



Removing Our Guilt

Lent Midweek 4

New Life Evangelical Lutheran Church

March 26, 2025

2025 Lenten Series: Reflections on Repentance

“The Lord is not slow to do what he promised. . . . Instead, he is patient for your sakes, not wanting anyone to perish, but all to come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9). Luther began his famous debate theses noting that Scripture’s call to repentance is intended as a way of life. Using David’s great penitential Psalm 51, penned following his affair with Bathsheba and the murder of Uriah, this series of Lenten reflections explores the depths of our sinful depravity, the brokenness of our relationship with God, our dire need for rescue, and the good news of forgiveness, cleansing, and rejoicing in our restored relationship with God and the promise of eternal life through Jesus our Savior.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Gather

HYMN

Hymnal 811:1,3 | *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; take all my
be thou my guide. Bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's



guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887

Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Text and tune: Public domain

CONFESSION

In the name of our God, to whom all hearts are open and from whom no secrets are hidden.
Amen.

I confess that I am by nature sinful.

I am guilty of many sins.

I am distressed by the sins that trouble me.

For all this I am sorry. I pray for forgiveness.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love.

Jesus says to his people, “If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven.” His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?

Yes, I believe.

By the authority of Christ, I forgive you your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Word

PRAYER

Let us pray.

Lord, whenever we feel the crushing burden of our sin, show us again how blessed we are. You have lifted our transgressions from us. You have covered our sins with the robe of your Son’s righteousness. You no longer count our misdeeds against us. For this great deliverance, we rejoice and sing your saving name.

Amen.

PASSION HISTORY *Part 4 (EHV)*

HYMN OF THE DAY

Hymnal 814 | *Just as I Am, without One Plea*



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that thy
2 Just as I am and wait - ing not to rid my
3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y_a
4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es,



blood was shed for me and that thou bidd'st me come to
soul of one dark blot, to thee, whose blood can cleanse each
con - flict, man - y_a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with -
heal - ing of the mind, yea, all I need, in thee to



thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; thy love unknown
has broken ev'ry barrier down;
now to be thine, yea thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871
Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868
Text and tune: Public domain

Removing Our Guilt

Let me hear joy and gladness.
Let the bones you have crushed celebrate.
Hide your face from my sins.
Erase all my guilty deeds.

OFFERING *Stand as an offering plate is brought forward and placed on the altar.*

We thank our generous Creator for richly and daily blessing us with more than we need for this body and life. God owns everything because “the earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world and all who live in it.” (Psalm 24:1) We gratefully return a portion to him who gives us all. Offerings may be placed in a plate near the entrance coming or going. With E-giving and drop-off at church we support our collective gospel ministry at New Life. Please also give generously to those in need, being confident of this: “He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 1:6 EHV)



PRAYER

O God our Father, by your mercy and might the world turns safely into darkness and returns again to light.

We place into your hands our unfinished tasks, our unsolved problems, and our unfulfilled hopes, knowing that only what you bless will prosper.

To your great love and protection we commit each other and all those we love, knowing that you alone are our sure defender; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.**

BLESSING

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him.

Amen.

HYMN

Hymnal 811:2,4 | *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*



2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart;
4 When ends life's tran-sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



my zeal in - spire! As thou hast died for me, oh, may my
shall o'er me roll, blest Sav - ior, then, in love, fear and dis -



love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!
trust re-move; O bear me safe a - bove, a ran-somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887
Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872
Text and tune: Public domain



Acknowledgments

The following items are printed, live streamed, and posted under OneLicense.net #A-715373 or CCLI#11246438 and #20485651

Scripture Readings *The Holy Bible: Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV)* © 2019 The Wartburg Project. www.wartburgproject.org. All rights reserved. Available NPH (800-662-6022).

Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

