



et the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

(PSALM 19:14)

STRUCTURE

- v. 1-5** Creation declares God's glory.
- v. 6-10** The greater value of God's Word.
- v. 11-14** Prayer for guidance and preservation in the Word.



AT A GLANCE

OF A KIND Similar to Psalm 8, Psalm 19 is a psalm of praise to God that comes in the midst of psalms of lament and prayers for deliverance.

DIG DEEPER This psalm gives a foretaste of the great Psalm 119, in a more condensed form meditating on God's Word.

IN A WORD "Law" and its synonyms ("testimony," "precepts," "commandment") refer not to the Law in the narrow sense, but the entirety of God's written Word.



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CHRIST IS HERE

The universal testimony to God seen in creation is matched and exceeded in Christ's universal command to proclaim the Gospel to every person, making Him known to them (SEE ROM. 10:17-18).



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The use of the general term “God” in the first section of this psalm underscores the natural revelation given in creation that testifies to the existence of God. However, this revelation does not specifically identify Him, nor does it make known how to have a positive relationship with Him. In the second section, which deals with God’s revelation in His Word, His covenant name is used: “the Lord.” Only God’s Word reveals who He is and how to receive His blessings. God’s Word alone also reveals the true depth of sin, declares us innocent from all sins and guides us in holy living, not only by teaching us what is God-pleasing that we ought to do, but also giving us the desire and ability to do it. It is His Word that makes our words and thoughts of the heart pleasing in His sight. For all these reasons, God’s Word is the most prized gift and the sweetest sustenance for the soul.



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USE IN THE CHURCH

Antiphon: v. 1a

In the Daily Office: Sundays at Matins; Matins on Christmas Day and Ascension; Matins for Apostles, Virgins and Holy Women

At the Divine Service:

One-Year:

Introit verses for Advent 4 (Historic also for Annunciation and Conversion of St. Paul)
Psalm for Trinity 6 (ant: v. 8)

Three-Year:

Introit for Advent 4B and Epiphany 2A (ant: v. 14) and Proper 9C (ant: v. 1)
Psalm for Epiphany 3C (ant: v. 14) and Lent 3B (ant: v. 8)

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SPIRITUAL CARE

- Thanksgiving for God’s revelation through Creation and His Word.
- For evangelism and missionaries.
- In praise of Christ’s incarnation.
- For wisdom and discernment.
- To overcome lies.
- In anticipation of trouble.

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PSALM PRAYER

Most gracious Lord, You came forth from the throne of the Virgin’s womb and ran Your course, ascending to the right hand of the Father. We implore You, out of Your great mercy, turn us by Your Word, enlighten us by Your precepts, instruct us by Your testimonies and free us from all errors without and hidden faults within; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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