

## VINDICATION

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.

## FIFTH WEEK IN LENT

“Be Gracious to Me”

March 20, 2024 7:00 p.m.

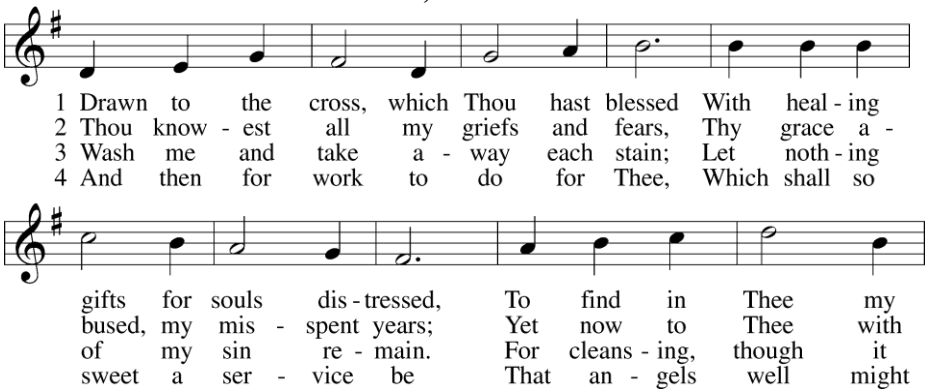
### *Prelude*

### *Welcome*

### *Opening Hymn*

*LSB 560 sts. 1-4*

*“Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed”*



1 Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blessed With heal - ing  
2 Thou know - est all my griefs and fears, Thy grace a -  
3 Wash me and take a - way each stain; Let noth - ing  
4 And then for work to do for Thee, Which shall so

gifts for souls dis - tressed, To find in Thee my  
bused, my mis - spent years; Yet now to Thee with  
of my sin re - main. For cleans - ing, though it  
sweet a ser - vice be That an - gels well might



life, my rest, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.  
con - trite tears, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.  
be through pain, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.  
en - vy me, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.

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*Stand*

**OPENING VERSICLES**

*LSB 229*

**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.

**P C** 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.

+ **PSALMODY** +

*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?”

**☩** And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words, while his heart gathers iniquity; when he goes out, he tells it abroad.

**☩** 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.”

**☩** Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.

**☩** But You, O LORD, be gracious to me, and raise me up, that I may repay them!

**☩** By this I know that You delight in me: my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.

**☩** 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.**

*Sit*

*Office Hymn*

*LSB 428 sts. 1-4*

*“Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow”*

1 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row,  
 2 Here the King of all the a - ges,  
 3 O mys - te - rious con - de - scend - ing!  
 4 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row,

Where the blood of Christ was shed,  
 Throned in light ere worlds could be,  
 O a - ban - don - ment sub - lime!  
 Where the blood of Christ was shed,

Per - fect man on thee did suf - fer,  
 Robed in mor - tal flesh is dy - ing,  
 Ver - y God Him - self is bear - ing  
 Per - fect man on thee did suf - fer,

Per - fect God on thee has bled!  
 Cru - ci - fied by sin for me.  
 All the suf - fer - ings of time!  
 Per - fect God on thee has bled!

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+ READINGS +

**READING**

*Jeremiah 9:12–16*

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

<sup>12</sup>Who 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? <sup>13</sup>And 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, <sup>14</sup>but have stubbornly followed their own hearts and have gone after the Baals, as their fathers taught them. <sup>15</sup>Therefore 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. <sup>16</sup>I 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.

*READING*

*2 Timothy 3:1–9*

**P** A reading from Second Timothy, the third chapter.

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

*Stand*

*READING*

*Matthew 26:1–5*

**P** A reading from St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter.

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus had finished all these sayings, He said to His disciples, <sup>2</sup>“You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.” <sup>3</sup>Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, <sup>4</sup>and plotted together in order to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill Him. <sup>5</sup>But they said, “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people.”

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*LENT RESPONSORY*

*LSB 231*

**P** Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

**C** Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

**P** In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

**C** Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

**P** Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

**C** Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

Sermon

Pastor Jeffrey Sippy

“Vindication”

*Sermon Text*

*Psalm 41:7-8*

*Stand*

+ CANTICLE +

*ANTIPHON*

*LSB 231*

**P** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,  
**C** and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

*MAGNIFICAT*

*LSB 231*

**P C** My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices  
in God, my Savior;  
**I** for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.  
**II** For behold, from this day all generations will call me  
blessed.

**I** For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and  
holy is His name;  
**II** and His mercy is on those who fear Him from  
generation to generation.  
**I** He has shown strength with His arm; He has  
scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
**II** He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and  
has exalted the lowly.  
**I** He has filled the hungry with good things, and the  
rich He has sent empty away.  
**II** He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of  
His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to  
his seed forever.  
**P C** 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.

*OFFERING*

*In quiet devotion and responding in personal stewardship of*

*God's abundant provision to you, please use the offering plates in the back as you enter or exit. (As a reassurance to those in worship today, especially our guests - this is not an obligation - the good news of Jesus is free to all!)*

+ PRAYER +

**KYRIE**

*LSB 233*

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

**LORD'S PRAYER**

*LSB 233*

**P 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.

**COLLECTS**

*LSB 233*

**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.**

**P 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*

*LSB 234*

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*BENEDICTION*

*LSB 234*

**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.**

*Sit*

Closing Hymn

LSB 431 sts. 1-5

“Not All the Blood of Beasts”



1 Not all the blood of beasts On Jew - ish al - tars slain  
2 But Christ, the heav'n - ly Lamb, Takes all our sins a - way;  
3 My faith would lay its hand On that dear head of Thine,  
4 My soul looks back to see The bur - den Thou didst bear  
5 Be - liev - ing, we re - joice To see the curse re - move;



Could give the guilt - y con-science peace Or wash a - way the stain.  
A sac - ri - fice of no - bler name And rich - er blood than they.  
While as a pen - i - tent I stand, And there con - fess my sin.  
When hang - ing on the curs - ed tree; I know my guilt was there.  
We bless the Lamb with cheer - ful voice And sing His bleed - ing love.

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