

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

March 5, 2025

Jesus I Will Ponder Now...



... on Your Holy Passion

Calvary Lutheran Church and School
9807 Church Road, Dallas, TX 75238
214-348-5567
www.calvarydallas.org

ABOUT THE SERVICE

The mood of Ash Wednesday is solemn because it begins the 40 days of Lent, the season during which the Church remembers the passion and death of Jesus. During these 40 days, Christians examine their lives and repent of the sin that sent the Savior to the cross.

The ancient practice of imposing ashes on the foreheads of the faithful is what gives Ash Wednesday its name. The church father Tertullian (c. A.D. 160-215) writes of the practice as a public expression of repentance and of our human frailty that stands in need of Christ. Ashes can remind us forcefully of our need for redeeming grace as they recall words from the rite of Christian burial – “earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust...” – words that will someday be spoken over us all.

Although the “imposition of ashes” has not been the historical practice at Calvary, the ceremony has experienced renewed appreciation among some congregations.

ORDER OF SERVICE

NO PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

In keeping with the solemnity of the service

GATHERING

You may remain seated

Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.

Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.

3 I am e - vil, born in sin; you de - sire all
truth with - in. You a - lone my Sav - ior are,
teach your wis - dom to my heart; make me pure, your
grace be - stow, wash me whit - er than the snow.

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

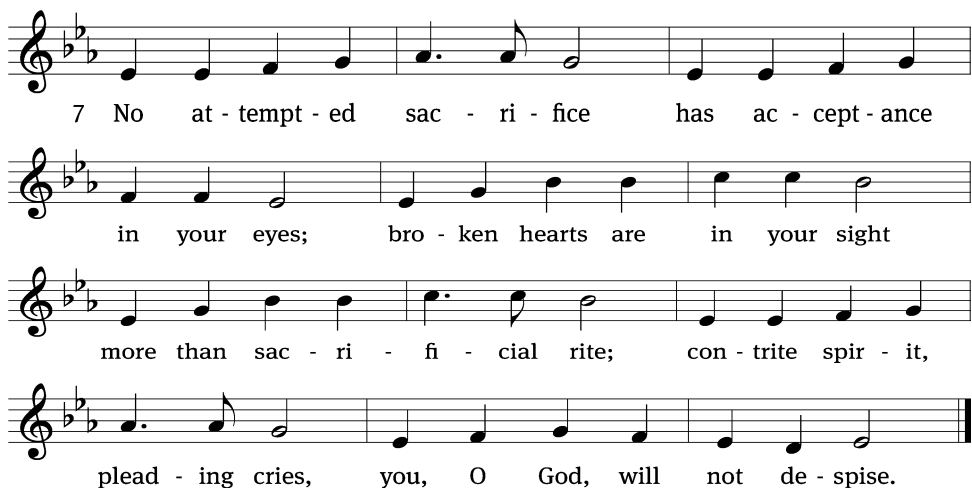
Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.

5 Gra - cious God, my heart re - new, make my spir - it
right and true; let me not a - ban - doned be,
let your Spir - it dwell in me; your sal - va - tion's
joy im - part, stead - fast make my will - ing heart.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
so that sinners will turn back to you.

Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Savior,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

Open my lips, Lord,
and my mouth will declare your praise.



7 No at - tempt - ed sac - ri - fice has ac - cept - ance
in your eyes; bro - ken hearts are in your sight
more than sac - ri - fi - cial rite; con - trite spir - it,
plead - ing cries, you, O God, will not de - spise.

✠ Ash Wednesday Confessional Rite ✠

CONFESSION

Brothers and sisters in Christ, God created us to know joy in fellowship with him, to love all people, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. By our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment, but to turn to him and live. Therefore, God in his mercy has sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take our place under the law, to suffer for us, and to die the death we deserve. God made Jesus, who had no sin, to be sin for us so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.

During the forty days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor.

Let us confess our sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit ourselves to this struggle.

Most holy and merciful Father,

**we confess to you and to one another that we have sinned by our own fault,
by our own grievous fault in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us.

We have not been true to the mind of Christ.

We have grieved the Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We have placed our wants before your will.

We have gratified the desires of our sinful nature.

We have merited your punishment now and forever.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness.

The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives

we confess to you, O Lord.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, our manipulation of other people,
our anger when our selfish aims are denied, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves

we confess to you, O Lord.

Our love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,
our negligence in worship and prayer, and our failure to show the faith that is in us

we confess to you, O Lord.

Forgive us, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering and
our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

forgive us, Lord.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward others, and for our prejudice and
contempt for those who differ from us,

forgive us, Lord.

For what we think or say or do that is at variance with your will,

forgive us, Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.
Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.

Accomplish in us, Lord, the work of your salvation
that we may show forth your glory in the world.

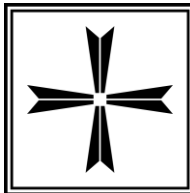
By the cross and suffering of your Son,
bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. He sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins and 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. **Amen.**

During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at the last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Be seated



✠ The Word ✠

FIRST READING

2 Samuel 12:1-13

*The Lord sends the prophet Nathan to call King David to repentance.
Nathan lowers David's defenses by telling the king a story about an immoral rich man.*

²SAMUEL 12:1 The Lord sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. ²The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, ³but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.

⁴“Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him.”

⁵David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, “As surely as the Lord lives, the man who did this must die! ⁶He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity.”

⁷Then Nathan said to David, “You are the man! This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. ⁸I gave your master’s house to you, and your master’s wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. ⁹Why did you despise the word of the Lord by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. ¹⁰Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.’

¹¹“This is what the Lord says: ‘Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight. ¹²You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.’”

¹³Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.”

Nathan replied, “The Lord has taken away your sin. You are not going to die.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE

Choir

My Song is Love Unknown

*My song is love unknown,
My Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown
That they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I
That for my sake
My Lord should take
frail flesh and die?*

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2

God sends ambassadors to make his appeal to sinners, imploring them to be reconciled to God.

² CORINTHIANS 5:20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

^{6:1} As God's co-workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. ² For he says,
"In the time of my favor I heard you,
and in the day of salvation I helped you."

I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE

My Song is Love Unknown

Solo

*He came from his blest throne,
Salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none
the longed-for Christ would know.
But, oh, my friend,
my friend indeed,
who at my need
his life did spend!*

*Sometimes they strew his way
and his sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day
Hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!"
is all their breath,
And for his death
they thirst and cry.*

Stand for the reading of the Gospel

GOSPEL READING

Luke 18:9-14

*To lower the defenses of those who were self-righteous,
Jesus tells a parable about what makes us righteous in God's eyes—trusting in God's great mercy.*

LUKE 18:9 To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: ¹⁰ "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'

¹³ "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'

¹⁴ "I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

RESPONSE

Choir

My Song is Love Unknown

*Why, why, why, what hath my Lord done?
 What makes this rage and spite?
 Why, why, why, what hath my Lord done?
 What makes this rage and spite?
 He made the lame to run,
 He gave the blind their sight.
 Sweet injuries!
 Yet they at these
 Themselves displease
 and 'gainst him rise.*

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

654 – Jesus Sinners Does Receive (1-4, 7)



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 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
 tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, show me mer - cy, too;



and from God and heav - en wan - der. Here is hope for
 here their ills have per - fect heal - ing who with hum - ble
 are by Christ, the Shep - herd, tak - en in his arms that
 grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my



all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 hearts be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 they may live: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.

- 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.

✠ Sermon ✠

2 Samuel 12:1-13

God Grant Us All a Nathan!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We appreciate the offerings given to support the work of
God's Kingdom here and throughout the world.*

Offerings can be given in any of these ways:

- *Set in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary*
- *On the Calvary website: <https://calvarydallas.org/give/>*
- *Scan the QR code to the right...*



*Give us a record of your visit through our online Connection Card,
or by filling out the card in the pew and placing it in the offering plate as you leave. The Connection
Card tab can be found at the bottom right of any page of the Calvary website,
<https://calvarydallas.org> or by scanning the QR code above.*

MUSICAL OFFERING

Small group

My Song is Love Unknown

*This is my friend in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend!
But, oh, my friend, my friend indeed,
Who at my need his life did spend.
(repeat verse)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

You may remain seated for the Prayer of the Church

You have revealed your love and mercy for us sinners in Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. You sent him into our world to be the atoning sacrifice for the sins of all people. Help us grasp by faith the great truth that the pain and suffering, the mockery and ridicule, and the death and punishment he endured should have been ours. Help us understand his incomprehensible love.

Lord, have mercy on us for Jesus' sake.

God of grace and mercy, may your Spirit continue to be with us as we follow the way of the cross. As we contemplate the story of our Savior's passion, build us up in our faith. Renew in us the zeal to serve you by reflecting your love in our lives. Give us the desire and the ability to boldly proclaim the grace in which we stand, so that all for whom you lived and died may join us in fellowship now and in your presence forever.

We offer our humble thanks and praise, our prayers and petitions, and ourselves in body and spirit to you, Lord God. Hear us, according to your promise, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

✠ The Sacrament ✠

Stand

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. **It is good and right so to do.**

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who willingly died under the curse of this world's sin, so that we may live forever in the light of God's blessing. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (*Sanctus*)

483 (3,4) – Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty



3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark-ness hide thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord — God Al - might - y!



though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.



on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pu - ri - ty.
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.**

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD (*Agnus Dei*) 947 (vs. 1,3) – Lamb of God, Pure and Holy



1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, who on the cross did suf - fer,
 3 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, who on the cross did suf - fer,



ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, your-self to scorn did of - fer.
 ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, your-self to scorn did of - fer.



All sin you car-ried for us, else had de-spair reigned o'er us:
 All sin you car-ried for us, else had de-spair reigned o'er us:



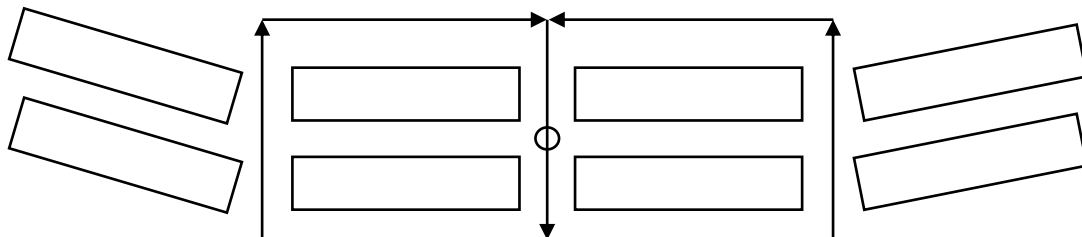
have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!
 your peace be with us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

Be seated

DISTRIBUTION

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of Calvary or churches within our fellowship come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.

Enter along the side aisles toward the altar area. Move toward the center (unless otherwise directed). After receiving the Supper, return to your seat down the middle aisle, depositing your cup in the receptacle.





1 Je - sus, I will pon-der now on your ho - ly pas - sion;
 2 Make me see your great dis-tress, an - guish, and af - flic - tion,
 3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone make me see your pas - sion,
 4 Grant that I your pas-sion view with re - pent - ant griev - ing;



with your Spir - it me en - dow for such med - i - ta - tion.
 bonds and stripes and wretch-ed - ness and your cru - ci - fix - ion;
 but its cause to me make known and its ter - mi - na - tion.
 let me not bring shame to you by un - ho - ly liv - ing.



Grant that I in love and faith may the im - age cher - ish
 make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nails did wound you,
 Ah! I al - so and my sin wrought your deep af - flic - tion;
 How could I re - fuse to shun ev - 'ry sin - ful plea - sure



of your suf-f'ring, pain, and death that I may not per - ish.
 how for them you died, O God, who with thorns had crowned you.
 this in - deed the cause has been of your cru - ci - fix - ion.
 since for me God's on - ly Son suf - fered with - out mea - sure?

5 If my sins give me alarm
 and my conscience grieve me,
 let your cross my fear disarm,
 peace of conscience give me.
 Help me see forgiveness won
 by your holy passion.
 If for me he slays his Son,
 God must have compassion!

6 Graciously my faith renew;
 help me bear my crosses,
 learning humbleness from you,
 peace mid pain and losses.
 May I give you love for love!
 Hear me, O my Savior,
 that I may in heav'n above
 sing your praise forever.

THANKSGIVING

673 (St.1) O Lord, We Praise You

1 O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and a - dore you,
in thanks - giv - ing bow be - fore you. Here with your
bod - y and your blood you nour - ish our weak souls that
they may flour - ish. O Lord, have mer - cy!
May your bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, that our
sins and sor - rows did car - ry, and your blood for us plead
in all tri - al, fear, and need. O Lord, have mer - cy!

PRAYER

Almighty God, we are dust and to dust we shall return, yet even in ashes and dust there is hope. Marked with the sign of the cross in our Baptism, we thank you for the gifts you have given us through this Holy Supper; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Choir

*They rise and needs will have
My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save,
The Prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he
to suff'ring goes,
That he his foes
from thence might free.*

*In life, no house, no home
My Lord on earth might have;
In death, no friendly tomb
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say?
Heav'n was his home;
But mind the tomb
wherein he lay.*

*Here might I stay and sing
No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like thine.
This is my friend,
in whose sweet praise
I all my days
could gladly spend!*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Ash Wednesday Confessional Rite from Christian Worship
Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Liturgical and musical settings of Scripture based on text from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.
Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.

Psalm 51D - God, Be Merciful to Me

Text: Psalter, 1912, alt.

Tune: Richard Redhead

Text and tune: Public domain

My Song is Love Unknown

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624-1683

Tune: John Ireland, 1879-1962, arr. John Leavitt

Text: Public domain

Tune: copyright © John Ireland. Used by permission of the John Ireland Trust, London W2. Setting: copyright © 1985 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission of Concordia Publishing House. Copyright © 1991 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Hymn 654 - Jesus Sinners Does Receive

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756, abr.; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt, 1699

Scripture references: Mt 9:9-14; Lk 7:34-50; 15:1-7; Lk 5:31,32; 1 Ti 1:15,16

Text and tune: Public domain

Hymn 483 - Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.

Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

Scripture references: Isa 6:2,3; Rev 4:2-11; Ex 15:11; Isa 45:22

Text and tune: Public domain

Hymn 947 - Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

Text: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

Tune: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546

Scripture references: Isa 53:4-7; Jn 1:29; 1 Pe 1:18,19; 1 Jn 2:2

Text and tune: Public domain

Hymn 420 - Jesus I Will Ponder Now

Text: Sigmund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: Melchior Vulpus, c. 1570–1615

Scripture references: Mt 16:21; Isa 53:4-6

Text and tune: Public domain

Hymn 673 - O Lord, We Praise You

Text: German, 14th cent.; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, Wittenberg, 1524, ed. Johann Walter, alt.

Scripture references: Heb 12:24; Ro 5:6-8; 1 Co 10:16,17; 11:17-34

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission:

OneLicense no. 714955

Tune: Public domain

All texts and music reprinted under:

OneLicense A-714955;

CCLI # 3081415 [2/28/2026];

Streaming License B CSPL036414 [1/30/2026]