

## **Friday June 19<sup>th</sup>**

Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low.

The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth.

And all mankind will see God's salvation.

Lord of the journey, give me the joy of knowing you are with me every step I take.

Amen

### **Lectionary Reading John 3:1-15.**

#### **Greeting**

**3Jn 1:1** From the Elder—To my dear Gaius, whom I truly love.

**3Jn 1:2** My dear friend, I pray that everything may go well with you and that you may be in good health—as I know you are well in spirit.

**3Jn 1:3** I was so happy when some Christians arrived and told me how faithful you are to the truth—just as you always live in the truth.

**3Jn 1:4** Nothing makes me happier than to hear that my children live in the truth.

#### **Support and Opposition**

**3Jn 1:5** My dear friend, you are so faithful in the work you do for other Christians, even when they are strangers.

**3Jn 1:6** They have spoken to the church here about your love. Please help them to continue their trip in a way that will please God.

**3Jn 1:7** For they set out on their trip in the service of Christ without accepting any help from unbelievers.

**3Jn 1:8** We Christians, then, must help these people, so that we may share in their work for the truth.

**3Jn 1:9** I wrote a short letter to the church; but Diotrefes, who likes to be their leader, will not pay any attention to what I say.

**3Jn 1:10** When I come, then, I will bring up everything he has done: the terrible things he says about us and the lies he tells! But that is not enough for him; he will not receive the Christians when they come, and even stops those who want to receive them and tries to drive them out of the church!

**3Jn 1:11** My dear friend, do not imitate what is bad, but imitate what is good. Whoever does good belongs to God; whoever does what is bad has not seen God.

**3Jn 1:12** Everyone speaks well of Demetrius; truth itself speaks well of him. And we add our testimony, and you know that what we say is true.

#### **Final Greetings**

**3Jn 1:13** I have so much to tell you, but I do not want to do it with pen and ink.

**3Jn 1:14** I hope to see you soon, and then we will talk personally.

**3Jn 1:15** Peace be with you. All your friends send greetings. Greet all our friends personally.

## Singing the Faith No. 361

1 Man of Sorrows! What a name  
for the Son of God, who came  
ruined sinners to reclaim!  
Alleluia! What a Saviour!

2 Bearing shame and scoffing rude,  
in my place condemned he stood;  
sealed my pardon with his blood:  
Alleluia! What a Saviour!

3 Guilty, vile, and helpless we;  
spotless Lamb of God was he:  
full atonement, can it be?  
Alleluia! What a Saviour!

4 Lifted up was he to die;  
'It is finished!' was his cry;  
now in heaven exalted high:  
Alleluia! What a Saviour!

5 When he comes, our glorious King,  
all his ransomed home to bring,  
then anew this song we'll sing:  
Alleluia! What a Saviour!

Philipp Paul Bliss (1838-1876)

CCLi No. 287592

## Psalm 56

### In God I Trust

**Psalm 56:1** Be merciful to me, O God, because I am under attack; my enemies persecute me all the time.

**Psalm 56:2** All day long my opponents attack me. There are so many who fight against me.

**Psalm 56:3** When I am afraid, O LORD Almighty, I put my trust in you.

**Psalm 56:4** I trust in God and am not afraid; I praise him for what he has promised. What can a mere human being do to me?

**Psalm 56:5** My enemies make trouble for me all day long; they are always thinking up some way to hurt me!

**Psalm 56:6** They gather in hiding places and watch everything I do, hoping to kill me.

**Psalm 56:7** Punish them, O God, for their evil; defeat those people in your anger!

**Psalm 56:8** You know how troubled I am; you have kept a record of my tears. Aren't they listed in your book?

**Psalm 56:9** The day I call to you, my enemies will be turned back. I know this: God is on my side—

**Psalm 56:10** the LORD, whose promises I praise.

**Psalm 56:11** In him I trust, and I will not be afraid. What can a mere human being do to me?

**Psalm 56:12** O God, I will offer you what I have promised; I will give you my offering of thanksgiving,

**Psalm 56:13** because you have rescued me from death and kept me from defeat. And so I walk in the presence of God, in the light that shines on the living.

## Closing Prayer and Blessing

Eternal God and Father,

by whose power we are created and by whose love we are redeemed:

guide and strengthen us by your Spirit,

that we may give ourselves to your service,

and live this day in love to one another and to you;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**