



**MIDWEEK DEVOTION – PSALM 34**

January 27, 2021

✠ COMPLINE ✠

*Kneel or Stand*

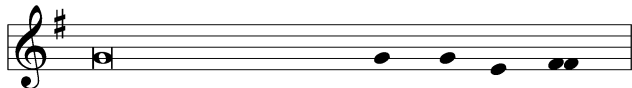
**OPENING VERSICLES**



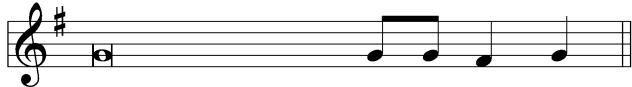
**L** The Lord Almighty grant us a qui - et night and peace at the last.



**C** A - men.



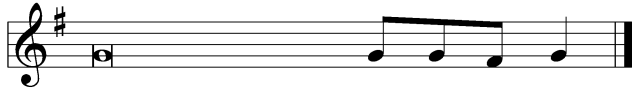
**L** It is good to give thanks to the Lord,



**C** to sing praise to Your name, O Most High;



**L** to herald Your love in the morn - ing,



**C** Your truth at the close of the day.

**EXHORTATION**

**P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for self-examination.*

**L** Holy and gracious God,

**C** I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.

**L** By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We rest now in His peace and rise in the morning to serve Him.

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

# ✠ Psalmody ✠

## PSALM

Psalm 34; antiphon: vv. 19, 22

*The pastor and congregation chant responsively. The antiphon is chanted by the pastor before and after the psalm.*



*(Antiphon)* Many are the afflictions of the | righteous!\*  
but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.  
The LORD redeems the life of His | servants;\*  
none of those who take refuge in Him will | be condemned.

- 1 I will bless the LORD at | all times;\*  
His praise shall continually be | in my mouth.
- 2 My soul makes its boast | in the LORD;\*  
let the humble hear | and be glad.
- 3 **Oh, magnify the | LORD with me,\***  
**and let us exalt His name to- | gether!**
- 4 **I sought the LORD, and He | answered me\***  
**and delivered me from | all my fears.**
- 5 Those who look to Him are | radiant,\*  
and their faces shall never | be ashamed.
- 6 This poor man cried, and the LORD | heard him\*  
and saved him out of all his | troubles.
- 7 **The Angel of the LORD encamps around those who | fear Him,\***  
**and de- | livers them.**
- 8 **Oh, taste and see that the | LORD is good!\***  
**Blessèd is the man who takes ref- | uge in Him!**
- 9 Oh, fear the LORD, | you His saints,\*  
for those who fear Him | have no lack!
- 10 The young lions suffer want and | hunger;\*  
but those who seek the LORD lack | no good thing.
- 11 **Come, O children, lis- | ten to me;\*  
I will teach you the fear | of the LORD.**
- 12 **What man is there who de- | sires life\***  
**and loves many days, that he may | see good?**
- 13 Keep your tongue from | evil\*  
and your lips from speak- | ing deceit.
- 14 Turn away from evil | and do good;\*  
seek peace and pur- | sue it.
- 15 **The eyes of the LORD are toward the | righteous\***  
**and His ears | toward their cry.**
- 16 **The face of the LORD is against those who do | evil,\***  
**to cut off the memory of them | from the earth.**
- 17 When the righteous cry for help, the | LORD hears\*  
and delivers them out of all their | troubles.
- 18 The LORD is near to the broken- | hearted\*  
and saves the crushed in | spirit.

- 19 Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,\*  
 but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.  
 20 He keeps | all his bones;\*  
 not one of them is | broken.  
 21 Affliction will slay the | wicked,\*  
 and those who hate the righteous will | be condemned.  
 22 The LORD redeems the life of His | servants;\*  
 none of those who take refuge in Him will | be condemned.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
 and to the Holy | Spirit;  
 as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
 is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

*The antiphon is repeated.*

*Sit*

OFFICE HYMN: The Will of God Is Always Best

LSB 758



1 The will of God is al - ways best And shall be done for -  
 2 God is my com - fort and my trust, My hope and life a -  
 3 Lord, this I ask, O hear my plea, De - ny me not this  
 4 When life's brief course on earth is run And I this world am



ev - er; And they who trust in Him are blest;  
 bid - ing; And to His coun - sel, wise and just,  
 fa - vor: When Sa - tan sore - ly trou - bles me,  
 leav - ing, Grant me to say, "Your will be done,"



He will for - sake them nev - er. He helps in - deed In  
 I yield, in Him con - fid - ing. The ver - y hairs, His  
 Then do not let me wa - ver. O guard me well, My  
 Your faith - ful Word be - liev - ing. My dear - est Friend, I



time of need; He chas - tens with for - bear - ing. They who de -  
 Word de - clares, Up - on my head He num - bers. By night and  
 fear dis - pel, Ful - fill Your faith - ful say - ing: All who be -  
 now com - mend My soul in - to Your keep - ing; From sin and



pend On God, their friend, Shall not be left de - spair - ing.  
 day God is my stay; He nev - er sleeps nor slum - bers.  
 lieve By grace re - ceive An an - swer to their pray - ing.  
 hell, And death as well, By You the vic - t'ry reap - ing.

Text and tune: Public Domain

# ✠ Readings ✠

## OLD TESTAMENT

*Deuteronomy 30:15–20*

<sup>15</sup>“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. <sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in His ways, and by keeping His commandments and His statutes and His rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup>I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup>I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, <sup>20</sup>loving the LORD your God, obeying His voice and holding fast to Him, for He is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

*Silence for reflection.*

## EPISTLE

*1 Peter 2:1–5, 9–11*

<sup>1</sup>So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. <sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— <sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup>As you come to Him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup>you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. . . .

<sup>9</sup>[Y]ou are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

<sup>11</sup>Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.

*Silence for reflection.*

## HOLY GOSPEL

*John 15:18–25*

[Jesus said,] <sup>18</sup>“If the world hates you, know that it has hated Me before it hated you. <sup>19</sup>If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. <sup>20</sup>Remember the word that I said to you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will also keep yours. <sup>21</sup>But all these things they will do to you on account of My name, because they do not know Him who sent Me. <sup>22</sup>If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have been guilty of sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. <sup>23</sup>Whoever hates Me hates My Father also. <sup>24</sup>If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin, but now they have seen and hated both Me and My Father. <sup>25</sup>But the word that is written in their Law must be fulfilled: ‘They hated Me without a cause.’”

*Silence for reflection.*

## RESPONSORY

Psalm 31:5



**L** In-to Your hands, O Lord, I com - mend my spir - it.



**C** In-to Your hands I com - mend my spir - it.



**L** You have re - deemed me, O Lord, God of truth.



**C** In-to Your hands I com - mend my spir - it.



**L** Glory be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it.



**C** In-to Your hands I com - mend my spir - it.

## MEDITATION ON THE PSALM

### ✠ Prayer ✠

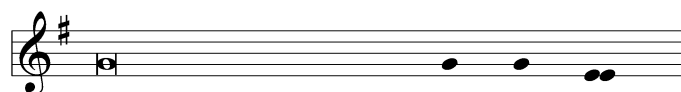
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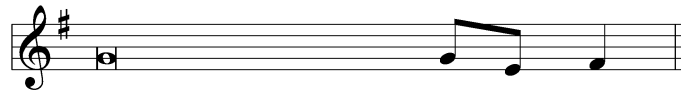
**L** Hear my prayer, O Lord;



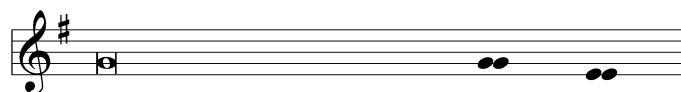
**C** listen to my cry.



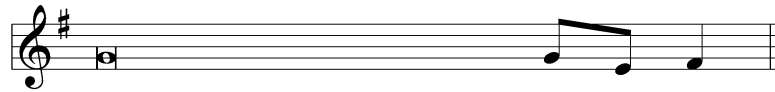
**L** Keep me as the apple of Your eye;



**C** hide me in the shadow of Your wings.



**L** In righteousness I shall see You;



**C** when I awake, Your presence will give me joy.

*One or more of the following are prayed.*

- ☐ Be present, merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of life may find our rest in You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- ☐ O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in Your mercy grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- ☐ Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in Your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of Your only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- ☐ Visit our dwellings, O Lord, and drive from them all the snares of the enemy; let Your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let Your blessing be on us always; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- ☐ Eternal God, the hours both of day and night are Yours, and to You the darkness is no threat. Be present, we pray, with those who labor in these hours of night, especially those who watch and work on behalf of others. Grant them diligence in their watching, faithfulness in their service, courage in danger, and competence in emergencies. Help them to meet the needs of others with confidence and compassion; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- ☐ Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us at the end of the day, at the end of our life, at the end of the world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacrament, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair, the night when death draws near. Abide with us and with all the faithful, now and forever.



☐ A - men.

## LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 957

☐ Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,  
Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as  
it is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly  
bread; and for - give us our tres - pass - es as we for - give  
those who tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in -  
to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.  
For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo -  
ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## NUNC DIMITTIS

*Antiphon*

**L** Guide us wak - ing, O Lord, and guard us sleep - ing  
 that a - wake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.

**C** Lord, now You let Your ser - vant go in peace; Your word has been ful - filled.  
 My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have prepared  
 in the sight of ev - ry peo - ple: a light to reveal You to the na - tions  
 and the glory of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the  
 Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;  
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for -  
*Antiphon*  
 ev - er. A - men. Guide us wak - ing, O Lord,  
 and guard us sleep - ing that a - wake we may  
 watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.

## BENEDICTION

**P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Fa - ther, the † Son,  
 and the Holy Spir - it, bless you and keep you.

**C** A - men.

† SOLI DEO GLORIA †  
 (TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY)