

Psalm 125

Evening Prayer Tuesday Week 3

As with all the psalms from 120 to 134, the title reads ‘A Song of Ascents.’ It is a hymn of trust leading to a prayer of petition. The prayer arises out of a situation in which some Jews, including those in power, have given up their faith under foreign influence. It may come from the period of the Maccabees. The author looks to God’s justice to set things right.

He chose the tribe of Judah, Mount Zion, which he loves.

– Psalm 78:68

As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of YHWH of hosts, in the city of our God. God has establishes it forever

– Psalm 48:8

Truly, one who touches you touches the apple of my eye.

– Zechariah 2:8

Some in power are abusing it, for the sceptre should be of righteousness, not wickedness. They are also influencing others to follow their example.

I will restore your judges as at the first, and your counsellors as at the beginning. Afterward you shall be called the city of righteousness, the faithful city.

– Isaiah 1:26

¹The person who trusts in YHWH* is like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved. He stands firm always.

²As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so YHWH surrounds his people, now and forever.

³The sceptre of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous*, so that the righteous* might not stretch out their hands to do wrong.

⁴Do good, YHWH, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in their hearts*.

⁵But those who turn aside to their own crooked ways YHWH leads away with evil-doers.

Peace* be upon Israel!