

**PSALMS – God’s Songs for Us
Lent and Holy Week 2022**

Zion Lutheran Church, Ridgeville Corners, Ohio
Wednesday, April , 2022

Psalm 31:5, 9-16 (“To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David.”)

Psalm 31:1-2 starts:

1 In you, O LORD, do I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me!
2 Incline your ear to me;
rescue me speedily!
Be a rock of refuge for me,
a strong fortress to save me!

In this Psalm King David looks to the LORD God as his refuge, even though many people are against him. He trusts in the LORD even though his situation does look not secure.

As in many Psalms, numerous thoughts of Psalm 31 foreshadow the life, ministry, suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. Jesus lived the perfect life in harmony with God the Father. The devil, human antagonists like the Pharisees and Sadducees, the weak faith of His own disciples and the whole of humanity’s sin went against Jesus. But Jesus was the perfect Son, perfect Servant and perfect Righteous One which endured all troubles in harmony with His Father. No Old Testament sinful psalmist could ever be perfectly serving, obedient and righteous, but they might foreshadow – or point to - Jesus. King David had righteousness before the LORD through faith in God’s promises, but Jesus Christ was fully righteous in Himself and also had a perfect relationship with God.

Some of the words of Psalm 31 which we consider today perfectly foreshadowed and foretold the Messiah’s person and work and Jesus used them on the cross. The last thing Jesus said on the cross He quoted from part of Psalm 31:5...

Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

Luke 23: 46 Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” And having said this he breathed his last.

I. Committed to the LORD’s Care

vs 5 – The psalmist knows and trusts that the LORD is his refuge and strong fortress (stated in previous verses) thus the Psalmist says

“Into your hand I _____ my spirit; you have _____ me, O
LORD, faithful God.”

vs 9-10 Even though believing there is still great _____ in this life. God’s grace and mercy is needed.

Grief can be so great than not only are one’s _____ tired from crying, but a person’s _____ and _____ can all be affected. God’s help is needed.

II. Surrounded By Adversity and Hatred

vs 11 – The adversaries have even turned _____ and _____ - they run away from him! (Jesus – Luke 22:54-62)

vs 12 - No one supports the psalmist any more, he is rejected like a _____ pot. (Jesus – Luke 22:63-65)

vs 13 – There is no safe place for the psalmist... plots are _____ him.
(Jesus – Matthew 26:1-5)

III. Faith Knows the LORD God is Strongest

vs 14 – “ _____ ” the LORD God is the one to trust.

vs 15 – No _____ enemy is greater than God’s hold.

My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. John 10:29

vs 16 – God’s _____ (steadfast love) and _____ (face shine) are needed. (Aaronic Benediction in Numbers 6:22-27)