



**MIDWEEK DEVOTION – PSALM 56**

September 15, 2021

✠ RESPONSIVE PRAYER 2 ✠

LSB 285

*Stand*

**OPENING VERSICLES**

**L** O Lord, open my lips,  
**C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.

*Psalm 51:15*

**L** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;  
**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.

*Psalm 70:1*

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

*Sit*

**MEDITATION PSALM**

*Psalm 56; antiphon: v. 11*

*The pastor and congregation speak responsively. The antiphon is spoken by the pastor before and after the psalm.*

*(Antiphon)* In God I trust; I shall not | be afraid.\*

What can man | do to me?

<sup>1</sup> Be gracious to me, O God, for man tramples | on me;\*  
all day long an attacker op- | presses me;

<sup>2</sup> **my enemies trample on me | all day long,\***  
**for many attack me | proudly.**

<sup>3</sup> When I | am afraid,\*  
I put my | trust in You.

<sup>4</sup> **In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not | be afraid.\***  
**What can flesh | do to me?**

<sup>5</sup> All day long they in- | jure my cause;\*  
all their thoughts are against me for | evil.

<sup>6</sup> **They stir up strife, they lurk; they | watch my steps,\***  
**as they have waited | for my life.**

<sup>7</sup> For their crime will | they escape?\*

In wrath cast down the peoples, | O God!

<sup>8</sup> **You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in Your | bottle.\***  
**Are they not | in Your book?**

<sup>9</sup> Then my enemies will turn back in the day | when I call.\*  
This I know, that God is | for me.

<sup>10</sup> **In God, whose | word I praise,\***  
**in the LORD, whose | word I praise,**

<sup>11</sup> in God I trust; I shall not | be afraid.\*  
What can man | do to me?

<sup>12</sup> **I must perform my vows to You, | O God;\***  
**I will render thank offerings | to You.**

<sup>13</sup> For You have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from | falling,\*  
that I may walk before God in the | light of life.

**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.*

## READINGS

### OLD TESTAMENT

*Daniel 3:1–23*

<sup>1</sup>King Nebuchadnezzar made an image of gold, whose height was sixty cubits and its breadth six cubits. He set it up on the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon. <sup>2</sup>Then King Nebuchadnezzar sent to gather the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces to come to the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. <sup>3</sup>Then the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces gathered for the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. And they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up. <sup>4</sup>And the herald proclaimed aloud, “You are commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, <sup>5</sup>that when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, you are to fall down and worship the golden image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. <sup>6</sup>And whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace.” <sup>7</sup>Therefore, as soon as all the peoples heard the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, all the peoples, nations, and languages fell down and worshiped the golden image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

<sup>8</sup>Therefore at that time certain Chaldeans came forward and maliciously accused the Jews. <sup>9</sup>They declared to King Nebuchadnezzar, “O king, live forever! <sup>10</sup>You, O king, have made a decree, that every man who hears the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, shall fall down and worship the golden image. <sup>11</sup>And whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast into a burning fiery furnace. <sup>12</sup>There are certain Jews whom you have appointed over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These men, O king, pay no attention to you; they do not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.”

<sup>13</sup>Then Nebuchadnezzar in furious rage commanded that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought. So they brought these men before the king. <sup>14</sup>Nebuchadnezzar answered and said to them, “Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the golden image that I have set up? <sup>15</sup>Now if you are ready when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, to fall down and worship the image that I have made, well and good. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace. And who is the god who will deliver you out of my hands?”

<sup>16</sup>Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. <sup>17</sup>If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us out of your hand, O king. <sup>18</sup>But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.”

<sup>19</sup>Then Nebuchadnezzar was filled with fury, and the expression of his face was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. He ordered the furnace heated seven times more than it was usually heated. <sup>20</sup>And he ordered some of the mighty men of his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace. <sup>21</sup>Then these men were bound in their cloaks, their tunics, their hats, and their other garments, and they were thrown into the burning fiery furnace. <sup>22</sup>Because the king’s order was urgent and the furnace overheated, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. <sup>23</sup>And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell bound into the burning fiery furnace.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### EPISTLE

*1 Peter 4:12–19 [NKJV]*

<sup>12</sup>Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; <sup>13</sup>but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ’s sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. <sup>14</sup>If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified. <sup>15</sup>But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people’s matters. <sup>16</sup>Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter. <sup>17</sup>For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? <sup>18</sup>Now “If the righteous is scarcely saved, where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?” <sup>19</sup>Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**HOLY GOSPEL**

*John 1:1-18*

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the Light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the Light, but came to bear witness about the Light.

<sup>9</sup>The true Light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him. <sup>11</sup>He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John bore witness about Him, and cried out, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because He was before me.'") <sup>16</sup>And from His fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, He has made Him known.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**OFFICE HYMN: Who Trusts in God a Strong Abode**

*LSB 714*



1 Who trusts in God A strong a - bode In heav'n and  
 2 Though Sa - tan's wrath Be - set our path And world - ly  
 3 In all the strife Of mor - tal life Our feet will



earth pos - sess - es; Who looks in  
 scorn as - sail us, While You are  
 stand se - cure - ly; Temp - ta - tion's



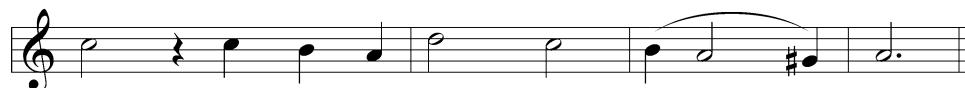
love To Christ a - bove, No fear that heart op -  
 near, We shall not fear; Your strength will nev - er  
 hour Will lose its pow'r, For You will guard us



press - es. In You a - lone, Dear Lord, we own Sweet  
 fail us. Your rod and staff Will keep us safe And  
 sure - ly. O God, re - new With heav'n - ly dew Our



hope and con - so - la - tion, Our shield from foes, Our balm for  
 guide our steps for - ev - er; Nor shades of death Nor hell be -  
 bod - y, soul, and spir - it Un - til we stand At Your right



woes, Our great and sure sal - va - tion.  
 neath Our lives from You will sev - er.  
 hand Through Je - sus' sav - ing mer - it.

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**MEDITATION ON THE PSALM**

*Kneel or Stand*

**KYRIE**

*Mark 10:47*

- P** O Lord,  
**C** have mercy.  
**P** O Christ,  
**C** have mercy.  
**P** O Lord,  
**C** have mercy.

**LORD’S PRAYER**

*Matthew 6:9–13*

- C** 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.

**APOSTLE’S CREED**

- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth.  
 And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
 born of the virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died and was buried.  
 He descended into hell.  
 The third day He rose again from the dead.  
 He ascended into heaven  
 and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy Christian Church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life † everlasting. Amen.

**VERSICLES**

- P** Hear my prayer, O Lord;  
**C** let my cry come to You.  
**P** In the day of my trouble I call upon You,  
**C** for You answer me.  
**P** Hide Your face from my sins,  
**C** and blot out all my iniquities.  
**P** Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
**C** and renew a right spirit within me.  
**P** Cast me not away from Your presence,  
**C** and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.  
**P** Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,  
**C** and uphold me with a willing spirit.

*Psalms 102:1*

*Psalms 86:7*

*Psalms 51:9–12*

**P** Because Your steadfast love is better than life,  
**C** **my lips will praise You.**

**P** For You have been my help,  
**C** **and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for joy.**

*Psalm 63:3, 7*

**P** Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;  
**C** **unite my heart to fear Your name.**

**P** I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,  
**C** **and I will glorify Your name forever.**

*Psalm 86:11–12*

**P** May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.  
**C** **May those who love Your salvation say evermore, “God is great!”**

*Psalm 70:4*

**P** Save Your people and bless Your heritage!  
**C** **Be their shepherd and carry them forever.**

*Psalm 28:9*

**P** Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;  
**C** **listen to my plea for grace.**

*Psalm 86:6*

### COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, let Your merciful ears be open to the prayers of Your humble servants and grant that what they ask may be in accord with Your gracious will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

### LUTHER’S EVENING PRAYER

**C** **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

*Stand*

### BENEDICAMUS and BLESSING

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

*[Psalm 103:1]*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**C** **Amen.**

**✠ SOLI DEO GLORIA ✠**  
**(TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY)**