

Preface

Psalter for Worship, Evangelical Lutheran Worship Edition is the newly revised and expanded version of *Psalter for Worship* that first came into use in 1996. Approximately half of the musical settings in this volume for year C are new; the rest come from previous volumes. This volume is designed to support the assembly's singing of the psalms, especially among those who use the *Revised Common Lectionary*. It includes psalms for Sundays and festivals in year C; new with this edition, it provides psalms, tones, and refrains for the semicontinuous set of readings after Pentecost (used in the ELCIC and several other church bodies) as well as the complementary set recommended for use by the ELCA. Included also are a complete set of resources for the Vigil of Easter, and psalms for lesser festivals and occasions as listed in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

Each psalm in this resource is paired with a refrain, a succinct psalm excerpt that lifts up an image or theme central to the day for which it is chosen. The complete set of refrain texts is published in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship Leaders Edition*.

Psalter for Worship supports the psalm settings in Augsburg Fortress lectionary inserts. SundaysandSeasons.com includes psalm texts, musical refrains, as well as primary and alternate tones from *Psalter for Worship*. Accompaniments for refrains and psalm tones along with complete psalm texts are printed together in this volume for musical leadership. This volume provides suggested psalm tones for all of the psalms. All psalms have an alternate tone suggestion as well. Psalm tones 1–16 are included in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* pew, leaders, and liturgies accompaniment editions. The enclosed CD-ROM includes all psalm texts with pointing, and melody line versions of psalm refrains and all 41 tones, including alternates. These items may be reproduced locally in service folders.

Because psalms for both the complementary (pp. 69–96) and semicontinuous (pp. 97–127) series in the time after Pentecost are included, the user will need to be careful to use the correct psalm.

These psalm settings may be used in a variety of ways, from simple to more elaborate. Here are a few possibilities:

- Choir or cantor introduces the refrain; the congregation repeats it. Choir/cantor then alternates with the congregation on the verses (alternation is by whole verses.) Subsequent refrains are sung only once by all, at the places indicated by **R**.
- Same treatment of the refrain; the choir, or the congregation, sings all the verses of the psalm. Consider using children's or youth choirs when having the verses sung by a choir. This is a wonderful way to involve them in worship leadership. Also consider cantors of all ages.
- Organ or other keyboard accompaniment may be used on the refrain; the verses may be sung with or without accompaniment. A choir could sing psalm tone 13 in harmony.
- Handbell parts and vocal/instrumental descants (all of which are optional in these settings) may be added. An instrument to support the assembly's singing may double the melody line of the refrain.
- When a double psalm tone is used (such as tones 12–16), boldface type is ignored and the psalm is sung in groups of two verses. Some of the Easter Vigil psalms are already formatted in this way. An extra single verse at the end of the psalm may be sung to the second half of the tone (usually by choir or cantor).

Further information on psalm singing may be found in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, pages 335–336.

An index of composers for this volume begins on page 163.

First Sunday of Advent

Refrain

Carolyn Jennings

C Instrument

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

Psalm tone

ELW 3

- ¹To ¹you, O LORD,
I lift ¹up my soul.
- ²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be ¹put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph ¹over me.**
- ³Let none who look to you be ¹put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame ¹who are treacherous.
- ⁴**Show me your ¹ways, O LORD,
and teach ¹me your paths. R**
- ⁵Lead me in your ¹truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all ¹the day long.
- ⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compas- ¹sion and love,
for they are from ¹everlasting. R**
- ⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and ¹my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love
and for the sake of your good- ¹ness, O LORD.
- ⁸**You are gracious and up- ¹right, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners ¹in your way.**
- ⁹You lead the low- ¹ly in justice
and teach the low- ¹ly your way.
- ¹⁰**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast ¹love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your ¹testimonies. R**

Alternate tone

ELW 8

Second Sunday of Easter

Refrain

Robert Buckley Farlee

You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.

Psalm tone

ELW 10

¹⁴The LORD is my strength ¹ and my song,
and has become ¹ my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents ¹ of the righteous:**
“The right hand of the ¹ LORD acts valiantly!”

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD ¹ is exalted!
The right hand of the ¹ LORD acts valiantly!”

¹⁷**I shall not ¹ die, but live,**
and declare the works ¹ of the LORD. R

¹⁸The LORD indeed pun- ¹ ished me sorely,
but did not hand me o- ¹ ver to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the ¹ gates of righteousness;**
I will enter them and give thanks ¹ to the LORD.

²⁰“This is the gate ¹ of the LORD;
here the righ- ¹ teous may enter.”

²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have ¹ answered me**
and you have become ¹ my salvation. R

²²The stone that the build- ¹ ers rejected
has become the chief ¹ cornerstone.

²³**By the LORD has ¹ this been done;**
it is marvelous ¹ in our eyes.

²⁴This is the day that the ¹ LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be ¹ glad in it.

²⁵**Hosanna! ¹ O LORD, save us!**
We pray to you, LORD, pros- ¹ per our days! R

²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name ¹ of the LORD;
we bless you from the house ¹ of the LORD.

²⁷**The LORD is God and has giv- ¹ en us light.**
Form a procession with branches up to the corners ¹ of the altar.

²⁸You are my God, and ¹ I will thank you;
you are my God, and I ¹ will exalt you.

²⁹**Give thanks to the LORD, ¹ for the LORD is good;**
God’s mercy en- ¹ dures forever. R

Alternate tone

ELW 12