

TRINITY EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GLENDORA
SECOND WEDNESDAY IN LENT
February 21, 2024

**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.

560 Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed

- 1 Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blessed, With healing gifts for souls distressed, To find in Thee my life, my rest, Christ crucified, I come.
- 2 Thou knowest all my griefs and fears, Thy grace abused, my misspent years; Yet now to Thee with contrite tears, Christ crucified, I come.
- 3 Wash me and take away each stain; Let nothing of my sin remain. For cleansing, though it be through pain, Christ crucified, I come.
- 4 And then for work to do for Thee, Which shall so sweet a service be, That angels well might envy me, Christ crucified, I come.

Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Opening Sentences *Psalm 9:1–2, 9–10*

- P I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart;
C **I will recount all of Your wonderful deeds.**
P I will be glad and exult in You;
C **I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.**
P The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.
C **And those who know Your name put their trust in You, for You, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You.**

Call to Confession

- P Let us make our confession to our God, seeking His grace and forgiveness.

611 Chief of Sinners Though I Be *sts. 1, 5*

- 1 Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me, Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die. As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.

- 5 O my Savior, help afford, By Your Spirit and Your Word! When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way; Grace in time of need supply, While I live and when I die.

Absolution

- P The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.
C **Amen.**

Salutation

- P The Lord be with you. C **And also with you.**

Collect of the Day

- P Let us pray.
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.**

450 O Sacred Head Now Wounded (tune of 449) *sts. 1, 7*

- 1 O sacred Head, now wounded, With grief and shame weighed down, Now scornfully surrounded, With thorns, Thine only crown. O sacred Head, what glory, What bliss, till now was Thine! Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call Thee mine.
- 7 Be Thou my consolation, My shield, when I must die; Remind me of Thy passion, When my last hour draws nigh. Mine eyes shall then behold Thee, Upon Thy cross shall dwell, My heart by faith enfold Thee. Who dieth thus dies well.

Old Testament Reading *Jeremiah 9:12–16*

P The Old Testament Reading is 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.**

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.

Epistle *2 Timothy 3:1–9*

P The Epistle is from Second Timothy, the third chapter.

¹But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. ²For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, ⁴treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. ⁶For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, ⁷always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth. ⁸Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith. ⁹But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was that of those two men.

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

Holy Gospel *Matthew 26:1–5*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter. C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹When Jesus had finished all these sayings, he said to his disciples, ²“You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.”

³Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, ⁴and plotted together in order to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. ⁵But they said, “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image

1 On my heart imprint Your image, Blessed Jesus, King of grace,
 That life’s riches, cares, and pleasures, Never may Your work
 erase; Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,
 Is my life, my hope’s foundation, And my glory and salvation!

Sermon *Psalms 41:7–8*

Hymn Introduction

P In the closing stanza of “My Song Is Love Unknown,” Samuel Crossman uses a special term for Jesus, whose ministry and suffering and sacrifice have been described in the preceding stanzas. “This is my friend,” the author states confidently. In speaking with the disciples in the Upper Room on the night in which He was betrayed, Jesus said, “Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends. You are My friends if you do what I command you” (John 15:13–14). Jesus commanded His disciples to love one another, reflecting the deep and amazing love that He was showing them then and would be fully demonstrating in the next hours of His Passion. Jesus is our friend for time and eternity, whose “sweet praise” we now sing.

Offering and Offertory LSB 430 My Song is Love Unknown *sts. 1, 7*

1 My song is love unknown, My Savior’s love to me,
 Love to the loveless shown, That they might lovely be.
 Oh, who am I, That for my sake, My Lord should take
 Frail flesh and die?

7 Here might I stay and sing, No story so divine!
 Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like Thine.
 This is my friend, In whose sweet praise
 I all my days, Could gladly spend!

Litany

P O Lord, C **have mercy.** P O Christ, C **have mercy.**
 P O Lord, C **have mercy.** P O Christ, C **hear us.**
 P God the Father in heaven, C **have mercy.**
 P God the Son, Redeemer of the world, C **have mercy.**
 P God the Holy Spirit, C **have mercy.**
 P Be gracious to us. C **Spare us, good Lord.**
 P Be gracious to us. C **Help us, good Lord.**
 P From all sin, from all error, from all evil;
 From the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and evil
 death;

From pestilence and famine; from war and bloodshed; from
 sedition and from rebellion;
 From lightning and tempest; from all calamity by fire and water;
 and from everlasting death: C **Good Lord, deliver us.**

P By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity;
 By Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and
 bloody sweat; by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death
 and burial;
 By Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of
 the Holy Spirit, the Comforter: C **Help us, good Lord.**

P In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the
 hour of death; and in the day of judgment: C **Help us, good Lord.**

P We poor sinners implore You C **to hear us, O Lord.**

P To rule and govern Your holy Christian Church; to preserve all
 pastors and ministers of Your Church in the true knowledge and
 understanding of Your wholesome Word and to sustain them in
 holy living;
 To put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the
 way of truth all who have erred and are deceived;
 To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into
 Your harvest; and to accompany Your Word with Your grace and
 Spirit: C **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

P To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to
 comfort and help the weakhearted and the distressed:
 C **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

P To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from
 discord and strife; to give our country Your protection in every
 time of need;
 To direct and defend our [*president/queen/king*] and all in
 authority; to bless and protect our magistrates and all our people;
 To watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and
 tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel;
 To grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant
 children, increasing happiness in their blessings; to defend all
 orphans and widows and provide for them;
 To strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; to free
 those in bondage; and to have mercy on us all:
 C **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

P To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn
 their hearts; to give and preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the
 earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:
 C **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

P Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, C **we implore You to hear us.**

P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
 C **have mercy.**

P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C **have mercy.**

P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
 C **grant us Your peace.**

P O Christ, C **hear us.** P O Lord, C **have mercy.**

P O Christ, C **have mercy.** P O Lord, C **have mercy. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

C **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy
 kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
 give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not
 into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the
 kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Luther's Evening Prayer

P Let us pray.

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.**

Benediction

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the T Son, and the
 Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C **Amen.**

878 Abide with Me *sts. 1, 4-6*

1 Abide with me, fast falls the eventide. The darkness deepens; Lord,
 with me abide. When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
 Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; Earth's joys grow dim,
 its glories pass away; Change and decay in all around I see;
 O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless; Ills have no weight and
 tears no bitterness. Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy
 victory? I triumph still if Thou abide with me!

6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes; Shine through the
 gloom, and point me to the skies. Heav'n's morning breaks, and
 earth's vain shadows flee; In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Acknowledgments

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