

Welcome to Vespers for the **Saturdays (and December 17th) in Advent**. The Service for Vespers can be found on p142-153 in the Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW). The Psalms for this evening are **Psalm 80 found on page 252 and Psalm 72 on page 248**. The hymn is **#23**.

PSALM 80 (*The cantor will speak / sing the antiphon. The psalm will be spoken / sung in unison.*)

ANTIPHON

Eve of Advent 1 *Stir up your | strength, O Lord,*
and | come to help us.*

Eve of Advent 2 *Restore us, O | God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we | shall be saved.*

Eve of Advent 3 *Let the mountains break out with joy
and the hills with an | swering gladness*
for the world's true light comes with pow | er and might.*

December 17 *The treasure of all na | tions shall come*
his dwelling | shall be glorious.*

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.

²In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and | come to help us.

³Restore us, O | God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we | shall be saved.

⁴O LORD | God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered despite the prayers | of your people?

⁵You have fed them with the | bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.

⁶You have made us the derision | of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh | us to scorn.

⁷Restore us, O | God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we | shall be saved.

- ⁸You have brought a vine | out of Egypt;*
you cast out the nations and | planted it.
- ⁹You prepared the | ground for it;*
it took root and | filled the land.
- ¹⁰The mountains were covered | by its shadow*
and the towering cedar trees | by its boughs.
- ¹¹You stretched out its tendrils | to the sea*
and its branches | to the river.
- ¹²Why have you broken | down its wall,*
so that all who pass by pluck | off its grapes?
- ¹³The wild boar of the forest has | ravaged it,*
and the beasts of the field have | grazed upon it.
- ¹⁴Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven; behold and | tend this vine;*
preserve what your right | hand has planted.
- ¹⁵They burn it with | fire like rubbish;*
at the rebuke of your countenance | let them perish.
- ¹⁶Let your hand be upon the man of | your right hand,*
the son of man you have made so strong | for yourself.
- ¹⁷And so will we never turn a- | way from you;*
give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.
- ¹⁸Restore us, O LORD | God of hosts;*
show the light of your countenance, and we | shall be saved.

ANTIPHON

- Eve of Advent 1 *Stir up your | strength, O Lord,*
and | come to help us.*
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for the world's true light comes with pow | er and might.*
- December 17 *The treasure of all na | tions shall come*
his dwelling | shall be glorious.*

- ¹¹All kings shall bow | down before him,*
and all the nations | do him service.
- ¹²For he shall deliver the poor who cries out | in distress,*
and the oppressed who | has no helper.
- ¹³He shall have pity on the low- | ly and poor;*
he shall preserve the lives | of the needy.
- ¹⁴He shall redeem their lives from oppres- | sion and violence,*
and dear shall their blood be | in his sight.
- ¹⁵Long may he live! And may there be given to him gold | from Arabia;*
may prayer be made for him always, and may they bless him all | the day long.
- ¹⁶May there be abundance of grain on the earth, growing thick even | on the hilltops;*
may its fruit flourish like Lebanon, and its grain like grass up- | on the earth.
- ¹⁷May his name remain forever and be established as long as the | sun endures;*
may all the nations bless themselves in him and | call him blessed.
- ¹⁸Blessed be the Lord GOD, the | God of Israel,*
who alone does | wondrous deeds!
- ¹⁹And blessed be his glorious | name forever,*
and may all the earth be filled with his glory. A- | men. Amen.

ANTIPHON

- Eve of Advent 1 *Rejoice greatly. O daugh | ter of Zion!**
 shout aloud, O daughter of Jer | usalem.
- Eve of Advent 2 *Proclaim the good news a | mong the nations;**
 our God will | come to save us.
- Eve of Advent 3 *I the Lord, am coming to save you; already | I am near;**
 soon I will free you | from your sins.
- December 17 *May the Holy One from heaven come down like | gentle rain;**
 may the earth burst into blossom and bear the | tender Savior.

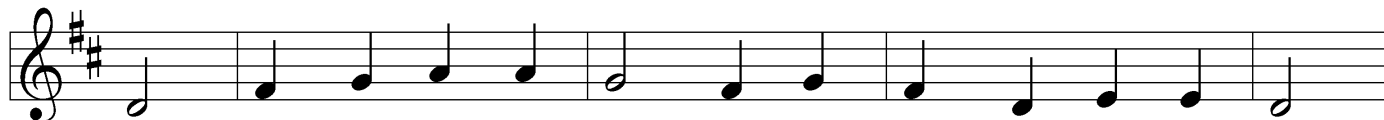
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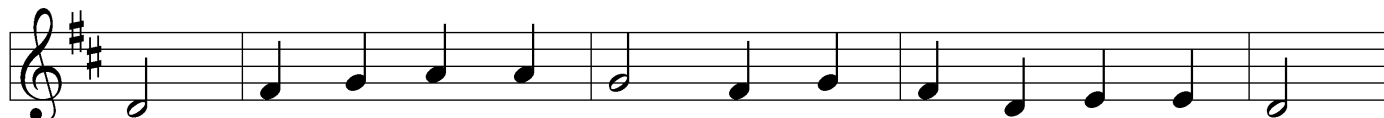
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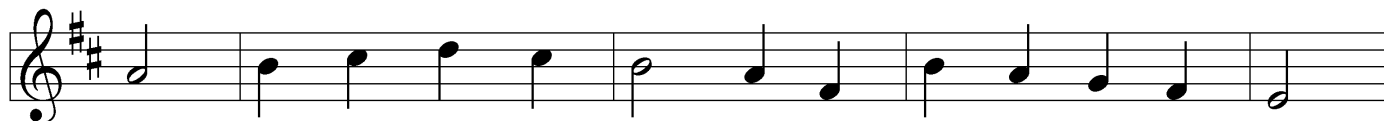
O Lord, How Shall I Meet You



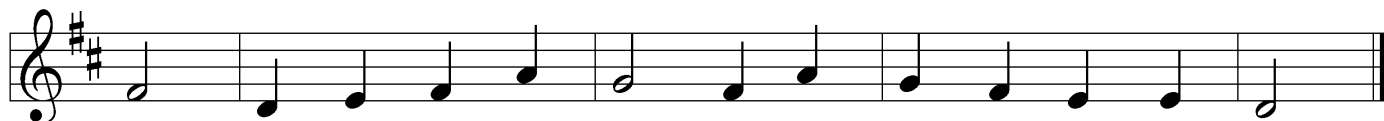
- 1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you are?
- 2 Your Zion strews before you green boughs and fairest palms;
- 3 I lay in fetters, groaning; you came to set me free.
- 4 Love caused your incarnation; love brought you down to me.



Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight!
and I, too, will adore you with joyous songs and psalms.
I stood, my shame bemoaning; you came to honor me.
Your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.



Oh, kindle, Lord most holy, your lamp within my breast
My heart shall bloom forever for you with praises new
A glorious crown you give me, a treasure safe on high
Oh, love beyond all telling, that led you to embrace



to do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.
and from your name shall never withhold the honor due.
that will not fail or leave me as earthly riches fly.
in love, all love excelling, our lost and fallen race.

5 Rejoice, then, you sad-hearted,
who sit in deepest gloom,
who mourn your joys departed
and tremble at your doom.
Despair not; he is near you,
there, standing at the door,
who best can help and cheer you
and bids you weep no more.

6 He comes to judge the nations,
a terror to his foes,
a light of consolations
and blessed hope to those
who love the Lord's appearing.
O glorious Sun, now come,
send forth your beams so cheering
and guide us safely home.