinned against Your name

Pre-Chorus

Lord have mercy
 Christ have mercy

Chorus

***This is a song of repentance
 This is a plea to Your heart
 Would You purify us Lord
 Open Your hand to deliver
 Reach down in power to save
 You are Holy God***

2 God keep us close
 Held in Your promise of grace
 Come change our hearts
 Restore who we are we pray

Bridge

Now Almighty One
 All-consuming love
 Lord remember us
 Make us holy
 For the sake of Christ
 We lay down our lives
 O now Church arise
 For His glory

Ending

This is a song of revival
 Let holiness flood through this land
 Would You purify us Lord
 Would You purify us Lord

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the Virgin Mary.
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again.
 He ascended into heaven.
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again
 to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Healing Litany:

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers: Sandra.....
 Merle..... Mary..... Irene Tony and Mary Jean..... Florence..... Lisa and
 Joe..... Marijke..... Diane..... Janelle..... Sandy..... Evelyn..... Sarah.....
 Terry..... Ken..... Monica..... Julie..... Lucas..... Helen..... Cody..... Judy.....
 Ruth..... Jody and Michael..... David L..... Kathy..... Joy..... Melody and her
 family..... Pauline.....Jorges and Janine..... Michael S..... Larry.....
 Christena..... Elsie..... Lynn..... Irvin and Margaret..... Ashley..... Emily.....

Let us offer our prayers for God's healing, saying, Hear and have mercy.

Hear and have mercy

Blessed Jesus, your Holy name is medicine for healing and a promise of eternal life

Hear and have mercy

Grant us your grace to heal those who are sick. We pray to you, O God,

Befriend all who are anxious, lonely, despondent, or afraid. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy.

Restore those with mental illness to clarity of mind and hopefulness of heart. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy.

Give rest to the weary and hold the dying in your loving arms. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy.

Help us to prepare for death with confident expectation of Easter joy. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy.

Give your wisdom and compassion to health care workers, that they may minister to the sick and dying with knowledge, skill, and kindness. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy.

Uphold those who keep watch over the sick. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy.

Guide those who search for the causes and cures of sickness and disease. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy

Jesus, Lamb of God,

Hear and have mercy.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,

Hear and have mercy

Jesus, redeemer of the world,

Hear and have mercy

Compassionate God, you so loved the world that you sent us Jesus to bear our infirmities and afflictions. Through acts of healing, he revealed you as the true source of health and salvation. For the sake of your Christ who suffered and died for us, conquered death, and now reigns with you in glory, hear the cry of your people. Have mercy on us, make us whole, and bring us at last into the fulness of your eternal life. Amen

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
 you despise nothing you have made
 and forgive the sins of all who are penitent.
 Create and make in us new and contrite hearts,
 that we, worthily lamenting our sins
 and acknowledging our brokenness,
 may obtain of you, the God of all mercy,
 perfect remission and forgiveness;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, for ever and ever.

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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,
 the power, and the glory,
 for ever and ever. Amen.**

CP 615 Just As I Am

1 Just as I am, without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou biddest me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

2 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

3 Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

4 Just as I am, and waiting not
to rid my soul of one dark blot,
to thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down
now to be thine, yea thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

The Dismissal:

Let us bless the Lord, giving thanks for his living word.
Thanks be to God.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of
the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.