

The LORD Reigns

The Psalm for the Last Sunday in the Church Year is Psalm 93. A hymn to the eternal, universal and invincible reign of the Lord.

The LORD reigns; he is robed in majesty; the LORD is robed; he has put on strength as his belt. Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved. 2 Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting. 3 The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their roaring. 4 Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the LORD on high is mighty! 5 Your decrees are very trustworthy; holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.

Many religions celebrated the enthronement of their gods. Here, the writer affirms that the Lord has always reigned and will continue to do so forever. This confident confession celebrates God's almighty and eternal reign over even the most chaotic powers of creation. The fall Festival of Booths or Tabernacles may have used this psalm.

The psalm focuses on the Lord's everlasting reign. The repetition of themes (robed, belt, throne) here and in vv 3-4 (floods, waters, waves) emphasize, much like exclamation marks, the Lord's eternal and unshakable sovereignty.

The images of clothing and being girded now focus on the Lord's being equipped with strength, i.e., he is by nature strong. This word "strength" refers to the power of God that informs all of his mighty acts in nature and history.

In verse 4 there is an imagery of waves pounding against rocks or a flood relentlessly attacking whatever is in its path. Even these destructive forces are no match for God's power.

To the ancient people the power of the sea was terrifying. Even for us today few things are more awesome than a storm at sea. God's power over the sea is therefore a fitting symbol of his power over all creation.

He whose indisputable rule has made the world secure has given his people life directives that are stable and reliable

Many years ago, Jesus spoke, and a deadly storm was silenced. Wind and waves were calmed in an instant. Such is God's power. And more! By His resurrection, He rules over our lives now and forever.

Prayer: Lord, despite the evil we see and the destruction around us, lead us to confess that Your words are trustworthy. Amen. (TLSB)