

Welcome to Vespers for the **Wednesdays of the Season of Easter** . The Service for Vespers is on p142-153 in the Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW). The Psalms are **Psalm 9 on p218-9** and **Psalm 118 on p272-3**. The hymn is **#148**.

PSALM 9 (*The cantor will sing / speak the antiphon. The psalm will be sung / spoken in unison.*)

ANTIPHON

You lifted me up from the | gate of death,
so that I may tell of all your praises in the gates of the city of Zion | alleluia.*

¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with | my whole heart;*
I will tell of all your mar- | velous works.

²I will be glad and re- | joice in you;*
I will sing to your name, | O Most High.

³When my enemies are | driven back,*
they will stumble and perish | at your presence.

⁴For you have maintained my right | and my cause;*
you sit upon your throne | judging right.

⁵You have rebuked the ungodly and de- | stroyed the wicked;*
you have blotted out their name forev- | er and ever.

⁶As for the enemy, they are finished, in per- | petual ruin,*
their cities plowed under, the memory | of them perished;

⁷but the LORD is en- | throned forever;*
he has set up his | throne for judgment.

⁸It is he who rules the | world with righteousness;*
he judges the peo- | ples with equity.

⁹The LORD will be a refuge for | the oppressed,*
a refuge in | time of trouble.

¹⁰Those who know your name will put their | trust in you,*
for you never forsake those who seek | you, O LORD.

¹¹Sing praise to the LORD who | dwells in Zion;*
proclaim to the peoples the things | he has done.

¹²The avenger of blood will re- | member them;*
he will not forget the cry of | the afflicted.

¹³Have pity on | me, O LORD;*
see the misery I suffer from those who hate me, O you who lift me up from the | gate of
death;

¹⁴so that I may tell of all your praises and rejoice in | your salvation*
in the gates of the cit- | y of Zion.

¹⁵The ungodly have fallen into the | pit they dug,*
and in the snare they set is their | own foot caught.

¹⁶The LORD is known by his | acts of justice;*
the wicked are trapped in the works of | their own hands.

¹⁷The wicked shall be given over | to the grave,*
and also all the peoples | that forget God.

¹⁸For the needy shall not always | be forgotten,*
and the hope of the poor shall not per- | ish forever.

¹⁹Rise up, O LORD, let not the ungodly have the | upper hand;*
let them be | judged before you.

²⁰Put fear upon | them, O LORD;*
let the ungodly know they | are but mortal.

ANTIPHON

You lifted me up from the | gate of death,
so that I may tell of all your praises in the gates of the city of Zion | alleluia.*

PSALM 118 *(The cantor will sing / speak the antiphon. The psalm will be sung / spoken in unison.)*

ANTIPHON

I shall not | die, but live;
and declare the works of the Lord, | alleluia.*

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good;*
his mercy en- | dures forever.

²Let Israel | now proclaim,*

“His mercy en- | dures forever.”

³Let the house of Aaron | now proclaim,*

“His mercy en- | dures forever.”

⁴Let those who fear the LORD | now proclaim,*

“His mercy en- | dures forever.”

⁵I called to the LORD in | my distress;*

the LORD answered by set- | ting me free.

⁶The LORD is at my side, therefore I | will not fear;*

what can anyone | do to me?

⁷The LORD is at my | side to help me;*

I will triumph over | those who hate me.

⁸It is better to rely | on the LORD*

than to put any | trust in flesh.

⁹It is better to rely | on the LORD*

than to put any | trust in rulers.

¹⁰All the ungodly en- | compass me;*

in the name of the LORD I | will repel them.

¹¹They hem me in, they hem me in on | every side;*

in the name of the LORD I | will repel them.

¹²They swarm about me like bees; they blaze like a | fire of thorns;*

in the name of the LORD I | will repel them.

¹³I was pressed so hard that I | almost fell,*

but the LORD came | to my help.

¹⁴The LORD is my strength | and my song,*

and he has become | my salvation.

¹⁵There is a sound of exulta- | tion and victory*

in the tents | of the righteous:

¹⁶“The right hand of the | LORD has triumphed!*

The right hand of the LORD is exalted! The right hand of the | LORD has triumphed!”

¹⁷I shall not | die, but live,*

and declare the works | of the LORD.

¹⁸The LORD has pun- | ished me sorely,*
but he did not hand me o- | ver to death.

¹⁹Open for me the | gates of righteousness;*
I will enter them; I will offer thanks | to the LORD.

²⁰“This is the gate | of the LORD;*
he who is right- | eous may enter.”

²¹I will give thanks to you, for you | answered me*
and have become | my salvation.

²²The same stone which the build- | ers rejected*
has become the chief | cornerstone.

²³This is | the LORD’s doing,*
and it is marvelous | in our eyes.

²⁴On this day the | LORD has acted;*
we will rejoice and be | glad in it.

²⁵Hosanna, | LORD, hosanna!*
LORD, send us | now success.

²⁶Blessed is he who comes in the name | of the Lord;*
we bless you from the house | of the LORD.

²⁷God is the LORD; he has | shined upon us;*
form a procession with branches up to the horns | of the altar.

²⁸“You are my God, and | I will thank you;*
you are my God, and I | will exalt you.”

²⁹Give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good;*
his mercy en- | dures forever.

ANTIPHON

I shall not | die, but live;
and declare the works of the Lord, | alleluia.*

Now the Green Blade Rises



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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