

90

Wait for the Lord

(Psalm 27)

Refrain

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

PSALM 27

Refrain

- 1 The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear?
the LORD is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?
- 2 **When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh,
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.**
- 3 Though an army should encamp against me,
yet my heart shall not be afraid;
**and though war should rise up against me,
yet will I put my trust in the LORD.**
- 4 One thing have I asked of the LORD;
one thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;
**to behold the fair beauty of the LORD,
to seek God in the temple. Refrain**
- 5 For on the day of trouble the LORD shall shelter me in safety;
the LORD shall hide me in the secrecy of the holy place
and set me high upon a rock.
- 6 **Even now the LORD lifts up my head
above my enemies round about me.**
Therefore I will offer in the holy place an oblation
with sounds of great gladness;
I will sing and make music to the LORD. *Refrain*

The refrain for this psalm, drawn from Psalm 27:14, comes from the ecumenical Community of Taizé in France and is most effective when sung in parts. With repeated singing, it can also be used by itself as a contemplative prayer and is especially appropriate in Advent.

- 7 Hearken to my voice, O LORD, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.
- 8 **You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face."
Your face, LORD, will I seek.**
- 9 Hide not your face from me,
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.
**You have been my helper;
cast me not away;
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.**
- 10 Though my father and my mother forsake me,
the LORD will sustain me. *Refrain*
- 11 Show me your way, O LORD;
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.
- 12 **Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries,
for false witnesses have risen up against me,
and also those who speak malice.**
- 13 What if I had not believed
that I should see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living!
- 14 **O tarry and await the LORD's pleasure;
be strong, and the LORD shall comfort your heart;
wait patiently for the LORD. *Refrain***