

Welcome to Vespers for the **Thursdays of the Season of Easter**. The Service for Vespers is on p142-153 in the Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW). The Psalms are **Psalm 68 on p244-5** and **Psalm 113 on p270-1**. The hymn is **#300**.

PSALM 68 (*The cantor will sing / speak the antiphon. The psalm will be sung / spoken in unison.*)

ANTIPHON

*Sing to God, sing praises | to his Name;**
exalt him who rides upon the heavens, | alleluia.

¹Let God arise, and let his ene- | mies be scattered;*
let those who hate him | flee before him.

²Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives | it away;*
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the pres- | ence of God.

³But let the righteous be glad and rejoice | before God;*
let them also be mer- | ry and joyful.

⁴Sing to God, sing praises to his name; exalt him who rides up- | on the heavens;*
YAHWEH is his name, re- | joice before him!

⁵Father of orphans, defend- | er of widows,*
God in his holy | habitation!

⁶God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners | into freedom;*
but the rebels shall live | in dry places.

⁷O God, when you went forth be- | fore your people,*
when you marched | through the wilderness,

⁸the earth shook, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the | God of Sinai,*
at the presence of God, the | God of Israel.

⁹You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon | your inheritance;*
you refreshed the land when | it was weary.

¹⁰Your people found their | home in it;*
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision | for the poor.

¹¹The Lord | gave the word;*
great was the company of women who | bore the tidings:

- ¹²“Kings with their armies are flee- | ing away; *
the women at home are divid- | ing the spoils.”
- ¹³Though you lingered a- | mong the sheepfolds, *
you shall be like a dove whose wings are covered with silver, whose feathers are | like
green gold.
- ¹⁴When the Almighty | scattered kings, *
it was like snow fall- | ing in Zalmon.
- ¹⁵O mighty mountain, O | hill of Bashan! *
O rugged mountain, O | hill of Bashan!
- ¹⁶Why do you look with envy, O rugged mountain, at the hill which God chose for his | resting
-place? *
Truly, the LORD will dwell | there forever.
- ¹⁷The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thou- | sands of thousands; *
the Lord comes in holi- | ness from Sinai.
- ¹⁸You have gone up on high and led captivity captive; you have received gifts even | from your
enemies, *
that the LORD God might | dwell among them.
- ¹⁹Blessed be the Lord | day by day, *
the God of our salvation, who | bears our burdens.
- ²⁰He is our God, the God of | our salvation; *
God is the LORD, by whom we | escape death.
- ²¹God shall crush the heads | of his enemies, *
and the hairy scalp of those who go on still | in their wickedness.
- ²²The Lord has said, “I will bring them | back from Bashan; *
I will bring them back from the depths | of the sea;
- ²³that your foot may be | dipped in blood, *
the tongues of your dogs in the blood | of your enemies.”
- ²⁴They see your proces- | sion, O God, *
your procession into the sanctuary, my God | and my King.
- ²⁵The singers go before, musicians | follow after, *
in the midst of maidens playing up- | on the hand-drums.
- ²⁶Bless God in the | congregation; *
bless the LORD, you that are of the foun- | tain of Israel.

²⁷There is Benjamin, least of the tribes, at the head; the princes of Judah | in a company;*
and the princes of Zebul- | on and Naphtali.

²⁸Send forth your | strength, O God;*
establish, O God, what you have | wrought for us.

²⁹Kings shall bring | gifts to you,*
for your temple's sake | at Jerusalem.

³⁰Rebuke the wild beast | of the reeds,*
and the peoples, a herd of wild bulls | with its calves.

³¹Trample down those who lust | after silver;*
scatter the peoples that de- | light in war.

³²Let tribute be brought | out of Egypt;*
let Ethiopia stretch out her | hands to God.

³³Sing to God, O kingdoms | of the earth;*
sing praises | to the Lord.

³⁴He rides in the heavens, the | ancient heavens;*
he sends forth his voice, his | mighty voice.

³⁵Ascribe pow- | er to God;*
his majesty is over Israel; his strength is | in the skies.

³⁶How wonderful is God in his | holy places,*
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people! | Blessed be God!

ANTIPHON

Sing to God, sing praises | to his Name;
exalt him who rides upon the heavens, | alleluia.*

PSALM 113 *(The cantor will sing / speak the antiphon. The psalm will be sung / spoken in unison.)*

ANTIPHON

The Lord is high a | bove all nations,
He takes up the weak out of the dust, | alleluia.*

¹Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants | of the LORD;*
praise the name | of the LORD.

²Let the name of the | LORD be blessed,*
from this time forth for- | evermore.

³From the rising of the sun to its | going down*
let the name of the | LORD be praised.

⁴The LORD is high a- | bove all nations,*
and his glory a- | bove the heavens.

⁵Who is like the LORD our God, who sits en- | throned on high,*
but stoops to behold the heavens | and the earth?

⁶He takes up the weak out | of the dust*
and lifts up the poor | from the ashes.

⁷He sets them | with the princes,*
with the princes | of his people.

⁸He makes the woman of a | childless house*
to be a joyful moth- | er of children.

ANTIPHON

The Lord is high a | bove all nations,
He takes up the weak out of the dust, | alleluia.*

O Christ, Our Hope



1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, cre - a - tion's might - y
2 How vast your mer - cy to ac - cept the bur - den of our
3 But now the bonds of death are burst, the ran - som has been
4 Oh, let your might - y love pre - vail to purge us of our



Lord, re - deem - er of the fall - en world, by
sin, and bow your head in cru - el death to
paid; you now as - cend the Fa - ther's throne in
pride, that we may stand be - fore your throne by



ho - ly love out - poured, by ho - ly love out - poured:
make us clean with - in, to make us clean with - in.
robes of light ar - rayed, in robes of light ar - rayed.
mer - cy pur - i - fied, by mer - cy pur - i - fied.

5 Christ Jesus, be our present joy,
our future great reward;
our only glory, may it be
to glory in the Lord!

6 All praise to you, ascended Lord;
all glory ever be
to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
through all eternity!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, adapt.
Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561

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