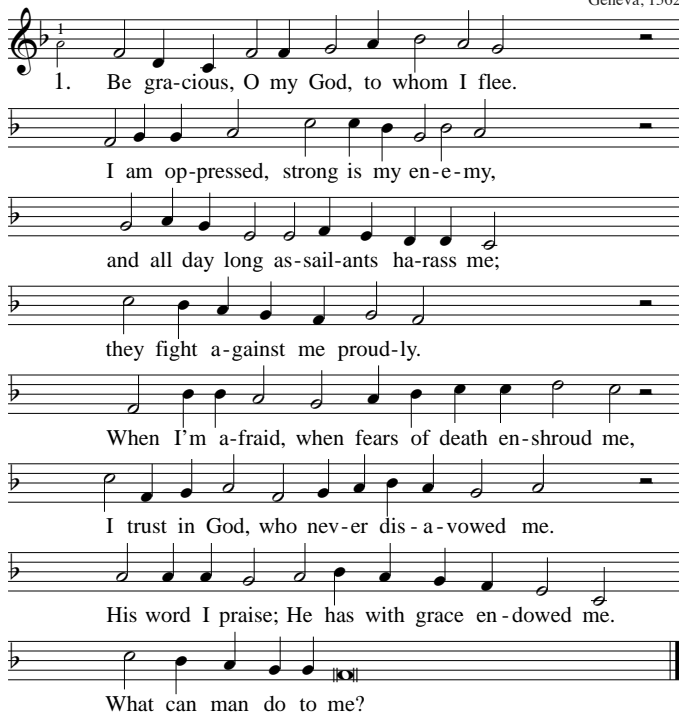


PSALM 56

For the director of music. To the tune of "A Dove on Distant Oaks." Of David. A miktam.
When the Philistines had seized him in Gath.

Geneva, 1562



1. Be gra-cious, O my God, to whom I flee.
I am op-pressed, strong is my en-e-my,
and all day long as-sail-ants ha-rass me;
they fight a-gainst me proud-ly.
When I'm a-fraid, when fears of death en-shroud me,
I trust in God, who nev-er dis-a-vowed me.
His word I praise; He has with grace en-dowed me.
What can man do to me?

2. My words they keep on twisting all day long;
unceasingly they seek to do me wrong.
They band together in an evil throng
to watch my steps and hound me.
Intent on my destruction, they surround me.
In wrath cast down the peoples who confound me;
repay them for their crime, defeat them soundly,
O God, my Helper strong.

Psalm 56

3. My trou-bles and my woes You count and see.
Put all my tears, O God to whom I flee,
in-to Your bot-tle and re-mem-ber me
when wick-ed men de-ceive me.
Are all my sor-rows, all the ills that grieve me,
not in Your book, and will You not re-lieve me?
My en-e-mies will all turn back and leave me
the day You hear my plea.

4. For *this* I know, that God is at my side;
in *Him*, whose word I praise, I will confide;
He heard my voice when in my fears I cried.
The *LORD* is my defender.
In God I trust, to *Him* my praise I render.
I will not fear, I trust His mercies tender.
My foes will flee when *He* appears in splendour.
Why then fear human pride?

5. *I must perform to You, O God, my vow.
Before Your throne with grateful gifts I bow;
thank-offerings I will bring before You now,
for You from death have saved me
and in the book of life You have engraved me.
God has upheld me, foes could not enslave me,
so that I in the light of life He gave me
may walk before Him now.*