

2026-02-20 Meditation for Friday after Ash Wednesday is now available at: <https://pgimf.org/meditations/>

[The opening theme song with a poetic paraphrase begins:]

*Ich bete an die Macht der Liebe,  
O Pow'r of love, all else transcending,  
Die sich in Jesu offenbart;  
In Jesus present evermore,  
Ich geb' mich hin dem freien Triebe,  
I worship thee, in homage bending,*

***Blessed are the Dead*** (Double choirs and soloist, 1920 but unfinished)

Lyrics: An elaboration of Revelation 14:13 and other scripture passages

Music: Herbert Howells (1892-1983), completed by Patrick Russill

Artists: The Finzi Singers, Paul Spicer (dir.)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AeOc5qIw9Cw&list=RDAeOc5qIw9Cw&start\\_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AeOc5qIw9Cw&list=RDAeOc5qIw9Cw&start_radio=1)

[The beginning of the verse was not set to music:

"I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me,  
Write, From henceforth . . ." ]

Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.  
Blessed are they that die in the Lord.

[Brief pause]

For theirs is the peace of God.  
Blessed are they,  
They rest from their labours.  
Their joy is of the Holy Spirit and shall not be broken.  
For theirs is the peace of God,  
Their joy is of the Holy Spirit,  
For they shall come even unto Heaven.

[All voices sing the same words.]

For them was achieved the triumph of the Resurrection of the Son of God,  
That unto them it should be assured not death,  
But to rest awhile from their labours.

[Closing words to our theme song:]

*O! dass diess jeder Sünder wüsste,*

O! that every sinner would know this,  
*Sein Herz wohl bald dich lieben müsste.*  
His heart must soon surely love You.

Evan  
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