

## She Is Still Singing Job 1:21

Wayne, Susan, Ellen, Daniel, relatives and friends, God's grace and His peace be with you. Amen.

Our comfort today needs to come from the Lord, for only He can and does bring comfort during this time of pain. For today many are speechless, not knowing what to say, but knowing that pain and questions are plentiful.

A few years ago, Wayne and Sue, you had to bury your son Tim, and deal with Tim's untimely death, and now today to bury your daughter Cheryl, and deal with her untimely death. What can I or others say? Only God's Words can pierce through the pain to bring healing today.

So from the Old Testament, one who also knew deep pain, and one from whom came words of comfort, needs to speak today.

Job 1:21b (ESV) And Job said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD."

The Lord gave...The Lord gave you Cheryl in the midst of the pain of infertility, came the cries of joy, from when Cheryl was only 4 days old.

The Lord gave you a loving family in you raised Cheryl, Tim, Daniel, and Ellen.

The Lord gave you a community, here in West Chicago, in which Cheryl was raised.

The Lord gave Cheryl the gift of faith, through Holy Baptism, and in which she was confirmed in right here at Trinity.

The Lord gave Cheryl the opportunity to grow in that faith here at Trinity, and the opportunity to sing of the many gifts that she was given.

The Lord gave Cheryl the gift of a family, husband Scott, and children Ryan and Kyle.

Cheryl learned from the Lord about giving, as she gave of herself to her husband, to her children and to others. As with our Savior Jesus Christ, who gave His life upon the cross, so that others may live. Cheryl also gave of herself, through organ donations, so that others may live and have a better life.

The Lord has taken away. For Job this was the loss of property and even children. For Job the pain was great, for you Wayne and Sue the pain is great. The Lord has taken away. But the verse doesn't end with "the Lord has taken away."

Job says, "blessed be the name of the Lord."

When the world is silenced because of a devastation, God's Word still speaks. Job was not going to let it end with the words, "the Lord has taken away;" but with the words, "blessed be the name of the LORD."

What did Job see that we in the midst of great grief and pain may miss?

Job 19:25-27 English Standard Version (ESV)

25For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth.

26And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God,

27whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!

Even in the midst of an unspeakable pain, Job is this bold. Job can say, blessed be the name of the Lord, because Job knew, this was not the end, it does not end with the Lord takes away. Job knew of a redeemer, Job knew of the resurrection of the body, he said “my eyes” shall behold.

It is this faith, that Job in the midst of pain and anguish can say, “Blessed be the name of the Lord.”

For it is the name of the Lord that bring life, and life eternally.

A name that called all life into existence, by a single word. A name that brought Cheryl into this world and gave her to you at the age of 4 days.

A name when applied to Cheryl with water created life eternally.

A name in which she received here at Trinity. A name she was taught here at Trinity. A name which she sang about here at Trinity.

Blessed be the name of the Lord, a name she is still singing here at Trinity.

In the Liturgy of the Divine Service here at Trinity, the Pastor says, “Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:” in which we sing what is called the Sanctus, Holy, Holy, Holy.

Jesus notes to the thief on the cross, “today you will be with me in paradise.” Cheryl, because of God's grace given her and her trust in that grace is in Christ, singing with the angels and archangels, she in is the company of heaven, therefore on Sunday, when we celebrate the Eucharist, the giving of thanks, as we sing the Sanctus, Holy, Holy, Holy, she is in Christ, also participating, she is still singing, here at Trinity, and everywhere along with the company of heaven, where Christ is present.

How and why can Job say, blessed be the name of the Lord. He knew of the resurrection of the dead. We know Cheryl is in Christ, throughout all of eternity, and so we also can celebrate the Eucharist, the giving of Thanks, and understand why Job says, “Blessed be the name of the Lord.”

Wayne, Sue, she is still singing here at Trinity, because of her Savior Christ Jesus.

“Blessed be the name of the Lord” Amen.