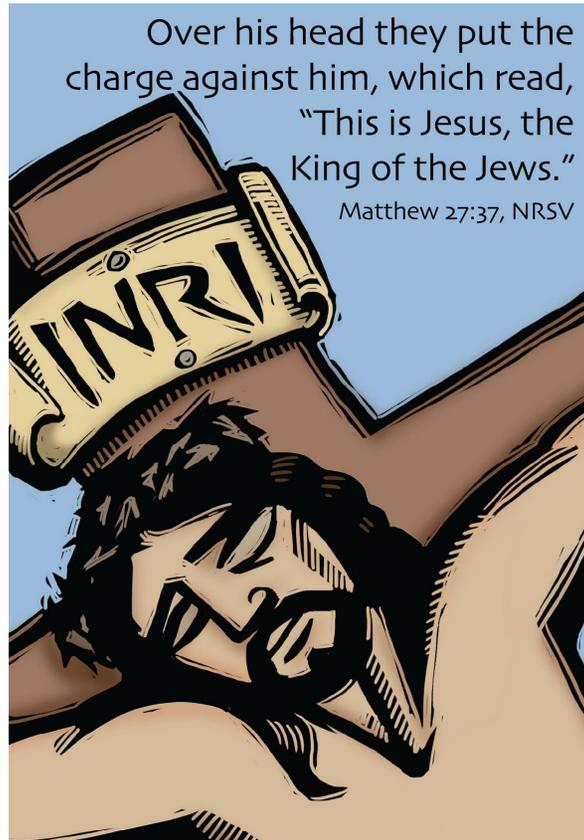


Deliverance from Danger

Human anger meets Christ's
compassion in the Passion



Over his head they put the
charge against him, which read,
"This is Jesus, the
King of the Jews."
Matthew 27:37, NRSV

Midweek Lenten Service
7 p.m. Worship Service
April 1, 2020

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
2601 23rd Ave SW, Fargo, ND
Pastor Chris Waldvogel
Pastor Brian Shane

ABOUT THE SERIES: We live in an increasingly angry culture. Although we may feel justified at becoming angry with something or someone who violates the Word of God, we often express that anger in unhelpful and even harmful ways. In our 2020 Lenten series, "Deliverance from Danger," we will explore the destructive nature of supposed "righteous" anger in humans. In response to all this misplaced, misinformed and misguided human anger, Jesus responds with grace and mercy, compassionately dispensing God's gifts.

THEME OF THE DAY: Many injustices in today's world seem to go on without any relief. In frustration, we can often demand that someone — anyone — be held accountable without paying any attention to the details and if justice truly was done. In today's Gospel lesson, the chief priests and elders persuade the crowds to let a known criminal free and to destroy Jesus. After a riot starts to break out, Pilate gives in to the crowd's demands.

Hymn

"Glory Be to Jesus"

433

Invocation

(P = pastor; C = congregation)

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

Opening Versicles

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.

Confession and Absolution

P: Gracious heavenly Father, we come before you confessing our anger against you and toward others.

C: We often let peer pressure and society's problems stir our anger. We let our emotions get the better of us. We demand swift justice and even vengeance without caring about its destructive implications. Deliver us from mob mentality. Keep us from destructive behaviors that coerce others to cave into our sinful demands. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, forego vengeance on Your people. Lead us to repentance. Forgive us and deliver us from the danger of human anger.

P: Our Lord experienced extreme expressions of anger against Him.

C: Jesus was delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.

P: Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ. For His sake, God forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God for His compassion shown to us through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Psalm 37:35-40

P: I have seen a wicked, ruthless man,
spreading himself like a green laurel tree.

**C: But he passed away, and behold, he was no more;
though I sought him, he could not be found.**

P: Mark the blameless and behold the upright,
for there is a future for the man of peace.

**C: But transgressors shall be altogether destroyed;
the future of the wicked shall be cut off.**

P: The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD;
he is their stronghold in the time of trouble.

**C: The Lord helps them and delivers them; he delivers them from
the wicked and saves them because they take refuge in him.**

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray: Merciful Father, Your son came to bring undeserved peace for sinners, winning that peace by the blood of His cross and the power of the empty tomb. Grant us appropriate justice through those who wield the power of the sword on your behalf and empower Your people to forego vengeance but instead proclaim Your righteousness in Jesus so all may lead peaceable, Godly lives; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Scripture Reading

Matt. 27:15-26

Hymn

“My Song is Love Unknown”

430

Sermon

Offering

Prayer of the Church

P: O Lord,

C: Have mercy.

P: O Christ,

C: Have mercy.

P: O Lord,

C: Have mercy.

P: Help us, O Lord, this night

C: To live without sin.

P: O Lord, let your mercy be on us.

C: As our trust is in you.

P: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: And let our cry come to you.

P: *(Special Prayers)* Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into Your hands, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in
Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Blessing

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.