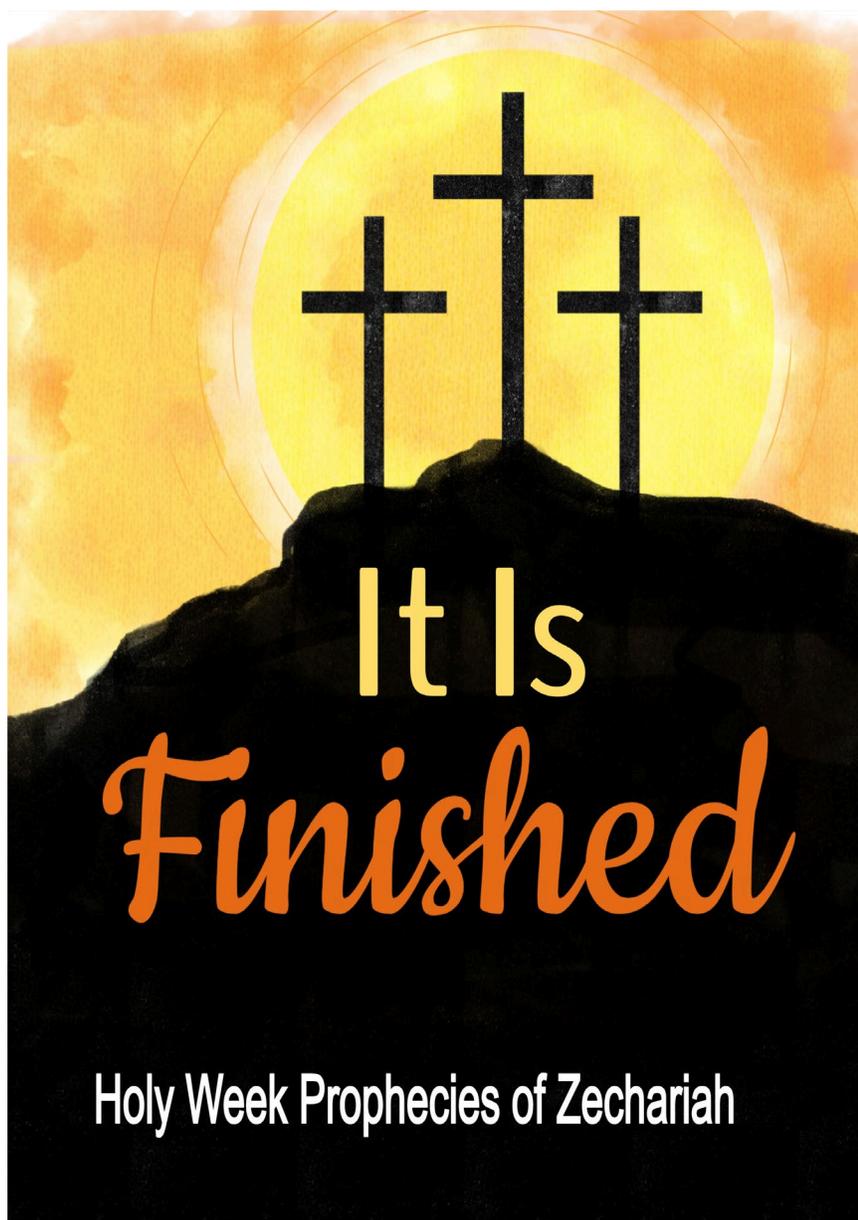


St. John Lutheran Church & School
Berlin, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



Midweek Lenten Service March 25, 2026
St. John Lutheran Church and School

Pastor Mark Wenzel
Theme: " The Kingly Priest"

437 Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

- 1 Alas! And did my Savior bleed,
And did my sov'reign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For such a worm as I?**

- 2 Was it for crimes that I had done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown,
And love beyond degree!**

- 3 Well might the sun in darkness hide
And shut his glories in
When God, the mighty maker, died
For His own creatures' sin.**

- 4 Thus might I hide my blushing face
While His dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
And melt mine eyes to tears.**

- 5 But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away:
'Tis all that I can do.**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Text: Public domain

Stand

P O Lord, open my lips,

C and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C make haste to help me, O 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.
Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.**

Psalmody

Psalm

Psalm 138

¹I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;

**²I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to
your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for
you have exalted above all things
your name and your word.**

³On the day I called, you answered me;
my strength of soul you increased.

**⁴All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O LORD, for
they have heard the words of your mouth,**

⁵and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD,
for great is the glory of the LORD.

**⁶For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly,
but the haughty he knows from afar.**

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life; you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and your right hand delivers me.

**⁸The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

Psalm Prayer

Lord, we bow down to you in thankful praise. You have made Your ways known to both lowly and great of the earth. You have not abandoned the work of Your hands, but instead You have redeemed us through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sit

The Passion Reading - Calvary

624 The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

**1 The infant Priest was holy born
For us unholy and forlorn;
From fleshly temple forth came He,
Anointed from eternity.**

- 2 This great High Priest in human flesh
Was icon of God's righteousness.
His hallowed touch brought sanctity;
His hand removed impurity.**
- 3 The holy Lamb undaunted came
To God's own altar lit with flame;
While weeping angels hid their eyes,
This Priest became a sacrifice.**
- 4 But death would not the victor be
Of Him who hung upon the tree.
He leads us to the Holy Place
Within the veil, before God's face.**
- 5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see,
As at the rail on bended knee
Our hungry mouths from Him receive
The bread of immortality.**
- 6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
A priestly food and priestly meat;
On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
His quenching blood that life restores.**
- 7 With cherubim and seraphim
Our voices join the endless hymn,
And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.**

Text: Chad L. Bird, 1970 Text: © 1997, 2003 Chad L. Bird. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005513

Sermon Reading

Zechariah 6:9–13

P A reading from Zechariah, chapter 6.

⁹And the word of the LORD came to me: ¹⁰“Take from the exiles Heldai, Tobijah, and Jedaiah, who have arrived from Babylon, and go the same day to the house of Josiah, the son of Zephaniah. ¹¹Take from them silver and gold, and make a crown, and set it on the head of Joshua, the son of Jehozadak, the high priest. ¹²And say to him, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, “Behold, the man whose name is the Branch: for he shall branch out from his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD. ¹³It is he who shall build the temple of the LORD and shall bear royal honor, and shall sit and rule on his throne. And there shall be a priest on his throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.”’”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Sermon: “The Kingly Priest”

Offering

Stand

P Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

C and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Kyrie *LSB 233*

**C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.**

Lord's Prayer

**C 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.**

Collects

P O Lord, hear my prayer.

C And let my cry come to You.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body

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

C Amen.

Collect

Merciful God, our iniquities are too heavy for us to bear. Do not punish us according to Your righteous anger. Make haste to calm our fears, fulfill our righteous desires, and answer the quiet sighs of our repentant hearts; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Collect for Peace

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 234

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 234

P The grace of our Lord +Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

574 Before the Throne of God Above

- 1 Before the throne of God above
I have a strong, a perfect plea:
A great High Priest, whose name is Love,
Who ever lives and pleads for me.**

- 2 My name is graven on His hands,
My name is written on His heart;
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart.**

- 3 When Satan tempts me to despair,
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look, and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin.**

- 4 Because the sinless Savior died,
My sinful soul is counted free;
For God, the just, is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me.**

**5 Behold Him there! The risen Lamb!
My perfect, spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM,
The King of glory and of grace!**

**6 At one with Him, I cannot die,
My soul is purchased by His blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God.**

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