



PSALM

18

he Lord lives, and blessed be my rock,  
and exalted be the God of my salvation.

(PSALM 18:46)

## STRUCTURE

**v. 1-6** David's danger.

**v. 7-19** The Lord's deliverance.

**v. 20-29** David's and the Lord's character.

**v. 30-45** David's victory.

**v. 46-50** The Lord's greater deliverance.

## AT A GLANCE

**AUTHOR** This psalm has the second longest superscription in the Psalms. David wrote this psalm when he was delivered from Saul.

**DIG DEEPER** For more about God's throne and the cherubim (v.10) — see Ezekiel 1 and Exodus 19:16FF.

**THIS SOUNDS FAMILIAR** See 1 Samuel 22, where this psalm also appears.



## CHRIST IS HERE

The entire psalm points to Christ's victory over sin, death and the devil and to the church's victory in Him. The final verse makes this clear as it ends with the promise of David's "seed" ("offspring" in the ESV).



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**The psalm is David's celebration** of how God cares for His King and Anointed One. The Lord rescued David from the hand of Saul and all his enemies and raised him up to be king over God's people. David had cried out to the Lord for deliverance, and now that he had been delivered, he was praising the Lord for that rescue. The Lord was David's rock, strength and deliverer. David had confidence that, no matter how dire the situation, the Lord was on his side. Our Lord is still crushing our demonic foes. He is still delivering us from our enemies. In Christ we receive all the blessings of His triumph over evil. As we pray this psalm, we are reminded of how the Lord rescued David, how He rescued our Lord Jesus Christ, and how He will rescue His church. By faith, we have these promises and this deliverance right now. David could pray this way because he trusted the Lord's promise concerning the Messiah that would come from his line and reign forever. We, like David, can build our lives of faith on the Rock of Christ and His Word (see **MAT. 7:24**). And we, like David, await the full victory that will come with the Advent of our King.

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## USE IN THE CHURCH

**Antiphon:** v. 1

**In the Daily Office:** Sunday Matins

**At the Divine Service:**

**One-Year:**

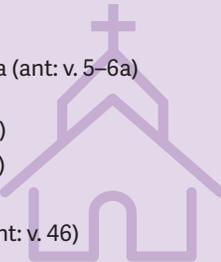
Introit for Septuagesima (ant: v. 5–6a)  
and Trinity 2 (ant: v. 19)

Gradual for Lent 5 (v. 48)

Verse for Trinity 3 (v. 1–2)

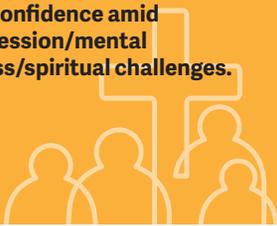
**Three-Year:**

Psalm for Proper 14A (ant: v. 46)



## SPIRITUAL CARE

- **Preparing for or at Holy Baptism.**
- **Giving thanks for healing.**
- **For deliverance from tyranny and other distresses.**
- **For confidence amid depression/mental illness/spiritual challenges.**



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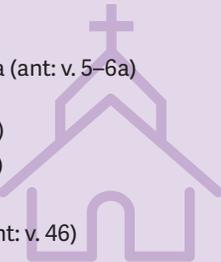
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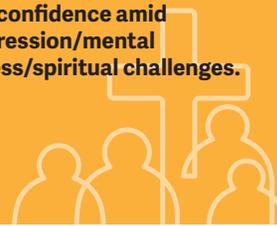
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## PSALM PRAYER

Most merciful God, our rock, our fortress and our deliverer, save us from our enemies and from the bonds of death, that rescued from the many troubles that surround us we may sing psalms to Your holy name in righteousness and innocence; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

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