



ord, where is your steadfast love
of old, which by your faithfulness you
swore to David?

(PSALM 89:49)

STRUCTURE

- v. 1-18** Meditation on God's steadfast love.
- v. 19-37** The Promise of Christ, His works and His words. His greatest work is sending His Son, the anointed and eternal Word.
- v. 38-52** Lament. Though Christ has won the victory forever, we do not yet see it fully revealed. Unbelievers seem to have the upper hand. Hope is found by returning to the beginning of the psalm: the Lord, who is blessed forever.

AT A GLANCE

- AUTHOR** *Ethan the Ezrahite* — a man whom we meet in 1 Kings 4, a man so wise he is second only to King Solomon (1 KINGS 4:31).
- "RAHAB"** Not the woman who helped the spies in Joshua 2, here "Rahab" is another name for Egypt.
- "TABOR AND HERMON"** Two mountains in Galilee, the northernmost point of Israel.



CHRIST IS HERE

Christ appears in verses 3 and 20–37 when Ethan says that the Lord has exalted his chosen One, David (who was an ancestor and type of Christ). He promises to His Anointed One (His Christ) a kingdom that will endure forever.



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This psalm is a meditation on the steadfast love of God made known in Jesus, even in the midst of hardship. God's most mighty deeds are remembered, like the parting of the Red Sea (v.9) and the victory against Egypt (v.10). God has done many more wonderful works in creation, redemption and sanctification. For this we praise Him and His awesome deeds. The greatest of all of His deeds is sending His Anointed Son to be our better King David. This Kingdom comes and stands forever. This Kingdom will reign longer than the sun and moon. Life in this vale of tears always looks like the Lord has forsaken us to sin, left us to death and abandoned us to the devil. Yet even so, we insist that the Lord is good and that in Christ His steadfast love endures. Because of that, we call Him to remember the promises He has made.



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SPIRITUAL CARE

- In preparation for the Divine Service.
- At Baptism or on a baptismal anniversary.
- For those in authority; for military service members.
- During times of stress or calamity.

USE IN THE CHURCH

Antiphon: v. 52a
In the Daily Office: Fridays at Matins
At the Divine Service:
 Historic introit for the Confession of St. Peter
LSB: Also for the Apostles and St. Joseph
 Historic gradual for Trinity 13 (v. 50)
One-Year:
 Introit for the Baptism of Our Lord (ant: v. 20)
 Psalm for Christmas 1 (ant: v. 8) and
 Quinquagesima (ant: v. 20)
Three-Year:
 Introit for Proper 8A (ant: v. 1); introit verses
 for Advent 1C and Proper 26B
 Psalm for Advent 4B (ant: v. 8)

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PSALM PRAYER

Deliver our souls, O Lord, from the hand of hell. You have crushed hell to pieces and have scattered Your enemies with Your mighty arm. Deliver us from the shame of our sins and from eternal death, that we may sing of Your steadfast love forever; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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