

OFFICE OF READINGS

inv. Come, let us worship before
the Lord, our maker.

alt. Wherever you are, Lord,
there is mercy, there is truth.

PSALM 89:2-38 I

I will sing forever of your mercies, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your fidelity.

I have declared your mercy is established forever;
your fidelity stands firm as the heavens.

“With my chosen one I have made a covenant,
I have sworn to David my servant:

I will establish your descendants forever,
and set up your throne through all ages.”

The heavens praise your wonders, O Lord,
your fidelity, too, in the assembly of your holy ones.

For who in the skies can compare with the Lord,
or who is like the Lord among the heavenly powers?

A God to be feared in the council of the holy ones,
great and wondrous above all around him.

O Lord God of hosts, who is your equal?
You are mighty, O Lord, and fidelity surrounds you.

It is you who rule the raging of the sea;
it is you who still the surging of its waves.

It is you who crush Rahab underfoot like a corpse,
you scatter your foes with your mighty arm.

The heavens are yours, the earth is yours,
you have founded the world and its fullness;
it is you who created the North and the South.
Tabor and Hermon shout for joy at your name.

Yours is a mighty arm.
Your hand is strong; your right hand is exalted.

Uprightness and justice are the pillars of your throne;
mercy and fidelity walk in your presence.

How blessed the people who know your praise,
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,

who find their joy every day in your name,
who make your uprightness their joyful acclaim.

For you are the glory of their strength;
by your favor it is that our might is exalted.

Behold, the Lord is our shield;
he is the Holy One of Israel, our king.

Glory...

alt. When the Son of God came
into this world, he was born of
David's line.

PSALM 89:2-38 II

Then you spoke in a vision.
To your faithful ones you said,
“I have bestowed my help on a warrior,
I have exalted one chosen from the people.
I have found my servant David,
and with my holy oil anointed him.
My hand shall always be with him,
and my arm shall make him strong.
The enemy shall never outwit him,
nor shall the son of iniquity humble him.
I will beat down his foes before him,
and those who hate him I will strike.
My mercy and my faithfulness shall be with him;
by my name his might shall be exalted.
I will stretch out his hand to the Sea,
and his right hand upon the Rivers.
He will call out to me, ‘You are my father,
my God, the rock of my salvation.’
I for my part will make him my firstborn,
the highest of the kings of the earth.
I will keep my faithful love for him always;
with him my covenant shall last.
I will establish his descendants forever,
and his throne as lasting as the days of heaven.
Glory...

alt. Once for all I swore to my
servant David; his dynasty shall
never fail.

PSALM 89:2-38 III

If his descendants forsake my law
and refuse to walk as I decree,
and if ever they violate my statutes,
failing to keep my commands:

Then I will punish their offenses with the rod;
then I will scourge them on account of their guilt

But I will never take back my mercy,
my fidelity will never fail.

I will never violate my covenant,
nor go back on the promise of my lips.

Once for all, I have sworn by my holiness.
“I will never lie to David.

His descendants shall continue forever.
In my sight his throne is like the sun;
like the moon, it shall endure forever,
a faithful witness in the heavens.”

Glory...

When we listen to your word, our minds are filled with light.
—It is the lowly heart that understands.

WEDNESDAY
LAUDS

89

alt. Give joy to your servant,
Lord; to you I lift up my soul.

PSALM 86

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me,
for I am poor and needy.

Preserve my soul, for [am faithful;
save the servant who trusts in you, my God

Have mercy on me, O Lord,
for I cry to you all the day long.

Gladden the soul of your servant,
for I lift up my soul to you, O Lord.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.

Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer,
and attend to my voice in supplication.

In the day of distress, I will call to you,
and surely you will answer me.

Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord,
nor works to compare with yours.

All the nations you have made shall come;
they will bow down before you, O Lord,
and glorify your name,

for you are great and do marvelous deeds,
you who alone are God.

Teach me, O Lord, your way,
so that I may walk in your truth,
single-hearted to fear your name.

I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name forever.

Your mercy to me has been great;
you have saved me from the depths of Sheol.

The proud have risen against me, O God;
a band of the ruthless seeks my life.
To you they pay no heed.

But you, O God, are compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, O Lord,

abundant in mercy and fidelity;
turn and take pity on me.

O give your strength to your servant,
and save the son of your handmaid.

Show me the sign of your favor,
that my foes may see to their shame,
that you, O Lord, give me comfort and help.

Glory...

alt. Blessed is the upright man,
who speaks the truth.

ISAIAH 33:13-16

Hear what I have done, O you who are far off;
and you who are near, acknowledge my might.

Sinners in Zion are shaking with fear;
trembling seizes the godless.

“Who of us can dwell with the devouring fire;
who of us can dwell with everlasting flames?”

The one who walks rightly and speaks honestly,
who spurns what is gained by oppression,

who shakes his hand free lest it accept a bribe,
who closes his ears not to listen to bloodshed,

who shuts his eyes not to gaze on evil.

Such a one shall dwell upon the heights,

whose refuge will be a rocky stronghold,

whose bread will be given, and whose water assured.

Glory...

alt. Let us celebrate with joy in
the presence of our Lord and
King.

PSALM 98

O sing a new song to the Lord,
for he has worked wonders.

His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation.

The Lord has made known his salvation,
has shown his deliverance to the nations.

He has remembered his merciful love
and his truth for the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song,
and sing out your praise.

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn,
raise a shout before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea and all within it thunder;
the world, and those who dwell in it.

Let the rivers clap their hands,
and the hills ring out their joy
at the presence of the Lord, for he comes,
he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with justice,
and the peoples with faithfulness.

Glory...

alt. Show us your mercy, Lord;
remember your holy covenant.

BENEDICTUS

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel:
for he has visited his people and redeemed them,
he has raised up for us a horn of salvation
in the House of David his servant,
as he spoke through the mouth of his holy ones,
his prophets from ages past:

To grant salvation from our foes,
and from the hand of all who hate us,
showing mercy to our fathers, †
remembering his holy covenant,
the oath he swore to Abraham our father;

To grant that, freed from the hand of our foes,
we may serve him without fear
in holiness and righteousness
all the days of our life.

And you, little child, will be called
the Prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord
to make ready his ways:

to grant knowledge of salvation to his people
by the forgiveness of their sins;

Through the tender mercy of our God,
the Dawn from on high will visit us,
to shine on those who sit in darkness, †
and those in the shadow of death;
to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.