

March 20, 2024 - Midweek Lent 5

Vindication

As We Gather

In Psalm 41:7–8, David lamented, “All who hate me whisper together about me; they imagine the worst for me. They say, ‘A deadly thing is poured out on him; he will not rise again from where he lies.’” These words pointed forward to our Lord Jesus Christ, who rose again in defiance of His enemies. Do you have enemies who whisper and scheme against you? Have you been brought low—perhaps so low that you despair of ever rising again? Jesus was vindicated in His resurrection, and you shall be too. You can have certainty in your resurrection and vindication because Jesus Christ is risen.

Opening Sentences

- 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, Lamb of our salvation.**

Psalm

Psalm 41

- P** Blessed is the one who considers the poor!
- C** **In the day of trouble the LORD delivers him;**
- P** the LORD protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land;
- C** **You do not give him up to the will of his enemies.**
- P** The LORD sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness You restore him to full health.
- C** **As for me, I said, “O LORD, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against You!”**
- P** My enemies say of me in malice, “When will he die and his name perish?”
- C** **And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words, while his heart gathers iniquity; when he goes out, he tells it abroad.**

- P** All who hate me whisper together about me; they imagine the worst for me.
- C** **They say, "A deadly thing is poured out on him; he will not rise again from where he lies."**
- P** Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.
- C** **But You, O LORD, be gracious to me, and raise me up, that I may repay them!**
- P** By this I know that You delight in me: my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.
- C** **But You have upheld me because of my integrity, and set me in Your presence forever.**
- Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen.**
- 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.**

Opening Hymn

Reading

Jeremiah 9:12–16

- P** A reading from Jeremiah, the ninth chapter.

¹²Who is the man so wise that he can understand this? To whom has the mouth of the LORD spoken, that he may declare it? Why is the land ruined and laid waste like a wilderness, so that no one passes through? ¹³And the LORD says: "Because they have forsaken my law that I set before them, and have not obeyed my voice or walked in accord with it, ¹⁴but have stubbornly followed their own hearts and have gone after the Baals, as their fathers taught them. ¹⁵Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will feed this people with bitter food, and give them poisonous water to drink. ¹⁶I will scatter them among the nations whom neither they nor their fathers have known, and I will send the sword after them, until I have consumed them."

- P** O Lord, have mercy on us.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

The Passion of Our Lord: Calvary

Kyrie

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

Lord's Prayer

Collects

- P** O Lord, hear my prayer.
- C** **And let my cry come to You.**
- P** O God, who gives strength to the weak and light to those who are in darkness, grant us to grow in grace and in the knowledge of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that through Him we may know You more completely. Assure us that all things are made to work for our good through our Savior, Jesus Christ, so that we may with hopeful hearts await the glory of His kingdom of eternal grace. With boldness and confidence, we ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**
- C** **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**
- 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

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

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.**

Sending Hymn

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.