

Responsorials

A Psalm

Response: Happy are we who are doers of the word, who hear God's word - and keep it.

Leader: One thing alone does God require
and this do we seek to accomplish:
to do justice, to love tenderly, to walk humbly
with our God.

Response: Happy are we who are doers of the word, who hear God's word - and keep it.

Leader: Who heals the broken hearted
and binds the wounds of the oppressed, feeds the hungry,
shelters the homeless, sets the imprisoned free.
These are God's disciples,
God's family, God's friends.

Response: Happy are we who are doers of the word, who hear God's word - and keep it.

Leader: The word of God is a spark of life
living among the rubble,
igniting a global consciousness
to ways we are one world only,
a beacon burning deep in the hearts
of those who seek justice and peace.

Response: Happy are we who are doers of the word, who hear God's word - and keep it.

Leader: Happy are all who love God's word and live it to the full,
for they are like trees by rippling streams,
birds that soar high singing,
prophets of a new age
bringing the good news to all.

Response: Happy are we who are doers of the word, who hear God's word - and keep it.

A Psalm for the Gathered Community

Blessed are we who are glad to be part of the household of faith, who gather to pray, remembering all who are in need of the strength of our support.

Blessed are we who love to sing new songs of inspiration, whose hearts are moved by the rhythms and the harmonies of praise.

Blessed are we when the bread we break corresponds to our cry for justice, when the cup we take reiterates those covenants sealed in blood.

Blessed are we when the word proclaims our own love's liberation, freedom from fascination with the lure of transient gods.

Blessed are You, O Welcoming One, who lifts the yoke of our bondage, and blessed are we who shelter within the shade of your outstretched wing.

Source: Miriam Therese Winter, Woman-Work

Gathered in Love

Response: You are the One who gathers us, loving, compassionate God.

Leader: Blessed are you, Loving God.
You are our wellspring and omega point.
Your Spirit binds us together in respect, dignity, and service.
Gather our community together now and in the future.

Response: You are the One who gathers us, loving, compassionate God.

Leader: Blessed are you, Creator of All that is.
In your image we are made,
in your likeness you fashion and form us.
Your breath gives us life that we may know you, O Creator.

Response: You are the One who gathers us, loving, compassionate God.

Leader: Gather us now into one holy union.
Give us the grace to look beyond all divisions.
Show us the oneness that we are called to be.
Guide us to the source of all community.
Infuse our hearts with one desire
and bring us to the fullness of your one love.

Response: You are the One who gathers us, loving, compassionate God.

Leader: In communion with our Savior, Jesus Christ,
and with the Holy Spirit who remains our guide,
We, your gathered people, give you all praise,
all honor, and all glory.
For by your gracious love, we are a holy people for all
generations, world without end.

Response: You are the One who gathers us, loving, compassionate God.

O God Be With Us

Response: O God, be with us

Leader: Emmanuel, God-with-us, we come to you this day
seeking to be more aware of you in our lives.
When we feel lost or confused about the direction of our lives,

Response: O God, be with us.

Leader: When we sometimes feel that we are journeying alone,

Response: O God, be with us.

Leader: When we forget that someone is at hand who knows and
understands us,

Response: O God, be with us.

Leader: God of our hearts, healer of mind and body, you are tender
and compassionate, slow to anger and most loving.

Response: O God, be with us.

Leader: As we struggle with our angers, fears, guilt, and anxieties,

Response: O God, be with us.

Leader: As we seek your love to bind up our wounds,

Response: O God, be with us.

Leader: When we are running away from our pain and our fear,

ALL: O God, be with us.

Leader: God, you are near to all who call upon you,
who call upon you in truth.

ALL: O God, be with us.

Leader: When we are afraid to be honest in your presence,

Response: O God, be with us.

Leader: When we feel you are far from us,

Response: O God, be with us.

Leader: When the busyness of our lives leaves little space to find you,

Response: O God, be with us.

Leader: Companion God, your presence is the source of life to us.
In you we live and move and have our being.
Your love sustains, creates, and redeems us.
Come then, O God, and open our hearts,
so that we may find you within us –
alive to what is hidden, powerful in what is fragile,
loving in what is resistant to you.

Response: O God, be with us.

A Psalm of Wise Words

Leader: Help us to speak wise words when our world erupts with a stinging blast and no one on earth is listening.

ALL: Help us to speak wise words when our lives explode with a vengeance and we know we are out of line.

Leader: Help us to speak wise words when a best friend seeks our counsel.

ALL: Help us to speak wise words when a family member leans on us for comfort or advice.

Leader: Help us to speak wise words when we face a hard decision for ourselves or someone we love.

ALL: Help us to speak wise words in response to troubling questions about life, or love or God.

Leader: Help us to speak wise words when we challenge our traditions and seek to offer alternatives to the platitudes and the rules.

ALL: Help us to speak wise words to ourselves in our silent moments.

Psalm 40

**Response: Here I am, Adonai, I come to do your will.
I come to be what I can be.**

Leader: I waited and waited for you, Adonai. Now at last I can feel your presence and know you are here.

**Response: Here I am, Adonai, I come to do your will.
I come to be what I can be.**

Leader: You, who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, opened my ears. You asked no burnt offering or sacrifice for sins; then I said, "Here I am! I am coming!"

**Response: Here I am, Adonai, I come to do your will.
I come to be what I can be.**

Leader: I have always proclaimed the goodness of our God in the great assembly. Nor do I mean to stop proclaiming, as you know well.

**Response: Here I am, Adonai, I come to do your will.
I come to be what I can be.**

Psalm 25:4-9

Response: To you, Yahweh, I lift up my soul, O my God.

Leader: Help me know your ways, Yahweh; teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the
God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

Response: To you, Yahweh, I lift up my soul, O my God.

Leader: Be mindful of your mercy, Yahweh, and of your steadfast
love, for they have been from of old; remember not the sins
of my youth, or my transgressions; according to your
steadfast love remember me, because of your goodness,
Yahweh.

Response: To you, Yahweh, I lift up my soul, O my God.

Leader: Good and upright is Yahweh, instructing sinners in the way,
leading the humble in what is right, and teaching the poor
the way.

Response: To you, Yahweh, I lift up my soul, O my God.