

2025-11-30 Meditation for the First Sunday of Advent is now available at: <https://pgimf.org/meditations/>

Theme song (7th-century hymn for Advent):
Creator of the stars of night
Your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all,
We pray you hear us when we call

In sorrow that the ancient curse
Should doom to death a universe

Psalm 38

Lyrics: Psalm 38: 3, 8, 15 paraphrased
Music: Improvised organ with the Psalm melody for Psalm 38
Artists: André Nieuwkopp, organ, with an enormous congregation for the recording
Recorded in the Grote Kerk Dordrecht
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P6v0c5MbiDU>

[Not sung:
O Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger,
Or discipline me in your wrath.]

[Long organ improvisation, then verse 2:]

2. *Want Uw pijlen doen mij dragen*
For your arrows make me bear
Bitt're plagen;
Bitter plagues;
Zij doorgrieven vlees en been;
They pierce flesh and bone;
'k Voel Uw hand in d' ongelukken,
I feel your hand in the misfortunes,
Die mij drukken,
Which oppress me,
Neergedaald op al mijn leên.
Descending on all my limbs.

8. *Uitgeteerd door al mijn klachten*
By all my complaints
Zijn mijn krachten,
My strength is worn out,
Zeer verbrijzeld en vergaan;
Shattered and wasted;
'k Brul van bitt're zielesmarte,
I groan with bitter anguish of soul,
Want mijn harte
For my heart
Is verzwakt, door al Uw slaan.
Is weakened by it all.
15. *Want, o trouw en eeuwig Wezen,*
For, O faithful and eternal Being,
In mijn vrezen
In my fear
Staat mijn hoop op U alleen;
My hope is in You alone;
Gij, mijn God, zult in ellenden
You, my God, will, in [my] distress
Bijstand zenden,
Send help
En verhoren mijn gebeden.
And hear my prayers.

Evan
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