

Psalm 49

Audite haec

1 Hear this, all you peoples; *
hearken, all you who dwell in the world,

2 you of high degree and low, *
rich and poor together.

3 My mouth shall speak of wisdom, *
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

4 I will incline my ear to a proverb *
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.

5 Why should I be afraid in evil days, *
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

6 the wickedness of those who put their trust in their goods, *
and boast of their great riches?

7 We can never ransom ourselves, *
or deliver to God the price of our life;

8 for the ransom of our life is so great, *
that we should never have enough to pay it,

9 in order to live for ever and ever, *
and never see the grave.

10 For we see that the wise die also;
like the dull and stupid they perish *
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.

Morning Prayer – Tuesday March 3, 2026

11 Their graves shall be their homes for ever,
their dwelling places from generation to generation, *
though they call the lands after their own names.

12 Even though honoured, they cannot live for ever; *
they are like the beasts that perish.

13 Such is the way of those who foolishly trust in themselves, *
and the end of those who delight in their own words.

14 Like a flock of sheep they are destined to die; *
death is their shepherd;
they go down straightway to the grave.
Their form shall waste away, *
and the land of the dead shall be their home.

15 But God will ransom my life *
and will snatch me from the grasp of death.

16 Do not be envious when some become rich, *
or when the grandeur of their house increases;

17 for they will carry nothing away at their death, *
nor will their grandeur follow them.

18 Though they thought highly of themselves while they lived, *
and were praised for their success,

19 they shall join the company of their ancestors, *
who will never see the light again.

20 Those who are honoured, but have no understanding, *
are like the beasts that perish.

Psalm 53

Dixit insipiens

1 Fools say in their hearts, “There is no God.” *
All are corrupt and commit abominable acts;
there is none who does any good.

2 God looks down from heaven upon us all, *
to see if there is any who is wise,
if there is anyone who seeks after God.

3 Every one has proved faithless; all alike have turned bad; *
there is none who does good; no, not one.

4 Have they no knowledge, those evildoers, *
who eat up my people like bread and do not call upon God?

5 See how greatly they tremble, *
such trembling as never was;
for God has scattered the bones of the enemy; *
they are put to shame, because God has rejected them.

6 Oh, that Israel’s deliverance would come out of Zion! *
When God restores the fortune of this people,
Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.

Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word, and Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

1 Corinthians 5:1-8

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you and the sort of sexual immorality that is not found even among gentiles, for a man is living with his father's wife. And you are arrogant! Should you not rather have mourned, so that he who has done this would have been removed from among you?

For I, though absent in body, am present in spirit, and as if present I have already pronounced judgment in the name of the Lord Jesus on the man who has done such a thing. When you are assembled and my spirit is present with the power of our Lord Jesus, you are to hand this man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.

Your boasting is not a good thing. Do you not know that a little yeast leavens all of the dough? Clean out the old yeast so that you may be a new batch of dough, as you really are unleavened. For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us celebrate the festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.