

TUESDAY  
OFFICE OF READINGS

73

inv. Come, let us worship our  
mighty King and Lord.

alt. Let God arise, let his ene-  
mies flee before him.

PSALM 68 I

Let God arise; let his foes be scattered.  
Let those who hate him flee from his presence.  
As smoke is driven away, so drive them away;  
like wax that melts before the fire,  
so the wicked shall perish at the presence of God.  
But the upright shall rejoice at the presence of God;  
they shall exult with glad rejoicing.  
O sing to God; make music to his name.  
Extol the One who rides on the clouds.  
The Lord is his name; exult at his presence.  
Father of orphans, defender of widows:  
such is God in his holy place.  
God gives the desolate a home to dwell in;  
he leads the prisoners forth into prosperity,  
but rebels must dwell in a parched land.  
O God, when you went forth before your people,  
when you marched out across the desert,  
the earth trembled, heavens poured down rain:  
at the face of God, the God of Sinai,  
at the face of God, the God of Israel.  
You poured down, O God, a generous rain,  
when your heritage languished, you restored it.  
It was there that your flock began to dwell.  
In your goodness, O God, you provided for the poor.  
Glory...

alt. Our God is a saving God;  
he, the Lord, holds the keys of  
death.

## PSALM 68 II

The Lord announces the command;  
a mighty throng bears good tidings:

“The kings and armies are in headlong flight,  
while you were at rest among the sheepfolds.”

At home the women already share the spoil.  
They are covered with silver as the wings of a dove,  
its feathers brilliant with shining gold.

When the Almighty scatters kings on the mountain,  
it is like snow that whitens Mount Zalmon.

You, mountain of Bashan, are a mighty mountain;  
a many-peaked mountain, the mountain of Bashan.

Why look with envy, you many-peaked mountain,  
at the mountain where God has desired to dwell?  
It is there that the Lord shall dwell forever.

The chariots of God are thousands upon thousands.  
The Lord has come from Sinai to the holy place.

You have ascended on high, leading captivity captive,  
as tribute receiving prisoners, O God,  
so that even rebels may dwell near the Lord God.

Day after day, may the Lord be blest.  
He bears our burdens; God is our savior.

This God of ours is a God who saves.  
The Lord, our Lord, provides an escape from death.

And God will smite the heads of his foes,  
the hairy crown of him who walks about in his guilt.

The Lord said, “I will bring them back from Bashan;  
I will bring them back from the depth of the sea.

Then you will bathe your feet in their blood,  
and the tongues of your dogs take their share of the foe.”

Glory...

alt. Kingdoms of earth, sing  
praise to God, make music in  
honor of the Lord.

## PSALM 68 III

They see your solemn procession, O God,  
the procession of my God, of my king, to the holy place:  
the singers in the forefront, the musicians coming last;  
between them, maidens sounding their timbrels.

“In the sacred assembly, bless God, the LORD,  
O you who are from the fountain of Israel.”

There is Benjamin, least of the tribes, at the head;  
Judah’s princes, a mighty throng,  
Zebulun’s princes, Naphtali’s princes.

Command your might, O God;  
your might, O God, which you have shown for us.

From your temple high in Jerusalem,  
kings will come to you bringing their tribute.

Rebuke the wild beast that dwells in the reeds,  
the bands of the mighty and rulers of the peoples.  
Scatter the peoples who delight in war.

Rich merchants will make their way from Egypt;  
Ethiopia will stretch out her hands to God.

You kingdoms of the earth, sing to God, praise the Lord  
who rides on the heavens, the ancient heavens.

Behold, he thunders his voice, his mighty voice.  
Come, acknowledge the power of God.

His glory is on Israel; his might is in the skies.  
Wondrous is God in his holy place.

He is God, the God of Israel.  
He himself gives strength and power to his people.  
Blest be God!

Glory...

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying  
—He tells of peace for his people.

WEEK III  
LAUDS

alt. Lord, you have blessed your  
land; you have forgiven the sins  
of your people.

PSALM 85

O Lord, you have favored your land,  
and brought back the captives of Jacob.

You forgave the guilt of your people,  
and covered all their sins.

You averted all your rage;  
you turned back the heat of your anger.

Bring us back, O God, our savior!  
Put an end to your grievance against us.

Will you be angry with us forever?  
Will your anger last from age to age?

Will you not restore again our life,  
that your people may rejoice in you?

Show us, O Lord, your mercy,  
and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God speaks;  
he speaks of peace for his people and his faithful,  
and those who turn their hearts to him.

His salvation is near for those who fear him,  
and his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
justice and peace have kissed.

Faithfulness shall spring from the earth,  
and justice look down from heaven.

Also the Lord will bestow his bounty,  
and our earth shall yield its increase.

Righteousness will march before him,  
and guide his steps on the way.

Glory...

alt. My soul has yearned for you  
in the night, and as morning  
breaks I watch for your coming.

ISAIAH 26: 1-4, 7-9, 12

Ours is a city strong in salvation;  
he has set up walls and bulwarks.

Open the gates so that a nation that is righteous,  
one that keeps faith, may enter.

You guard the steadfast mind in peace,  
in peace, for its trust is in you.

Trust in the Lord forever and ever;  
an everlasting Rock is the Lord.

The path of the righteous is level,  
you make smooth the course of the righteous one

Yes, in the path of your judgments,  
we wait for you, O Lord,

your name and your renown.  
are the desire of the soul.

My soul yearns for you in the night;  
my spirit within me seeks you at dawn.

When your judgments are wrought on earth,  
the world's inhabitants learn righteousness.

O Lord, you order peace for us;  
for you accomplished all our works for us.

Glory...

alt. Lord, let the light of your  
face shine upon us.

## PSALM 67

May God be gracious and bless us  
and let his face shed its light upon us.

So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your salvation.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and shout for joy;  
with uprightness you rule the peoples,  
you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its fruit  
for God, our God, has blessed us.

May God still give us his blessing  
that all the ends of the earth may revere him.

Glory...

## 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.