

God's Songs for Us – Lent and Holy Week 2022
Zion Lutheran Church, Ridgeview Corners, Ohio

The one hundred and fifty Psalms of the Old Testament are truly God's songs for His people. The book of Psalms was the "hymnbook" of the Israelites, with some psalms written as long ago as about 1500 BC. Writers included Moses, King David, the "Sons of Korah," Asaph, and many others. Often specific Psalms are assigned a certain tune or certain instruments, like "According to Gittith" (81), "With Stringed Instruments" (76), "According to 'Do Not Destroy'" (75), "According to 'The Doe of the Dawn'" (22).

The Psalms are in many ways like our hymns and Christian songs, except that they are God's Holy Word – God's perfect teaching and without error. Jesus Himself held the Psalms as divinely inspired. Jesus said that Psalm 110 was written by David "in the Spirit." (Matthew 22:41-46)

For this season of Lent and Holy Week we will consider the assigned Psalms for the Sundays in Lent and the Psalms for Holy Week. These songs were written by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit that He might teach us, show us our sins, forgive us, encourage us, comfort us and guide us – and in doing all these things in our lives we also praise God.

Ash Wednesday – Psalm 91

1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.
2 I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust."
3 For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler
and from the deadly pestilence.
4 He will cover you with his pinions,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.
5 You will not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day,
6 nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness,
nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.
7 A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand at your right hand,
but it will not come near you.
8 You will only look with your eyes
and see the recompense of the wicked.
9 Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—
the Most High, who is my refuge—
10 no evil shall be allowed to befall you,
no plague come near your tent.
11 For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.
12 On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.
13 You will tread on the lion and the adder;
the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.
14 "Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him;
I will protect him, because he knows my name.
15 When he calls to me, I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and honor him.
16 With long life I will satisfy him
and show him my salvation."

Sermon Notes: Psalm 91 – Our Home Is Found in the Lord Himself

I. Where Do You Consider _____ ?

What happens to your home if your house burns down?

What happens to your home if you have to move?

What changes might happen to a person's home?

II. Vs 1-10 – The psalmist says to dwell in the shelter of the _____

This is also described as the _____ of the Almighty.

If so, then the LORD is our refuge and _____ .

If God is our refuge and fortress, then

He delivers from the snare of the fowler
He delivers from deadly pestilence
He covers with pinions and wings for refuge
He is faithful
We do not have to fear terror or arrow or pestilence
or destruction

If God is our dwelling place, no _____ can befall us

III. Does God's protection mean nothing bad will happen?

What the world calls good things, might be _____

Whatever leads us away from God is evil, such things take us
away from our _____

IV. Vs 11-13 - God's protection is to do His will, not ours. We live in His house, He is our home.

Satan used these verses from Psalm 91 with an evil intent. He tempted Jesus to see that one can use God's promises to claim protection when doing evil things.

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple 6 and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you,' and

"On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone."

7 Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" (Matthew 4:5-7)

V. Vs 14-16 - Dwelling in the Lord is to

_____ fast to God in _____

_____ God's name, and everything about Him

_____ to God when in trouble and thanking Him

Knowing, loving and obeying the LORD God is to dwell in Him. He is our shelter and protection.