

# SERMONS FOR LENT & EASTER: THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

February 21/The First Sunday in Lent	February 28/The Second Sunday in Lent	March 7/The Third Sunday in Lent	March 14/The Fourth Sunday in Lent	March 21/The Fifth Sunday in Lent	March 28/Palm Sunday	April 4/Easter Sunday
<p><i>THE FIRST WORD:</i> “Father, Forgive Them.” Luke 23:32–34</p> <p><b>PSALM 23/NRSV</b>  <sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.  <sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;  <sup>3</sup> he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.  <sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.  <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.  <sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.</p> <p>God’s word for me in this week’s scripture is:</p>	<p><i>THE SECOND WORD:</i> “Today, with Me... in Paradise.” Luke 23:39–43</p> <p><b>PSALM 23/THE MESSAGE</b>            GOD, my shepherd! I don’t need a thing.            You have set me down in lush meadows, you find me quiet pools to drink from.            True to your word, you let me catch my breath and send me in the right direction.            Even when the way goes through Death Valley, I’m not afraid when you walk at my side.            Your trusty shepherd’s crook makes me feel secure.            You serve me a six-course dinner right in front of my enemies.            You revive my drooping head; my cup brims with blessing.            Your beauty and love chase after me every day of my life.            I’m back home in the house of GOD for the rest of my life.</p> <p>God’s word for me in this week’s scripture is:</p>	<p><i>THE THIRD WORD:</i> “Woman, Behold Your Son...Behold Your Mother.” John 19:23–27</p> <p><b>PSALM 23/KJV</b>  <sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  <sup>2</sup>He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. <sup>3</sup>He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. <sup>4</sup>Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou <i>art</i> with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. <sup>5</sup>Thou prepest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. <sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.</p> <p>God’s word for me in this week’s scripture is:</p>	<p><i>THE FOURTH WORD:</i> “My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?” Matthew 27:38–46</p> <p><b>PSALM 23/GOOD NEWS</b>            The LORD is my shepherd; I have everything I need.  <sup>2</sup> He lets me rest in fields of green grass and leads me to quiet pools of fresh water.  <sup>3</sup> He gives me new strength.            He guides me in the right paths, as he has promised.  <sup>4</sup> Even if I go through the deepest darkness, I will not be afraid, LORD, for you are with me.            Your shepherd’s rod and staff protect me.  <sup>5</sup> You prepare a banquet for me, where all my enemies can see me; you welcome me as an honoured guest and fill my cup to the brim.  <sup>6</sup> I know that your goodness and love will be with me all my life; and your house will be my home as long as I live.</p> <p>God’s word for me in this week’s scripture is:</p>	<p><i>THE FIFTH WORD:</i> “I Thirst.” John 19:28-29</p> <p><b>PSALM 23/KJV</b>  <sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  <sup>2</sup>He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. <sup>3</sup>He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. <sup>4</sup>Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou <i>art</i> with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. <sup>5</sup>Thou prepest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. <sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.</p> <p>God’s word for me in this week’s scripture is:</p>	<p><i>THE SIXTH WORD:</i> “It Is Finished.” John 19:30–37</p> <p><b>PSALM 23/NEW CENTURY VERSION</b>            The LORD is my shepherd; I have everything I need.  <sup>2</sup> He lets me rest in green pastures.            He leads me to calm water.  <sup>3</sup> He gives me new strength.            He leads me on paths that are right for the good of his name.  <sup>4</sup> Even if I walk through a very dark valley, I will not be afraid, because you are with me.            Your rod and your walking stick comfort me.  <sup>5</sup> You prepare a meal for me in front of my enemies.            You pour oil on my head; you fill my cup to overflowing.  <sup>6</sup> Surely your goodness and love will be with me all my life, and I will live in the house of the LORD forever.</p> <p>God’s word for me in this week’s scripture is:</p>	<p><i>THE FINAL WORD:</i> “O God, Into Your Hands” Luke 23:46–49, 24:44–49</p> <p><b>PSALM 23/NRSV</b>  <sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.  <sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;  <sup>3</sup> he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.  <sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.  <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.  <sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.</p> <p>God’s word for me in this week’s scripture is:</p>

