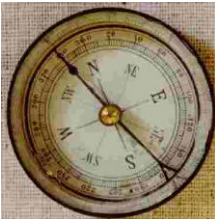


A Season of Prayer: Psalm 61



For the director of music. With stringed instruments. Of David.

- Tradition: psalm written by David
- David king, exiled by Absalom's rebellion
- A prayer of orientation, a declaration of dependence



Hear my cry, O God; listen to my prayer
(v.1)

- David not rude, but confident
- We approach God through Christ
- David sincere and expectant



From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint; lead me to the rock that is higher than I (v.2)

- Recognising we are small and limited
- We can pray anywhere, anytime
- God 24/7, global
- David's heart: success and failure
- The rock
- God is not a fire extinguisher



[24]7



For you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the foe. (v.3)

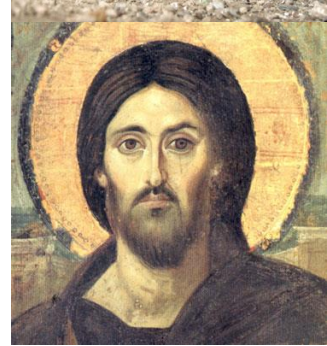
- Life can be hard for God's people
- A refuge and a strong tower



*I long to dwell in your tent for ever and
take refuge in the shelter of your wings.*

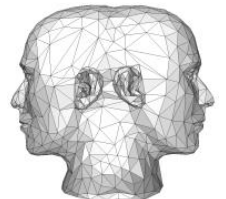
(v.4)

- David's fellowship with God
- Living in the tent
- Sheltering under the wings
- Jesus the tent and the wings



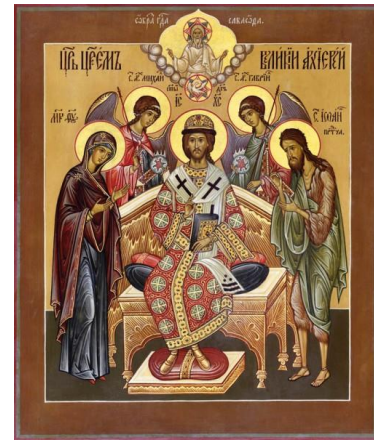
*For you, God, have heard my vows;
you have given me the heritage of
those who fear your name. (v.5)*

- Vows of commitment and alignment
- The heritage of faith
- The drop and the driver
- Past and future



Increase the days of the king's life, his years for many generations. May he be enthroned in God's presence for ever; appoint your love and faithfulness to protect him. (vv.6-7)

- Long live the king!
- His is enthroned for ever



Then I will ever sing in praise of your name and fulfil my vows day after day.

(v.8)

- Singing praises and fulfilling vows
- God reflected and projected
- How long is a season?
- Prayer is orientation to God
- Work *in* me, not only *for* me

