

Welcome to Vespers for **Saturday (Week 3)**. The Service for Vespers can be found on p142-153 in the Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW). The Psalms for this evening are **Psalm 100 found on page 263 and Psalm 138 on page 283-4**. The hymn is **#454**.

PSALM 100 (*The cantor will speak / sing the antiphon. The psalm will be spoken / sung in unison.*)

ANTIPHON

Come before his presence with a song.

- ¹Be joyful in the LORD, | all you lands;*
serve the LORD with gladness and come before his presence | with a song.
- ²Know this: The LORD him- | self is God;*
he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep | of his pasture.
- ³Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his | courts with praise;*
give thanks to him and call up- | on his name.
- ⁴For the LORD is good; his mercy is | everlasting;*
and his faithfulness endures from | age to age.

ANTIPHON

Come before his presence with a song.

PSALM 138 (*The cantor will speak / sing the antiphon. The psalm will be spoken / sung in unison.*)

ANTIPHON

I will bow down toward your | holy temple
and | praise your name, **

- ¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with | my whole heart;*
before the gods I will | sing your praise.
- ²I will bow down toward your holy temple and | praise your name,*
because of your | love and faithfulness;

³for you have glori- | fied your name*
and your word a- | bove all things.

⁴When I called, you | answered me;*
you increased my | strength within me.

⁵All the kings of the earth will praise | you, O LORD,*
when they have heard the words | of your mouth.

⁶They will sing of the ways | of the LORD,*
that great is the glory | of the LORD.

⁷Though the LORD be high, he cares | for the lowly;*
he perceives the haughty | from afar.

⁸Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you | keep me safe;*
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right | hand shall save
me.

⁹The LORD will make good his pur- | pose for me;*
O LORD, your love endures forever; do not abandon the works | of your hands.

ANTIPHON

I will bow down toward your | holy temple
and | praise your name,**

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If God Himself Be for Me



1 If God him - self be for me, I may a host de - fy;
2 I build on this foun - da - tion, that Je - sus and his blood
3 Christ Je - sus is my splen - dor, my sun, my light, a - lone;
4 For joy my heart is ring - ing; all sor - row dis - ap - pears;



for when I pray, be - fore me my foes, con - found - ed, fly.
a - lone are my sal - va - tion, the true, e - ter - nal good.
were he not my de - fend - er be - fore God's awe - some throne,
and full of mirth and sing - ing, it wipes a - way all tears.



If Christ, my head and mas - ter, be - friend me from a - bove,
With - out him all that pleas - es will vain and emp - ty prove.
I nev - er should find fa - vor and mer - cy in his sight,
The sun that cheers my spir - it is Je - sus Christ, my king;



what foe or what di - sas - ter can drive me from his love?
The gifts I have from Je - sus a - lone are worth my love.
but be de - stroyed for - ev - er as dark - ness by the light.
the heav'n I shall in - her - it makes me re - joice and sing.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–1887, adapt.
Music: IST GOTT FÜR MICH, Augsburg, 1609