

The Fifth Sunday in Lent 3-21-21

Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people,

from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!

I love the LORD, because he has heard

my voice and my pleas for mercy.

Because he inclined his ear to me,

therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;

I suffered distress and anguish.

Then I called on the name of the LORD:

“O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!”

For you have delivered my soul from death,

my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

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.

Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people,

from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!

Collect

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

[Jeremiah 31:31-34] "The day will come," says the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah.³² This covenant will not be like the one I made with their ancestors when

I took them by the hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant, though I loved them as a husband loves his wife," says the LORD. ³³ "But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel on that day," says the LORD. "I will put my laws in their minds, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people." ³⁴ And they will not need to teach their neighbors, nor will they need to teach their family, saying, 'You should know the LORD. For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will already know me,' says the LORD. "And I will forgive their wickedness and will never again remember their sins."

[Hebrews 5:1-10] Now a high priest is a man chosen to represent other human beings in their dealings with God. He presents their gifts to God and offers their sacrifices for sins. ² And because he is human, he is able to deal gently with the people, though they are ignorant and wayward. For he is subject to the same weaknesses they have. ³ That is why he has to offer sacrifices, both for their sins and for his own sins. ⁴ And no one can become a high priest simply because he wants such an honor. He has to be called by God for this work, just as Aaron was. ⁵ That is why Christ did not exalt himself to become High Priest. No, he was chosen by God, who said to him, "You are my Son. Today I have become your Father." ⁶ And in another passage God said to him, "You are a priest forever in the line of Melchizedek." ⁷ While Jesus was here on earth, he offered prayers and pleadings, with a

loud cry and tears, to the one who could deliver him out of death. And God heard his prayers because of his reverence for God. ⁸ So even though Jesus was God's Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered. ⁹ In this way, God qualified him as a perfect High Priest, and he became the source of eternal salvation for all those who obey him. ¹⁰ And God designated him to be a High Priest in the line of Melchizedek.

[Mark 10:35-45] Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came over and spoke to him.

"Teacher," they said, "we want you to do us a favor." ³⁶ "What is it?" he asked. ³⁷ "In your glorious Kingdom, we want to sit in places of honor next to you," they said, "one at your right and the other at your left." ³⁸ But Jesus answered, "You don't know what you are asking! Are you able to drink from the bitter cup of sorrow I am about to drink? Are you able to be baptized with the baptism of suffering I must be baptized with?" ³⁹ "Oh yes," they said, "we are able!" And Jesus said, "You will indeed drink from my cup and be baptized with my baptism," ⁴⁰ but I have no right to say who will sit on the thrones next to mine. God has prepared those places for the ones he has chosen." ⁴¹ When the ten other disciples discovered what James and John had asked, they were indignant. ⁴² So Jesus called them together and said, "You know that in this world kings are tyrants, and officials lord it over the people beneath them. ⁴³ But among you it should be quite different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant," ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be

first must be the slave of all.⁴⁵ For even I, the Son of Man, came here not to be served but to serve others, and to give my life as a ransom for many."