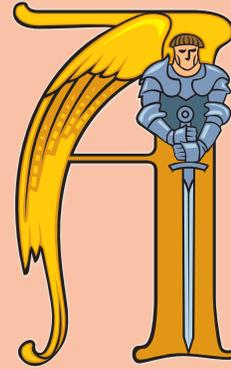




PSALM

3

rise, O Lord! Save me, O my God!  
(PSALM 3:7)



PSALM

3

rise, O Lord! Save me, O my God!  
(PSALM 3:7)

## STRUCTURE

- v. 1-2** My enemies surround me and mock me!
- v. 3-6** The Lord is a shield about me, so I will not fear.
- v. 7a** Arise, O Lord, and save me!
- v. 7b-8** The Lord will defeat my enemies.



## AT A GLANCE

- PART OF A WHOLE** After the prologue (PSALMS 1-2), the psalter proper begins with Psalm 3, a psalm of lament which begins a long section (PSALMS 3-17) of laments.
- "HIS HOLY HILL"** (v. 4) That is, Mount Zion. In Psalm 2, the Lord's anointed King is set on Zion, where David now looks for help.
- MORE TO THE STORY** The rebellion of Absalom, David's son, was a consequence of David's sin with Bathsheba and one of the greatest threats to his rule (2 SAM. 15-18).

## STRUCTURE

- v. 1-2** My enemies surround me and mock me!
- v. 3-6** The Lord is a shield about me, so I will not fear.
- v. 7a** Arise, O Lord, and save me!
- v. 7b-8** The Lord will defeat my enemies.

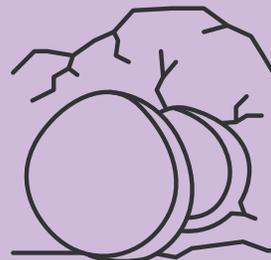


## AT A GLANCE

- PART OF A WHOLE** After the prologue (PSALMS 1-2), the psalter proper begins with Psalm 3, a psalm of lament which begins a long section (PSALMS 3-17) of laments.
- "HIS HOLY HILL"** (v. 4) That is, Mount Zion. In Psalm 2, the Lord's anointed King is set on Zion, where David now looks for help.
- MORE TO THE STORY** The rebellion of Absalom, David's son, was a consequence of David's sin with Bathsheba and one of the greatest threats to his rule (2 SAM. 15-18).

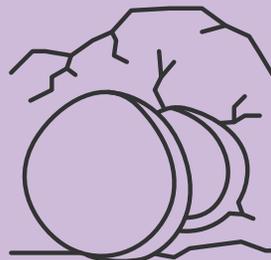
## CHRIST IS HERE

Christ is the suffering yet vindicated King, surrounded by mocking enemies yet assured in His ultimate victory, as He lay down to sleep in death and was woken in triumph three days later.



## CHRIST IS HERE

Christ is the suffering yet vindicated King, surrounded by mocking enemies yet assured in His ultimate victory, as He lay down to sleep in death and was woken in triumph three days later.



**Psalm 2 establishes the narrative pattern** of the psalter: that the Lord's anointed, His King, will be established and exalted despite the opposition of His foes. In Psalm 3, the voice of this suffering yet exalted king is first heard, crying out for deliverance from his enemies, yet trusting in the Lord's vindication. Despite the endless, delightful variety of the psalter, this pattern is, in essence, the narrative of every lament psalm. David is surrounded by enemies who mock him, saying, "There is no salvation for him in God" (v.2). Yet David does not despair. He speaks with assurance and great confidence: The Lord is a shield about him and will lift up his suffering head. Notice the tense of the verbs in the following verses: "He answered" (v.4) and "the Lord sustained me" (v.5). David speaks in the past tense. The salvation of his God is so certain and sure that he speaks as if it has already happened! His cry in verse 7 ("Arise, O Lord! Save me, O my God!") reminds us that he is still under threat, but the psalm ends with the same confidence. David's enemies will be defeated and he will be vindicated.



**Psalm 2 establishes the narrative pattern** of the psalter: that the Lord's anointed, His King, will be established and exalted despite the opposition of His foes. In Psalm 3, the voice of this suffering yet exalted king is first heard, crying out for deliverance from his enemies, yet trusting in the Lord's vindication. Despite the endless, delightful variety of the psalter, this pattern is, in essence, the narrative of every lament psalm. David is surrounded by enemies who mock him, saying, "There is no salvation for him in God" (v.2). Yet David does not despair. He speaks with assurance and great confidence: The Lord is a shield about him and will lift up his suffering head. Notice the tense of the verbs in the following verses: "He answered" (v.4) and "the Lord sustained me" (v.5). David speaks in the past tense. The salvation of his God is so certain and sure that he speaks as if it has already happened! His cry in verse 7 ("Arise, O Lord! Save me, O my God!") reminds us that he is still under threat, but the psalm ends with the same confidence. David's enemies will be defeated and he will be vindicated.



## USE IN THE CHURCH

**Antiphon:** v. 7a

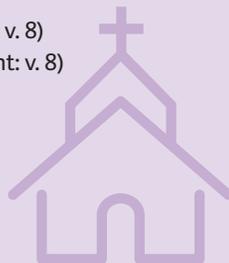
**In the Daily Office:** Sundays at Matins;  
Matins for a Martyr or a Confessor

**At the Divine Service:**

**Three-Year:**

Introit for Lent 5C (ant: v. 8)

Psalm for Proper 7C (ant: v. 8)



## USE IN THE CHURCH

**Antiphon:** v. 7a

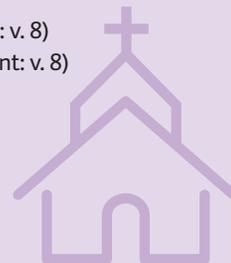
**In the Daily Office:** Sundays at Matins;  
Matins for a Martyr or a Confessor

**At the Divine Service:**

**Three-Year:**

Introit for Lent 5C (ant: v. 8)

Psalm for Proper 7C (ant: v. 8)



## SPIRITUAL CARE

- When betrayed by false Christians.
- When persecuted by the world.
- During times of doubt.
- Before reading/hearing the Passion of Christ.
- When falsely accused.



## SPIRITUAL CARE

- When betrayed by false Christians.
- When persecuted by the world.
- During times of doubt.
- Before reading/hearing the Passion of Christ.
- When falsely accused.



## PSALM PRAYER

PSALM

3

O Lord, even though many may say there is no salvation for us in God, yet You are our defender and You lift up our heads. Increase our hope and surround us with Your never-failing mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## PSALM PRAYER

PSALM

3

O Lord, even though many may say there is no salvation for us in God, yet You are our defender and You lift up our heads. Increase our hope and surround us with Your never-failing mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

© 2024 LCMS

This work may be reproduced by churches and schools for their own use in the study of the Scriptures. Commercial reproduction, or reproduction for sale, of any portion of this work or of the work as a whole, without the written permission of the copyright holder, is prohibited.

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Psalm prayer from the Mozarabic Rite. Public domain, courtesy of Paul C. Stratman ([acollectionofprayers.com](http://acollectionofprayers.com)).

© 2024 LCMS

This work may be reproduced by churches and schools for their own use in the study of the Scriptures. Commercial reproduction, or reproduction for sale, of any portion of this work or of the work as a whole, without the written permission of the copyright holder, is prohibited.

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Psalm prayer from the Mozarabic Rite. Public domain, courtesy of Paul C. Stratman ([acollectionofprayers.com](http://acollectionofprayers.com)).