

2025-04-12 Meditation for Saturday in the Fifth Week of Lent is now available at: <https://pgimf.org/meditations/>

[The opening theme song with a poetic paraphrase begins:]

Ich bete an die Macht der Liebe,
O Pow'r of love, all else transcending,
Die sich in Jesu offenbart;
In Jesus present evermore,
Ich geb' mich hin dem freien Triebe,
I worship thee, in homage bending,

Psalm 80

Lyrics: Translated by Myles Coverdale (1488-1569)

Music: Joseph Barnby (1838-1896)

Artists: The Choir of Lincoln Cathedral, Charles Harrison (organ), Aric Prentice (dir.)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zxc9GhmnUdM>

Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep; *
show thyself also, thou that sittest upon the Cherubims.

2 Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Mannasseh, * stir up thy strength, and
come and help us.

3 Turn us again, O God; * show the light of thy countenance, and we shall be
whole.

4 O LORD God of hosts, * how long wilt thou be angry with thy people that
prayeth?

5 Thou feedest them with the bread of tears, * and givest them
plenteousness of tears to drink.

6 Thou hast made us a very strife unto our neighbours, * and our enemies
laugh us to scorn.

7 Turn us again, thou God of hosts; * show the light of thy countenance, and
we shall be whole.

[God is pictured as the gardener who planted "a vine", the Hebrews in Canaan.]

8 Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt; * thou hast cast out the heathen,
and planted it.

9 Thou madest room for it; * and when it had taken root, it filled the land.

10 The hills were covered with the shadow of it, * and the boughs thereof were like the goodly cedar-trees.

11 She stretched out her branches unto the sea, * and her boughs unto the river.

[The Hebrew nation is defenseless against its foes.]

12 Why hast thou then broken down her hedge, * that all they that go by pluck off her grapes?

13 The wild boar out of the wood doth root it up, * and the wild beasts of the field devour it.

14 Turn thee again, thou God of hosts, look down from heaven, * behold, and visit this vine;

15 And the place of the vineyard that thy right hand hath planted, * and the branch that thou madest so strong for thyself.

16 It is burnt with fire, and cut down; * and they shall perish at the rebuke of thy countenance.

17 Let thy hand be upon the man of thy right hand, * and upon the son of man, whom thou madest so strong for thine own self.

18 And so will not we go back from thee: * O let us live, and we shall call upon thy Name.

19 Turn us again, O LORD God of hosts; * show the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen

[Closing words to our theme song:]

O! dass diess jeder Sünder wüsste,

O! that every sinner would know this,

Sein Herz wohl bald dich lieben müsste.

His heart must soon surely love You.

Evan
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