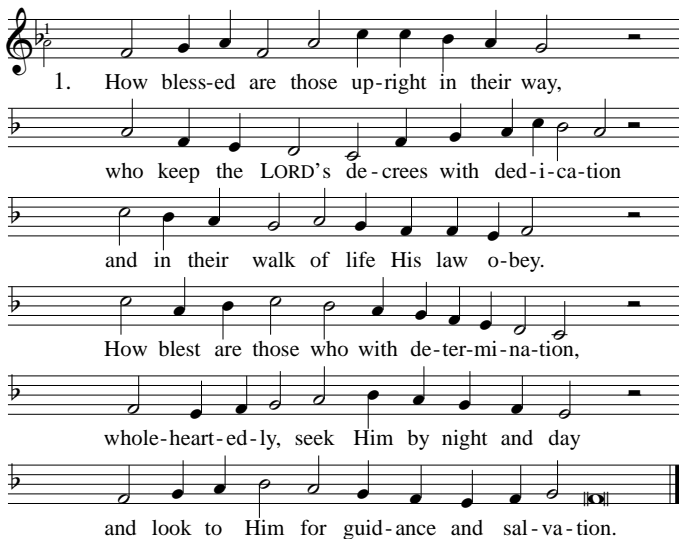


PSALM 119

N Aleph

Geneva, 1551



1. How bless-ed are those up-right in their way,
 who keep the LORD's de-crees with ded-i-ca-tion
 and in their walk of life His law o-bey.
 How blest are those who with de-ter-mi-na-tion,
 whole-heart-ed-ly, seek Him by night and day
 and look to Him for guid-ance and sal-va-tion.

2. How *blest* are they who *shun* iniquities,
 Your *holy* law with *diligence* observing.
 You *have laid down* Your *statutes and decrees*,
 to be obeyed in *faithfulness* unswerving.
 O *may I* but submit *myself* to these
 and *so go forth*, a *steady course* preserving.
3. I *know that* I shall *not be put to shame*
 if *only* with *attention undivided*
 I *heed* Your laws and *fix my gaze on* them.
 I *truly thank* You *for the grace provided*
 when *I am* taught the *judgments* You *proclaim*.
 Do *not forsake* me, *leaving me* unguided.

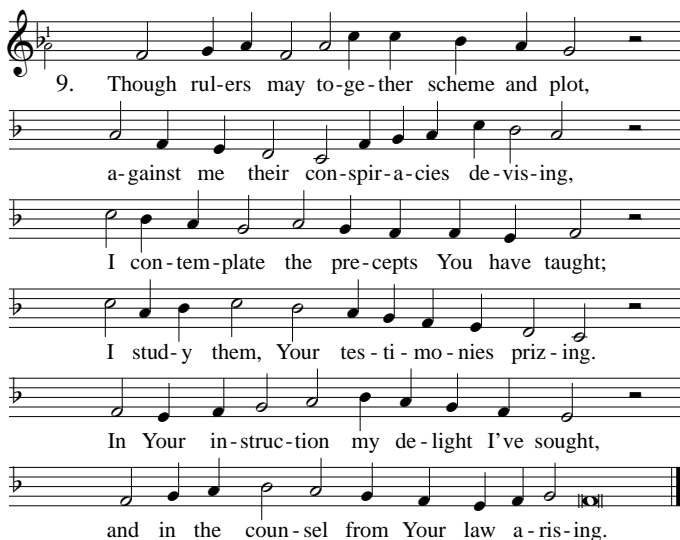
ב Beth

4. How *can* a youth preserve *his* way, O LORD,
and *keep it* free of *evil and transgression*?
By *living* in accordance with *Your* word.
O LORD, *Your* face I seek in *full submission*.
Help *me* against all *sin to be on guard*;
let *me not* stray, denying *my* confession.
5. *Your words have* I laid up *within* my heart;
I *keep Your* faithful promise as my treasure,
lest *I should* ever from *Your ways* depart.
O LORD, *how blest* You are *beyond* all measure.
Your statutes and *decrees* to me impart,
for *in Your* law I *find* my greatest pleasure.
6. In *Your commandments* I take great delight;
I *turn to* them in *thoughtful meditation*.
The *path* marked by *Your law* I *keep* in sight
to *guard* myself against *all deviation*.
Your statutes I will not neglect or slight;
Your word I praise with *joy and exultation*.

ג Gimel

7. Do *good* to me so *that* my *life* may be
devoted to *Your words* in *all their splendour*.
Open my eyes, that *I may* clearly see
Your perfect law and gaze upon *its* wonders.
Do *not*, O LORD, hide *Your commands* from me,
who *here on* earth but as a *pilgrim* wander.
8. By *night and* day for *Your decrees* I long;
my *aching* heart consumes *itself* with yearning.
The *haughty* You rebuke for *all their* wrongs –
those *cursèd* ones: *Your laws* they keep on spurning.
LORD, *set me* free from *their insulting* tongues,
for *I have* kept *Your law, Your will* discerning.

Psalm 119



9. Though rul-ers may to-ge-ther scheme and plot,
a-gainst me their con-spir-a-cies de-vis-ing,
I con-tem-plate the pre-cepts You have taught;
I stud-y them, Your tes-ti-mo-nies priz-ing.
In Your in-struc-tion my de-light I've sought,
and in the coun-sel from Your law a-ris-ing.

7 Daleth

10. See *how my soul is cleaving to the dust; renew my life and grant me restoration. I told You of my ways, for You I trust; You in Your mercy heard my supplication. Teach me Your statutes, excellent and just; then shall Your wonders be my meditation.*
11. My *weary soul in sorrow pines away; true to Your promise, comfort and restore me. LORD, let me not in ways of falsehood stray but through Your precepts of Your love assure me. Your statutes I have chosen to obey; Your righteous judgments I have set before me.*

12. In *Your* decrees I *place* my *steadfast* hope;
 I *cling* to them, on *Your* *great* love depending.
 LORD, *put* me not to *shame* but *lift* me up,
 to me in grief *Your* *gracious* hand extending.
 Along the path of *truth* I run and leap,
 for *Your* *commands* enlarge my *understanding*.

¶ He

13. Teach me *Your* statutes, LORD, and to the end
 I will obey them in *complete* submission.
 Grant *insight*, that with *all* my heart and mind
 I may observe *Your* laws without *transgression*.
 Direct me in the *path* of *Your* *commands*,
 for I delight in them as my *possession*.
14. To *Your* decrees and *statutes* turn my heart,
 that *all* *Your* words of *wisdom* I may ponder.
 O LORD, let me not from *Your* laws depart,
 nor to the love of *selfish* gain surrender.
 Restrain me lest I *wistful* glances dart
 at *vanities* and *yearn* for *earthly* splendour.
15. LORD, *keep* *Your* word! Come to *Your* *servant's* aid.
 Then *all* will stand in *fear* and *awe* before You.
 Avert from me the *taunting* that I dread.
 Your laws are good, *acclaimed* by *all* who fear You.
 I long for them. Your *justice* makes me glad;
 through it revive me, LORD, for I *revere* You.

¶ Waw

16. May *Your* *unfailing* mercy come to me;
 as *You* have promised, *show* me *Your* *salvation*.
 All those who taunt me with their *mockery*
 I then will answer without *hesitation*.
 LORD, I have put my trust in *Your* decrees,
 for *You* have sworn to *grant* me *liberation*.

Psalm 119



17. LORD, do not rob me of Your truth - ful word;
let noth - ing me from Your com - mand - ments se - ver.
Your or - di - nan - ces hope to me af - ford;
I vow to keep them al - ways and for - ev - er.
Then shall I walk in lib - er - ty, O LORD:
Your laws I've sought, and they shall fail me ne - ver.

18. *Undaunted I will kings and princes face
to speak of Your decrees, Your revelation,
and not be put to shame or fear disgrace:
Your laws I love and hold in veneration.
I reach for Your commandments and rejoice
as I reflect on them in meditation.*

† Zayin

19. *Remember in Your steadfast faithfulness
Your word of hope, once to Your servant spoken.
O LORD, in my affliction and distress
You comfort me with promises unbroken.
Through them have I gained life and happiness,
for of Your love they are a precious token.*

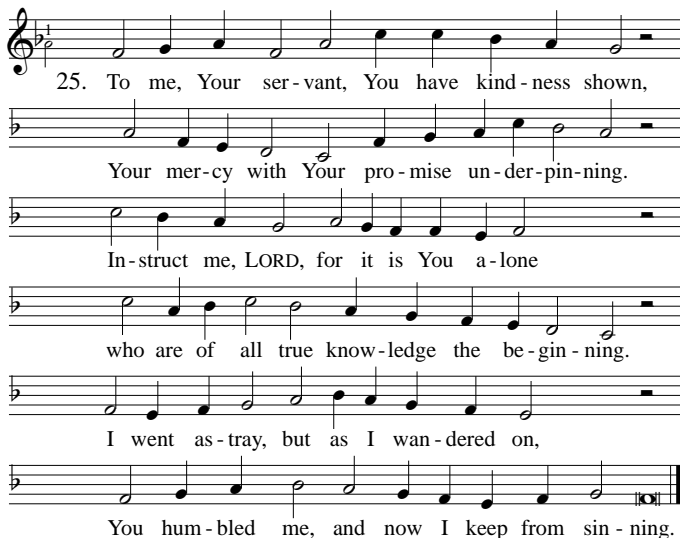
20. *Although the proud may scorn me utterly,
no path of evil have I ever taken.
When I recall Your laws, they comfort me,
for they from days of old have stood unshaken.
Hot indignation grips me when I see
how wicked men your precepts have forsaken.*
21. *Your statutes are the theme of all my song
wherever here on earth I make my dwelling.
Your name, LORD, I remember all night long;
Your precepts I obey, my vow fulfilling.
I've kept Your laws, resisting sin and wrong;
this proved to be a blessing all-excelling.*

▮ Heth

22. *You are my portion, LORD whom I adore;
I have resolved to let Your words direct me.
With all my heart Your favour I implore;
O LORD, show mercy and do not reject me.
I've thought about my ways, and all the more
I turn to You to let Your laws instruct me.*
23. *I will make haste in doing what is right,
by Your commandments guided and instructed.
Though with their ropes the wicked bind me tight,
Your statutes I will never leave neglected.
I praise You in the middle of the night
for all the righteous laws You have enacted.*
24. *With all who fear You I keep company,
to those who heed Your laws my friendship showing.
Your mercy is poured forth abundantly,
and with Your love the earth is overflowing.
O LORD, reveal Your statutes all to me
and so unfold the knowledge most worth knowing.*

Psalm 119

 Teth



25. To me, Your ser-vant, You have kind-ness shown,
Your mer-cy with Your pro-mise un-der-pin-ning.
In-struct me, LORD, for it is You a-lone
who are of all true know-ledge the be-gin-ning.
I went as-tray, but as I wan-dered on,
You hum-bled me, and now I keep from sin-ning.

26. LORD, *You are good, and what You do is good.*
Teach me, and by Your truth let me be guided.
My name is smeared by false men, proud and rude,
yet wholly with Your precepts I have sided.
They in their godless hearts are dull and crude,
but by Your law I am with joy provided.

27. *How good it was for me to suffer pain*
so that in all Your statutes You might school me.
The perfect law that You, O LORD, ordain
exceeds all earthly riches. Let it rule me!
Your ordinances are my greatest gain,
for gold and silver can no longer fool me.

י Yodh

28. LORD, *You have fashioned me with Your own hands; by You was I once moulded and created. Give me then insight into Your commands, that to Your law I may be dedicated. All those who fear You shall applaud my stand; since in Your word I trust, they are elated.*
29. *I know, O LORD, Your judgments all are just; in faithfulness You brought me tribulation. As You have promised – and Your word I trust – now let your mercy be my consolation. In Your compassion grant me life and rest: Your law is my delight and exultation.*
30. *Let proud and godless men be put to shame, for I am wronged by those who are false-hearted; but Your decrees I'll ponder and proclaim. May by my words the faithful be supported. May I obey Your statutes without blame, that far from me all shame may be averted.*

כ Kaph

31. *With longing I Your saving power invoke; Your word gives hope that nothing can extinguish. With failing eyes I for Your promise look: when will You comfort me and heal my anguish? Though I am like a wineskin in the smoke, I'll not forget Your laws as here I languish.*
32. *LORD, how long does Your servant have to wait? When will I see Your punishment inflicted on those who persecute me in their hate, whose wickedness seems to go undetected? See how the proud for me their snares have set. They flout Your law; Your word they have rejected.*

Psalm 119



33. All Your com-mand-ments shall se-cure-ly stand;
LORD, help me, for by li-ars I am hound-ed.
Though they have al-most swept me from the land,
I've kept Your law, in which my hope is found-ed.
In Your un-fail-ing love my life de-fend,
that I may heed what You, LORD, have ex-pound-ed.

↳ Lamedh

34. Fixed *in the heavens* is *Your eternal* word;
firm *is Your* promise *through the generations*.
The *earth, by You* established, *has endured*;
You *are the faithful God of my* salvation.
By *Your appointment all* stands firm, O LORD,
for *You are* served by *all of Your* creation.
35. If *Your* commands had *not been* my delight,
I *would have* perished *here in my* affliction.
Your *precepts* I will *not forget or* slight:
You *have renewed* my *life by their* direction.
LORD, *I am* Yours. Come, *save me by Your* might.
Your *laws* have I sought *out for my* instruction.

36. Though *wicked* men in *ambush lie* concealed
and *are intent* on *plotting my destruction*,
I *will reflect* on *what You have revealed*.
I *see a limit set to all perfection*;
but *Your commands*, which *ever have prevailed*,
are *boundless* – without *end*, without *restriction*.

מ Mem

37. Oh, *how I love* the *teachings of Your law*!
I *ponder* them, all *day in study* spending.
Your *precepts* make me *wiser than my foe*,
for *the support they give is never-ending*.
Through *them*, I *far more than my teachers* know:
I *have surpassed* them *all in understanding*.
38. I *have more insight than the old and grey*,
all *owing to the laws I am observing*.
I *keep my feet from every evil way*
to *honour Your commandments without swerving*.
LORD, *You Yourself* have *taught me not to stray*;
so I *walk on, a steady course preserving*.
39. O LORD, *how pleasing is Your steadfast word*.
Sweet *are Your promises of grace and favour*;
yes, *nothing greater sweetness can afford* –
not *even honey, sweet though be its savour*.
Your *statutes* grant me *wisdom as reward*;
I *therefore hate false ways and shun them* ever.

נ Nun

40. Your *word, it is a lamp unto my feet*,
a *lantern shining on the path before me*.
I've *sworn an oath and never will forget*
Your *righteous laws that of Your love assure me*.
I *am by grief and misery beset*;
true to *Your promise, comfort and restore me*.

Psalm 119



41. Ac-cept, O LORD, my of-fer-ings of praise.
And let me by Your stat-utes be in-struct-ed.
Though I have been in dan-ger count-less days,
Your laws I've not for-got-ten or re-ject-ed.
My foe for me his snares and pit-falls lays,
but Your com-mand-ments I have not ne-glect-ed.

42. Your *testimonies are forever* mine –
my *heritage* and *permanent possession*,
the *joy* that I shall in my heart *enshrine* –
and to *their* praise I *ever* give expression.
My *heart* to Your *commandments* I *incline*,
right to the end *upholding* my *confession*.

□ Samekh

43. I *hate* the *fickle and divided* heart;
I *love* Your law and *praise it with elation*.
You are my *shield*, my *refuge*, my *support*;
Your *word* shall be my *hope and expectation*.
You *evildoers*, *all from me* depart,
that I may serve the *God of my salvation*.

44. Uphold me, LORD, and so my life sustain;
 true to Your promise, grant me preservation.
 Let me not hope and trust in You in vain,
 for I rely on You for liberation.
 Your statutes I will evermore maintain;
 I turn to them in reverent meditation.
45. All those who from Your statutes go astray
 You will reject. In vain do they dissemble.
 Like worthless dross You cast them all away;
 I therefore love Your laws. Let me not stumble.
 I dread the righteous judgments You display;
 the fear of You makes my whole body tremble.

‏ אַיִן

46. See how what I have done is just and right;
 O LORD, to my oppressors do not leave me.
 Ensure Your servant's welfare, God of might;
 let not the arrogant oppress and grieve me.
 My eyes grow dim with watching day and night
 for You to keep Your promise and relieve me.
47. Treat me according to Your love and grace;
 guide me towards the truth for which I'm yearning.
 Help me gain insight into Your decrees;
 LORD, teach Your servant what is most worth learning.
 To let me grasp the justice of Your ways,
 come to my aid and make me more discerning.
48. It's time for You to act and to be bold;
 Your holy law is being violated.
 I prize it more than all the finest gold;
 my love for Your commands is unabated.
 In all my ways Your precepts I uphold;
 the paths of falsehood I have ever hated.

Psalm 119

 Pe



49. How won-der-ful are Your de-crees, O LORD;
I glad-ly keep them, for they are as-tound-ing.
As You un-fold and o-pen up Your word,
it shines Your light in-to my dark sur-round-ings.
It e-ven to the sim-ple will a-ward
gifts of dis-cern-ment and of un-der-stand-ing.

50. With *open* mouth I *pant* for Your commands
and to my deepest *longing* give expression.
To those who love Your name You grace extend;
turn, then, to me as well in Your compassion.
Direct my footsteps. Help me to withstand
the *power* of sin and keep me from transgression.
51. Free me from man's iniquitous designs,
that I may serve You, by Your laws directed.
LORD, make Your face upon Your servant shine,
and by Your statutes let me be instructed.
While *shedding* streams of tears, I grieve and pine,
for Your commands are utterly neglected.

י Tsadhe

52. LORD, *You are upright and Your laws are just;*
Your judgments You on righteousness have founded.
In Your decrees have I placed all my trust,
for they in faithfulness are firmly grounded.
My zeal consumes me, and I am distressed
when foes ignore the truth You have expounded.
53. *Your promise is well tested and secure;*
I cherish it as token of Your favour.
Though I'm of no account, despised and poor,
I love Your precepts and forget them never.
Your justice will eternally endure;
Your law is true and shall abide forever.
54. *Though I encounter anguish and distress,*
Your laws are my delight and consolation.
Ever enduring is Your righteousness,
and everlasting is Your revelation.
Your servant, LORD, with understanding bless,
that I may live, rejoicing in salvation.

ק Qoph

55. *To You, O LORD, I cry with all my heart;*
be merciful and hear my supplication.
From Your commandments I will not depart.
I call on You and plead for preservation.
Save me, O LORD, and come to my support,
that I may keep Your laws with dedication.
56. *Before the break of day I cry to You;*
Your word I trust, for You are my defender.
I even lie awake the whole night through,
that I Your steadfast promises may ponder.
LORD, in Your righteousness my life renew;
hear me and show Your love and mercy tender.

Psalm 119



57. My foes draw near and mal-ice they in-tend;
far from Your laws are those by whom I'm hound-ed.
But You are near, and I on You de-pend,
for true are all the words You have com-mand-ed.
Long have I known that they are with-out end:
all Your de-crees You have for-ev-er found-ed.

7 Resh

58. See *my affliction, LORD, and set me free,*
for *Your commandments I obey and cherish.*
Defend my cause and win release for me.
True to Your word, allow my life to flourish.
But far removed shall all salvation be
from those who spurn Your statutes: they shall perish.
59. Great is, O LORD, the *mercy You have shown;*
grant *me the life by Your decree awarded.*
Though *countless foes may seek to hunt me down,*
Your *laws I've not forgotten or discarded.*
I *loathe the faithless for the wrong they've done;*
Your *word have they defied and disregarded.*

60. See *how I love and cherish Your commands*;
I follow them in all that I endeavour.
Preserve my life by Your almighty hand;
O LORD, be mindful of Your love and favour.
In all Your words I see Your truth maintained;
each one of Your decrees endures forever.

𐤨 Sin and Shin

61. Though *kings and princes hound me without cause*,
I stand in awe before Your revelation.
LORD, I rejoice at all Your promises;
they like great spoil rouse me to jubilation.
All falsehood and deception I despise;
Your laws I love and hold in veneration.
62. O *LORD, I praise You seven times a day*,
for righteous are the laws You have provided.
Great peace is theirs who cherish and obey
all Your commands and by Your word are guided.
No stumbling-block or snare besets the way
of those who in Your justice have confided.
63. For *Your salvation, LORD, I hope and pray*,
and Your commandments I fulfil sincerely.
I follow Your decrees and will not stray,
for all Your testimonies I love dearly.
Your precepts and Your statutes I obey,
for You know all my ways and see them clearly.

𐤩 Taw

64. May *all my pleading reach Your holy throne*;
remember me in pity and compassion.
Bless me with insight, for I am Your own.
Draw near, O LORD, and answer my petition.
According to the mercy You have shown,
deliver me from evil and oppression.

Psalm 119

65. Now let my lips run o-ver with Your praise,
for Your de - crees You have in me im - plant - ed.
My tongue shall sing, a joy-ful an - them raise,
for in Your stat - utes jus - tice is pre - sent - ed.
Let Your hand help me when Your ser - vant strays;
I've cho - sen, LORD, the pre - cepts You have grant - ed.

66. *I long for Your salvation night and day,
and Your commandments my delight awaken.
O let me live, that I may praise Your ways;
let Your decrees lend me support unshaken.
I wander like a sheep that's gone astray.
Come, seek me, LORD! Your laws I've not forsaken.*