

Welcome to Vespers for **Saturdays in the Season of Lent**. The Service for Vespers is on p141-153 in the Lutheran Book of Worship. The Psalms for this evening are **Psalm 31 on page 229-30** and **Psalm 143 on page 286-6** . The hymn is **#98**.

PSALM 31 (*The cantor will speak / sing the antiphon. The psalm will be spoken / sung in unison.*)

ANTIPHON

Eve of Lent 1:

*Incline your | ear to me;**
make hast to de | liver me.

Eve of Lent 2:

*My your face to shine up | on your servant, **
and in your loving | kindness save me.

Eve of Lent 3:

*Blessed | be the Lord! **
for he has shown me the wonders of his love in a | besieged city.

Eve of Lent 4:

*In returning and rest you | shall be saved;**
in quietness and in trust shall | be your strength.

Eve of Lent 5:

*Into your hands I com | mend my spirit, **
for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O | God of truth.

¹ In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be | put to shame; *
deliver me | in your righteousness.

² Incline your | ear to me; *
make haste to de- | liver me.

³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag | and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your name, lead | me and guide me.

- ⁴ Take me out of the net that they have secretly | set for me,*
for you are my tow- | er of strength.
- ⁵ Into your hands I com- | mend my spirit,*
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, O | God of truth.
- ⁶ I hate those who cling to | worthless idols,*
and I put my trust | in the LORD.
- ⁷ I will rejoice and be glad because | of your mercy;*
for you have seen my affliction; you know | my distress.
- ⁸ You have not shut me up in the power | of the enemy;*
you have set my feet in an | open place.
- ⁹ Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I | am in trouble;*
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat | and my belly.
- ¹⁰ For my life is wasted with grief, and my | years with sighing;*
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones | are consumed.
- ¹¹ I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,
a dismay to those of | my acquaintance;*
when they see me in the street | they avoid me.
- ¹² I am forgotten like a dead man, | out of mind;*
I am as useless as a | broken pot.
- ¹³ For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is | all around;*
they put their heads together against me; they plot to | take my life.
- ¹⁴ But as for me, I have trusted in | you, O LORD.*
I have said, "You | are my God.
- ¹⁵ My times are | in your hand;*
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who | persecute me.
- ¹⁶ Make your face to shine up- | on your servant,*
and in your loving- | kindness save me."
- ¹⁷ LORD, let me not be ashamed for having called | upon you;*
rather, let the wicked be put to shame; let them be silent | in the grave.
- ¹⁸ Let the lying lips be silenced which speak a- | gainst the righteous,*
haughtily, disdainfully, and | with contempt.

- ¹⁹ How great is your goodness, O LORD,
which you have laid up for | those who fear you; *
which you have done in the sight of all for those who put their | trust in you.
- ²⁰ You hide them in the covert of your presence from those who | slander them; *
you keep them in your shelter from the | strife of tongues.
- ²¹ Blessed | be the LORD! *
for he has shown me the wonders of his love in a | besieged city.
- ²² Yet I said in my alarm, "I have been cut off from the sight | of your eyes." *
Nevertheless, you heard the sound of my entreaty when I cried | out to you.
- ²³ Love the LORD, all you who | worship him; *
the LORD protects the faithful, but repays to the full those | who act haughtily.
- ²⁴ Be strong and let your | heart take courage, *
all you who wait | for the LORD.

ANTIPHON

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make hast to de | liver me.*

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Eve of Lent 5:

*Into your hands I com | mend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O | God of truth.*

PSALM 143

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

ANTIPHON

Eve of Lent 1:

*I spread out my hands to | you, O Lord; *
do not hide your | face from me.*

Eve of Lent 2:

*Teach me to do what pleases you, for you | are my God; *
let your good Spirit lead me on | level ground.*

Eve of Lent 3:

*Revive me, O Lord, for | your Name's sake; *
for you righteousness' sake bring me | out of trouble.*

Eve of Lent 4:

*There will be a canopy as a pavilion, a shade by day | from the heat *
and a refuge and a shelter from the | storm and rain.*

Eve of Lent 5:

*I regard every | thing as loss *
Because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Je | sus my Lord.*

¹LORD, hear my prayer, and in your faithfulness heed my | supplications; *
answer me | in your righteousness.

²Enter not into judgment | with your servant, *
for in your sight shall no one liv- | ing be justified.

³For my enemy has sought my life; he has crushed me | to the ground; *
he has made me live in dark places like those who | are long dead.

⁴My spirit | faints within me; *
my heart within | me is desolate.

⁵I remember the time past; I muse upon | all your deeds; *
I consider the works | of your hands.

⁶I spread out my | hands to you; *
my soul gasps to you like a | thirsty land.

⁷O LORD, make haste to answer me; my | spirit fails me;*
do not hide your face from me or I shall be like those who go down | to the pit.

⁸Let me hear of your lovingkindness in the morning, for I put my | trust in you;*
show me the road that I must walk, for I lift up my | soul to you.

⁹Deliver me from my ene- | mies, O LORD,*
for I flee to | you for refuge.

¹⁰Teach me to do what pleases you, for you | are my God;*
let your good Spirit lead me on | level ground.

¹¹Revive me, O LORD, | for your name's sake;*
for your righteousness' sake, bring me | out of trouble.

¹²Of your goodness, destroy my enemies and bring all my | foes to naught,*
for truly I | am your servant.

ANTIPHON

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Because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Je | sus my Lord.*

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, and did my sov-'reign die?
2 Was it for sins that I had done he groaned up - on the tree?
3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide and shut its glo - ries in
4 Thus might I hide my blush - ing face while his dear cross ap - pears,
5 But tears of grief can - not re - pay the debt of love I owe;

Would he de - vote that sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I?
A - maz - ing pit - y, grace un-known, and love be - yond de - gree!
when God, the might - y mak - er, died for his own crea - tures' sin.
dis - solve my heart in thank - ful - ness, and melt my eyes to tears.
here, Lord, I give my - self a - way: 'tis all that I can do.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1764–1824

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