

<sup>NRS</sup> **Psalm 1:1** Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

<sup>2</sup> but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night.

<sup>3</sup> They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

<sup>4</sup> The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

<sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

<sup>6</sup> for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

(Ps. 1:1-2:1 NRS)



<sup>NRS</sup> **Psalm 53:1** <To the leader: according to Mahalath. A Maskil of David.>

Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they commit abominable acts; there is no one who does good.

<sup>2</sup> God looks down from heaven on humankind to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God.

<sup>3</sup> They have all fallen away, they are all alike perverse; there is no one who does good, no, not one.

<sup>4</sup> Have they no knowledge, those evildoers, who eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not call upon God?

<sup>5</sup> There they shall be in great terror, in terror such as has not been. For God will scatter the bones of the ungodly; they will be put to shame, for God has rejected them.

<sup>6</sup> O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion! When God restores the fortunes of his people, Jacob will rejoice; Israel will be glad.

(Ps. 53:1-6 NRS)

<sup>NRS</sup> **Psalm 139:1** <To the leader. Of David. A Psalm.> O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

<sup>2</sup> You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

<sup>3</sup> You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

<sup>4</sup> Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.

<sup>5</sup> You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

<sup>6</sup> Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

<sup>7</sup> Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

<sup>8</sup> If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

<sup>9</sup> If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

<sup>10</sup> even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

<sup>11</sup> If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night,"

<sup>12</sup> even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

<sup>13</sup> For it was you who formed my inward parts;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup> I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully  
made. Wonderful are your works; that I know  
very well.

<sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you, when I  
was being made in secret, intricately woven in  
the depths of the earth.

<sup>16</sup> Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In  
your book were written all the days that were  
formed for me, when none of them as yet  
existed.

<sup>17</sup> How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!  
How vast is the sum of them!

<sup>18</sup> I try to count them-- they are more than the  
sand; I come to the end-- I am still with you.

<sup>19</sup> O that you would kill the wicked, O God, and  
that the bloodthirsty would depart from me--

<sup>20</sup> those who speak of you maliciously, and lift  
themselves up against you for evil!

<sup>21</sup> Do I not hate those who hate you, O LORD?  
And do I not loathe those who rise up against  
you?

<sup>22</sup> I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them  
my enemies.

<sup>23</sup> Search me, O God, and know my heart; test  
me and know my thoughts.

<sup>24</sup> See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. (Ps. 139:1-24 NRS)