

# **Psalms for Evening Prayer**

## **September 13 to September 17**

### **Monday, September 13 – Eve of Holy Cross**

#### **46** *Deus noster refugium*

1 God is our refuge and strength, \*  
a very present help in trouble.

2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, \*  
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;

3 Though its waters rage and foam, \*  
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.

4 The Lord of hosts is with us; \*  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

5 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, \*  
the holy habitation of the Most High.

6 God is in the midst of her;  
she shall not be overthrown; \*  
God shall help her at the break of day.

7 The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; \*  
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.

8 The Lord of hosts is with us; \*  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

9 Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, \*  
what awesome things he has done on earth.

10 It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; \*  
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,  
and burns the shields with fire.

11 "Be still, then, and know that I am God; \*  
I will be exalted among the nations;  
I will be exalted in the earth."

12 The Lord of hosts is with us; \*  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

## **87** *Fundamenta ejus*

1 On the holy mountain stands the city he has founded; \*  
the Lord loves the gates of Zion  
more than all the dwellings of Jacob.

2 Glorious things are spoken of you, \*  
O city of our God.

3 I count Egypt and Babylon among those who know me; \*  
behold Philistia, Tyre, and Ethiopia:  
in Zion were they born.

4 Of Zion it shall be said, "Everyone was born in her, \*  
and the Most High himself shall sustain her."

5 The Lord will record as he enrolls the peoples, \*  
"These also were born there."

6 The singers and the dancers will say, \*  
"All my fresh springs are in you."

## Tuesday, September 14 – Holy Cross Day

### 118 *Confitemini Domino*

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; \*  
his mercy endures for ever.

2 Let Israel now proclaim, \*  
"His mercy endures for ever."

3 Let the house of Aaron now proclaim, \*  
"His mercy endures for ever."

4 Let those who fear the Lord now proclaim, \*  
"His mercy endures for ever."

5 I called to the Lord in my distress; \*  
the Lord answered by setting me free.

6 The Lord is at my side, therefore I will not fear; \*  
what can anyone do to me?

7 The Lord is at my side to help me; \*  
I will triumph over those who hate me.

8 It is better to rely on the Lord \*  
than to put any trust in flesh.

9 It is better to rely on the Lord \*  
than to put any trust in rulers.

10 All the ungodly encompass me; \*  
in the name of the Lord I will repel them.

11 They hem me in, they hem me in on every side; \*  
in the name of the Lord I will repel them.

12 They swarm about me like bees;  
they blaze like a fire of thorns; \*  
in the name of the Lord I will repel them.

13 I was pressed so hard that I almost fell, \*  
but the Lord came to my help.

14 The Lord is my strength and my song, \*  
and he has become my salvation.

15 There is a sound of exultation and victory \*  
in the tents of the righteous:

16 "The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! \*  
the right hand of the Lord is exalted!  
the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"

17 I shall not die, but live, \*  
and declare the works of the Lord.

18 The Lord has punished me sorely, \*  
but he did not hand me over to death.

19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*  
I will enter them;  
I will offer thanks to the Lord.

20 "This is the gate of the Lord; \*  
he who is righteous may enter."

21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*  
and have become my salvation.

22 The same stone which the builders rejected \*  
has become the chief cornerstone.

23 This is the Lord's doing, \*  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 On this day the Lord has acted; \*  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

25 Hosannah, Lord, hosannah! \*  
Lord, send us now success.

26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; \*  
we bless you from the house of the Lord.

27 God is the Lord; he has shined upon us; \*  
form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.

28 "You are my God, and I will thank you; \*  
you are my God, and I will exalt you."

29 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; \*  
his mercy endures for ever.

## Wednesday, September 15

### 119

*Yodh Manus tuæ fecerunt me*

73 Your hands have made me and fashioned me; \*  
give me understanding, that I may learn your commandments.

74 Those who fear you will be glad when they see me, \*  
because I trust in your word.

75 I know, O Lord, that your judgments are right \*  
and that in faithfulness you have afflicted me.

76 Let your loving-kindness be my comfort, \*  
as you have promised to your servant.

77 Let your compassion come to me, that I may live, \*  
for your law is my delight.

78 Let the arrogant be put to shame, for they wrong me with lies; \*  
but I will meditate on your commandments.

79 Let those who fear you turn to me, \*  
and also those who know your decrees.

80 Let my heart be sound in your statutes, \*  
that I may not be put to shame.

**Kaph** *Defecit in salutare*

81 My soul has longed for your salvation; \*  
I have put my hope in your word.

82 My eyes have failed from watching for your promise, \*  
and I say, "When will you comfort me?"

83 I have become like a leather flask in the smoke, \*  
but I have not forgotten your statutes.

84 How much longer must I wait? \*  
when will you give judgment against those who persecute me?

85 The proud have dug pits for me; \*  
they do not keep your law.

86 All your commandments are true; \*  
help me, for they persecute me with lies.

87 They had almost made an end of me on earth, \*  
but I have not forsaken your commandments.

88 In your loving-kindness, revive me, \*  
that I may keep the decrees of your mouth.

**Lamedh** *In Æternum, Domine*

89 O Lord, your word is everlasting; \*  
it stands firm in the heavens.

90 Your faithfulness remains from one generation to another; \*  
you established the earth, and it abides.

91 By your decree these continue to this day, \*  
for all things are your servants.

92 If my delight had not been in your law, \*  
I should have perished in my affliction.

93 I will never forget your commandments, \*  
because by them you give me life.

94 I am yours; oh, that you would save me! \*  
for I study your commandments.

95 Though the wicked lie in wait for me to destroy me, \*  
I will apply my mind to your decrees.

96 I see that all things come to an end, \*  
but your commandment has no bounds.

## Thursday, September 16

### **74** *Ut quid, Deus?*

1 O God, why have you utterly cast us off? \*  
why is your wrath so hot against the sheep of your pasture?

2 Remember your congregation that you purchased long ago, \*  
the tribe you redeemed to be your inheritance,  
and Mount Zion where you dwell.

3 Turn your steps toward the endless ruins; \*  
the enemy has laid waste everything in your sanctuary.

4 Your adversaries roared in your holy place; \*  
they set up their banners as tokens of victory.

5 They were like men coming up with axes to a grove of trees; \*  
they broke down all your carved work with hatchets and hammers.

6 They set fire to your holy place; \*  
they defiled the dwelling-place of your Name  
and razed it to the ground.

7 They said to themselves, "Let us destroy them altogether." \*  
They burned down all the meeting-places of God in the land.

8 There are no signs for us to see;  
there is no prophet left; \*  
there is not one among us who knows how long.

9 How long, O God, will the adversary scoff? \*  
will the enemy blaspheme your Name for ever?

10 Why do you draw back your hand? \*  
why is your right hand hidden in your bosom?

11 Yet God is my King from ancient times, \*  
victorious in the midst of the earth.

12 You divided the sea by your might \*  
and shattered the heads of the dragons upon the waters;

13 You crushed the heads of Leviathan \*  
and gave him to the people of the desert for food.

14 You split open spring and torrent; \*  
you dried up ever-flowing rivers.

15 Yours is the day, yours also the night; \*  
you established the moon and the sun.

16 You fixed all the boundaries of the earth; \*  
you made both summer and winter.

17 Remember, O Lord, how the enemy scoffed, \*  
how a foolish people despised your Name.

18 Do not hand over the life of your dove to wild beasts; \*  
never forget the lives of your poor.

19 Look upon your covenant; \*  
the dark places of the earth are haunts of violence.

20 Let not the oppressed turn away ashamed; \*  
let the poor and needy praise your Name.

21 Arise, O God, maintain your cause; \*  
remember how fools revile you all day long.

22 Forget not the clamor of your adversaries, \*  
the unending tumult of those who rise up against you.

## Friday, September 17

### **73** *Quam bonus Israel!*

1 Truly, God is good to Israel, \*  
to those who are pure in heart.

2 But as for me, my feet had nearly slipped; \*  
I had almost tripped and fallen;

3 Because I envied the proud \*  
and saw the prosperity of the wicked:

4 For they suffer no pain, \*  
and their bodies are sleek and sound;

5 In the misfortunes of others they have no share; \*  
they are not afflicted as others are;

6 Therefore they wear their pride like a necklace \*  
and wrap their violence about them like a cloak.

7 Their iniquity comes from gross minds, \*  
and their hearts overflow with wicked thoughts.

8 They scoff and speak maliciously; \*  
out of their haughtiness they plan oppression.

9 They set their mouths against the heavens, \*  
and their evil speech runs through the world.

10 And so the people turn to them \*  
and find in them no fault.

11 They say, "How should God know? \*  
is there knowledge in the Most High?"

12 So then, these are the wicked; \*  
always at ease, they increase their wealth.

13 In vain have I kept my heart clean, \*  
and washed my hands in innocence.

14 I have been afflicted all day long, \*  
and punished every morning.

15 Had I gone on speaking this way, \*  
I should have betrayed the generation of your children.

16 When I tried to understand these things, \*  
it was too hard for me;

17 Until I entered the sanctuary of God \*  
and discerned the end of the wicked.

18 Surely, you set them in slippery places; \*  
you cast them down in ruin.

19 Oh, how suddenly do they come to destruction, \*  
come to an end, and perish from terror!

20 Like a dream when one awakens, O Lord, \*  
when you arise you will make their image vanish.

21 When my mind became embittered, \*  
I was sorely wounded in my heart.

22 I was stupid and had no understanding; \*  
I was like a brute beast in your presence.

23 Yet I am always with you; \*  
you hold me by my right hand.

24 You will guide me by your counsel, \*  
and afterwards receive me with glory.

25 Whom have I in heaven but you? \*  
and having you I desire nothing upon earth.

26 Though my flesh and my heart should waste away, \*  
God is the strength of my heart and my portion for ever.

27 Truly, those who forsake you will perish; \*  
you destroy all who are unfaithful.

28 But it is good for me to be near God; \*  
I have made the Lord God my refuge.

29 I will speak of all your works \*  
in the gates of the city of Zion.