



Circle Zion;
count her towers.
Consider her walls, climb her
palaces,
and then go and tell
the coming generation
of the care and compassion
of our God.

Psalm 48:12-13

**Thursday, August 10, &
Sunday, August 13, 2023**

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COVER PHOTO:

Victor Sam
"God is Our Fortress"
Holy Hill, Wisconsin



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PSALMS (BOOKS TWO AND THREE)

Worship in a traditional order drawing from the Psalms, Books Two (42-72) and Three (73-89).

Hymn of the Day

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

LSB 656



1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
2 With might of ours can naught be done,
3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,
4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;
Soon were our loss ef - fect - ed;
All ea - ger to de - vour us,
Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
But for us fights the val - iant One,
We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
He's by our side up - on the plain



That hath us now o'er - tak - en.
Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.
They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.
With His good gifts and Spir - it.

The old e - vil foe Now means
 Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus
 This world's prince may still Scowl fierce
 And take they our life, Goods, fame,
 dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might
 Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,
 as he will, He can harm us none.
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,
 Are his dread arms in fight; On earth
 And there's none oth - er God; He holds
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -
 is not his e - qual.
 the field for - ev - er.
 tle word can fell him.
 dom ours re - main - eth.

Invocation (based on Psalms 48:1,14,8a,9-10)

P: Yahweh is great and certainly worthy of praise.

C: For God, our God, is our defender forever.

P: We heard about God's mighty deeds, and within His presence:

C: we reflect on your loyal love, O God.

P: The praise You receive as far away as the ends of the earth
 is worthy of your reputation, O God.

C: For God, our God, is our defender forever.

P: Selah. . .let now us pause in His presence. . . .

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

"Yahweh" is the personal Name of God the Father in Hebrew, often translated simply as "LORD".

Song-Psalm of Praise (Connect to Psalm 48) O Worship the King

LSB 804 sts. 1, 5



1 O wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove.
5 Frail chil - dren of dust and fee - ble as frail,



O grate - ful - ly sing His pow'r and His love;
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail.



Our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
Thy mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,



Pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
Our mak - er, de - fend - er, re - deem - er, and friend!

Confession of Sins (based on Psalm 42:1-2,5,8,11)

P: As a deer longs for streams of water,

C: so I long for you, O God!

I thirst for God, for the living God.

When will I be able to go and appear in God's presence?

P: Why are you discouraged in your soul? Why are you upset?

Wait for God!

C: But I know my sinfulness.

I feel as if I am separated from God's presence.

P: Why are you discouraged in your soul? Why are you upset?

Wait for God!

C: But I am overwhelmed by my sinfulness.

When will I be able to go and appear in God's presence?

P: By day the LORD decrees His loyal love, through the Gospel of His Son, Jesus Christ,
and by night He gives you a song, a prayer to the God of your life.

C: Through the cross and resurrection,

I will again give thanks to my God for His saving intervention.

Father, reveal Your light and Your faithfulness.

They will lead me; they will escort me back to Your holy presence.

Then I will go to the altar of God, who gives me great joy.

P: Wait for God and His salvation.

C: Then I will again give thanks to my God for His saving intervention.

P: Selah. . .We pause in His presence,

C: remembering our sins and our need for the Lord's forgiveness.

(silent meditation)

Absolution (Declaration of Forgiveness) (based on Psalm 49:7,9,15)

P: Certainly no one can redeem another person from their sin;

no one can pay God an adequate ransom price

so that they might continue to live forever and not experience death.

But God Himself will rescue your life from the power of the grave;

Jesus Christ took on flesh, paid the price with His own life,

so that you will continue to live forever even after death.

Certainly He will pull you to safety, rescuing you from your sin.

Therefore, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your
sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Acknowledgements

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Song of Praise (Inspired by Psalm 47)

I Love to Tell the Story

Verse

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are printed below the staff, with syllables aligned under the notes. The score is divided into measures by bar lines, with measure numbers 7, 13, 19, 25, and 31 indicated at the start of their respective lines. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of the final line.

I love to tell the sto - ry, of un - seen things a - bove,
I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best
of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.
I love to tell the sto - ry be - cause I know 'tis true;
And when in scenes of glo - ry I sing the new, new song,
it sat - is - fies my long - ings as no - thing else can do.
'twill be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.
Refrain
I love to tell the sto - ry, 'twill be my theme in glo - ry,
to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

This Week's Psalm

Psalm 48 (Passion Translation)

L: ¹There are so many reasons to describe God as wonderful!

P: So many reasons to praise him with unlimited praise!

L: ²Zion-City is his home; he lives on his holy mountain—

P: high and glorious, joy filled and favored.

L: Zion-Mountain looms in the farthest reaches of the north,

P: the city of our incomparable King!

L: ³This is his divine abode, an impenetrable citadel,

P: for he is known to dwell in the highest place.

L: ⁴⁻⁶See how the mighty kings united to come against Zion,

yet when they saw God manifest in front of their eyes,

P: they were stunned.
 L: Trembling, they all fled away, gripped with fear.
 Seized with panic, they doubled up in frightful anguish
 P: like a woman in the labor pains of childbirth.
 L: ⁷ Like a hurricane blowing and breaking the invading ships,
 P: God blows upon them and breaks them to pieces.
 L: ⁸ We have heard about these wonders,
 P: and then we saw them with our own eyes.
 L: For this is the city of the Commander of Angel Armies,
 P: the city of our God, safe and secure forever!
 L: Selah. . .Pause in his presence. . .
⁹ Lord, as we worship you in your temple,
 P: we recall over and over your kindness to us and your unending love.
 L: ¹⁰ The fame of your name echoes throughout the entire world,
 accompanied with praises.
 P: Your right hand is full of victory.
 L: ¹¹ So let the people of Zion rejoice with gladness;
 P: let the daughters of praise leap for joy!
 L: For God will see to it that you are judged fairly.
¹²⁻¹³ Circle Zion; count her towers.
 Consider her walls, climb her palaces,
 and then go and tell the coming generation of the care and compassion of our God.
 P: ¹⁴ Yes, this is our God, our great God forever.
 He will lead us onward until the end,
 through all time, beyond death, and into eternity!
 L: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Collect (Psalm Prayer of the Day)

P: Let us pray. Draw us, O God, to the calming mystery of Your presence, that we may enter more deeply into the wonder of Your love, ponder more profoundly its implications for our lives, and witness more adequately to Your grace, Your glory, and Your goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C: Amen.



Hymn of the Day

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

LSB 733 sts. 1-6



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
 2 Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
 Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
 From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
 Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream
Dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home!

***Confession of Faith (Based on the Apostles' Creed & Psalms 78:3-4, 77:11-14, 79:9,13)
(spoken in unison)***

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

What we have heard and learned—
the things our ancestors have told us—
we will not hide from our descendants.

We will tell the next generation about the LORD's praiseworthy acts,
about His strength and the amazing things He has done.

And we believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

We will remember the works of the LORD.

Yes, we will remember the amazing things You did long ago.

We will think about all that You have done; we will reflect upon Your deeds.

O God, Your deeds are extraordinary.

What god can compare to our great God?

Who can compare to Your Son, Jesus, who took on our flesh to save us?

You are the God who does amazing things;

You have revealed Your strength among the nations.

We believe in the Holy Spirit.

Help us, O God, the One who delivers us.

For the sake of Your glorious reputation, rescue us.

May we, Your people, be the sheep of Your pasture,
and we will continually thank You.

We will tell the next generations about Your praiseworthy acts. Amen.

Offering & Prayer Requests

In addition to the prayer requests already received, Pastor will pause here to see if there are additional requests. Prayers can be thanksgivings, joy, requests for yourself, or requests for others.

Offertory (Based on Psalm 74)

Voices Raised to You We Offer

LSB 795, sts. 1-2

(we join in singing as the offerings are brought forward to the altar)



1 Voic - es raised to You we of - fer; Tune them, God, for
2 All cre - a - tion joins to praise You; Earth and sky Your



songs of praise. Hearts and hands we bring in trib - ute
works dis - play. Art and mu - sic, gifts You lend us,



For Your gifts through all our days. Al - le - lu - ia!
We re - turn to You to - day. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Tri - une God, to You we sing!
Al - le - lu - ia! God, Cre - a - tor, source of life!

Prayers of the Church (Based on Psalms 68:4,19-20; 45:6-7a,17; 68:5-6a,9-10)

P: Sing to God! Sing praises to His name.

Exalt the One who rides on the clouds.

C: For Yahweh is His name.

Rejoice before Him.

P: The Lord deserves praise.

Day after day He carries our burden, the God who delivers us.

Selah. . .pause in His presence.

(we offer our silent thanks to God)

Our God is a God who delivers;

C: Yahweh, the Lord-Over-All-Things, can rescue from death.

P: (...Pastor offers thanksgivings...)

As the psalm declares: Your throne, O God, is permanent.

The scepter of Your kingdom is a scepter of justice.

C: You love justice and hate evil.

P: We will proclaim Your greatness through the coming years,

C: *then the nations will praise You forever.*

P: (... Pastor prays for the world and the nation. . .)

As the psalm declares: God is a father to the fatherless
and an advocate for widows.

C: *God rules from His holy dwelling place.*

P: God settles in their own homes those who have been deserted;

C: *He frees prisoners and grants them prosperity.*

P: O God, You cause abundant showers to fall on Your chosen people.

When they are tired, You sustain them, for You live among them.

C: *You sustain the oppressed with Your good blessings, O God.*

P: (... Pastor prays for specific needs. . .)

As the psalm declares: The Lord deserves praise.

Day after day He carries our burden, the God who delivers us.

Sing to God! Sing praises to His name. Exalt the One who rides on the clouds.

C: *For Yahweh is His name.*

Rejoice before Him. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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.

Benediction (Blessing) (based on Psalm 46:1-3,10-11)

P: God is your strong refuge; he is truly your helper in times of trouble.

For this reason we do not fear when the earth shakes,
and the mountains tumble into the depths of the sea,
when its waves crash and foam, and the mountains shake before the surging sea.
God says to you, "Stop your striving and recognize that I am God.

I will be exalted over the nations! I will be exalted over the earth!"

The LORD of Heaven's Armies is on your side! The God of Jacob is your stronghold
in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *Amen.*

Closing Hymn

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

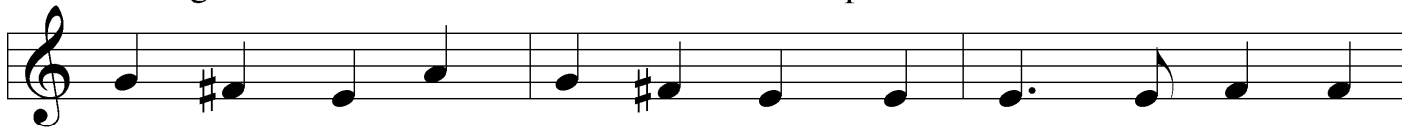
LSB 717 sts. 1-2, 4



1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, Whose arm hath bound the
2 O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain, O'er which our traf - fic
4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, Our peo - ple shield in



rest - less wave, Who bidd'st the might - y o - cean deep Its
runs a - main By moun - tain pass or val - ley low; Wher -
dan - ger's hour; From rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, Pro -



own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: O hear us when we
ev - er, Lord, Thy peo - ple go, Pro - tect them by Thy
tect them where - so - e'er they go; Thus ev - er - more shall



cry to Thee For those in per - il on the sea.
guard - ing hand From ev - 'ry per - il on the land.
rise to Thee Glad praise from air and land and sea.

Text (sts. 1, 4): William Whiting, 1825-78, alt., Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823-76

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Announcements

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 6:30PM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 9AM

CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SCHEDULE. USHERS, READERS, AND VARIOUS OTHER VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP AND COMMUNION. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING FOR ONE OF THOSE ROLES, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE AT OFFICE@BETHELGURNEE.ORG.