

Welcome to Vespers for the **Thursdays (and December 22<sup>nd</sup>) 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 126 found on page 280 and Psalm 62 on page 241-2**. The hymn is **#29**.

**PSALM 126**      (*The cantor will speak / sing the antiphon. The psalm will be spoken / sung in unison.*)

#### ANTIPHON

*Those who | sowed with tears\*  
will weep with | songs of joy.*

December 22      *The Lord, the mighty God, will come | forth from Zion\*  
to set his | people free.*

<sup>1</sup> When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,\*  
then were we like | those who dream.

<sup>2</sup> Then was our mouth | filled with laughter,\*  
and our tongue with | shouts of joy.

<sup>3</sup> Then they said a- | mong the nations,\*  
"The LORD has done great | things for them."

<sup>4</sup> The LORD has done great | things for us,\*  
and we are | glad indeed.

<sup>5</sup> Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,\*  
like the watercourses | of the Negev.

<sup>6</sup> Those who | sowed with tears\*  
will reap with | songs of joy.

<sup>7</sup> Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,\*  
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves.

#### ANTIPHON

*Those who | sowed with tears\*  
will weep with | songs of joy.*

December 22      *The Lord, the mighty God, will come | forth from Zion\*  
to set his | people free.*

**PSALM 62**

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

**ANTIPHON**

*For God alone my soul in | silence waits;\*  
truly, my hope | is in him.*

December 22      *We wait for the | blessed hope,\*  
And the manifestation of the glory | of our Savior.*

<sup>1</sup> For God alone my soul in | silence waits;\*  
from him comes | my salvation.

<sup>2</sup> He alone is my rock and | my salvation,\*  
my stronghold, so that I shall not be | greatly shaken.

<sup>3</sup> How long will you assail me to crush me, all of | you together,\*  
as if you were a leaning fence, a | toppling wall?

<sup>4</sup> They seek only to bring me down from my | place of honor,\*  
lies are their | chief delight.

<sup>5</sup> They bless | with their lips,\*  
but in their | hearts they curse.

<sup>6</sup> For God alone my soul in | silence waits;\*  
truly, my hope | is in him.

<sup>7</sup> He alone is my rock and | my salvation,\*  
my stronghold, so that I shall | not be shaken.

<sup>8</sup> In God is my safety | and my honor;\*  
God is my strong rock | and my refuge.

<sup>9</sup> Put your trust in him al- | ways, O people,\*  
pour out your hearts before him, for God | is our refuge.

<sup>10</sup> Those of high degree are but a | fleeting breath,\*  
even those of low estate can- | not be trusted.

<sup>11</sup> On the scales they are lighter | than a breath,\*  
all of | them together.

<sup>12</sup> Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no | empty pride;\*  
though wealth increase, set not your | heart upon it.

<sup>13</sup> God has spoken once, twice | have I heard it,\*  
that power be- | longs to God.

<sup>14</sup> Steadfast love is | yours, O Lord,\*  
for you repay everyone according | to his deeds.

## ANTIPHON

*For God alone my soul in | silence waits;\**  
*truly, my hope | is in him.*

December 22      *We wait for the | blessed hope,\**  
*And the manifestation of the glory | of our Savior.*

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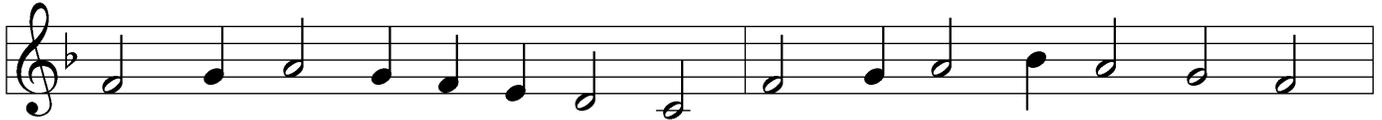
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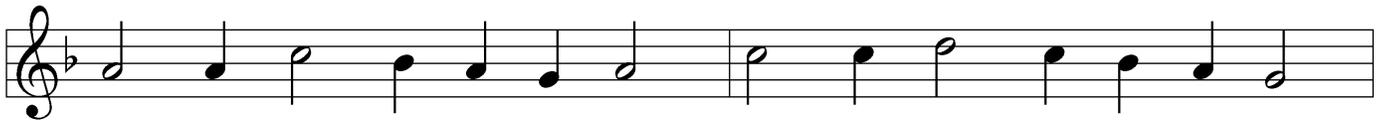
# Comfort, Comfort Now My People



1 "Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.  
2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain!



Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn - ing un - der sor - row's load.  
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the king - dom now is here.  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits his ho - ly reign!



To God's peo - ple now pro - claim that God's par - don waits for them!  
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way!  
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for - ev - er.  
Let the val - leys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him!  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1611–1684; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–1878, alt.

Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre pseumes de David*, Geneva, 1551