

PSALM

9

rise, O Lord! Let not man prevail;
let the nations be judged before you!

(PSALM 9:19)

STRUCTURE

- v. 1-2** Opening praise.
- v. 3-6** God's judgment of David's enemies.
- v. 7-10** God as judge over the whole world.
- v. 11-14** Praise to the judge and a petition for Him to act.
- v. 15-20** God's judgment and a final petition.

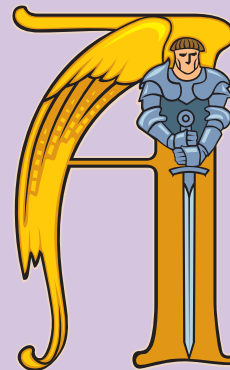
AT A GLANCE

- PART OF A WHOLE** Psalms 9 and 10 a partial acrostic — the first one in the book of Psalms.
- IN A WORD** Depending on context, *Sheol* can refer to death, the grave or hell. Verse 17 speaks of the final condemnation to hell.
- INWARDLY DIGEST** This is a psalm of comfort for Christians in times of suffering and persecution, reassuring them of God's final judgment and His vindication of their cause.



**CHRIST
IS HERE**

Christ is the Judge addressed in this psalm who will vindicate those persecuted for His sake, when He comes in glory.



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David prays as a Christian, pure in heart and totally devoted to God by faith, and thus happily confesses God's wondrous deeds and praises Him. Yet such faithful Christians have enemies. It was not mere military prowess that saved David from his enemies, but the Lord who granted deliverance and victory over the nations. Even when those who oppose the Lord and His people seem victorious, the righteous ultimate judgment of the Lord, who will lift them up from death and sentence the wicked. He avenges all His faithful who are killed and afflicted. The psalm ends with a prayer that God arise and act, faithful to His promises of vindication. It is also a warning to the nations of the earth: Let any nation which would trust in worldly might and success remember its mortality.



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USE IN THE CHURCH

- Thanksgiving for the church.
- During times of suffering.
- During persecution.
- In praise of faith.
- In praise of godly work.

Antiphon: v. 19

In the Daily Office: Sundays at Midday

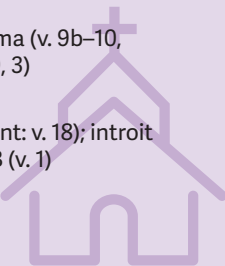
At the Divine Service:

One-Year:

Gradual for Septuagesima (v. 9b–10, 18–19a) and Lent 3 (v. 19, 3)

Three-Year:

Introit for Proper 25A (ant: v. 18); introit antiphon for Proper 26B (v. 1)



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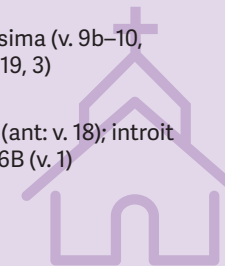
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PSALM PRAYER

O Lord, hear the prayers of the oppressed in Your mercy, and give us an abundance of Your heavenly gifts. Remove from us the love of the passing things of this world. Since You defend the humble and the orphan, give us the joy of Your fatherly mercy, exchanging for the humiliation of this world the joys of the kingdom of heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

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