READ
PRAY
SING
The Psalms as an Entryway to the Scriptures
APRIL 12-13
‘Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”’ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures’ (Luke 24:44-45)
Psalms that speak especially about the Saviour, you will find something in almost all of them”
(Athanasius)
“The Psalms were thus serviceable to the Old-Testament church, but to us Christians they may be of more use than they could be to those who lived before the coming of Christ; for, as Moses’s sacrifices, so David’s songs, are expounded and made more intelligible by the gospel of Christ, which lets us within the veil” (Matthew Henry)
“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God” (Col 3:16)
“be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart” (Eph 5:19)
“After singing psalms, they went out to the Mount of Olives.” (Mark 14:26, HCSB)
“Learn to sing Psalms! Then you will see pleasure indeed. Those who have learned to sing with the psalms are easily filled with the Holy Spirit."—

(Chrysostom)
“So the psalms have been formed like a sculptor’s tools for the true overseer who, like a craftsman, is carving our souls to the divine likeness.”
(Gregory of Nyssa)
“Every Christian who would abound in prayer and piety ought, in all reason, to make the Psalter his manual; and, moreover, it were well if every Christian so used it and were so expert in it as to have it word for word by heart, and could have it even in his heart as often as he chanced to be called to speak or act, that he might be able to draw forth or employ some sentence out of it, by way of a proverb. For indeed the truth is, that everything that a pious heart can desire to ask in prayer, it here finds Psalms and words to match, so aptly and sweetly, that no man—no, nor all the men in the world—shall be able to devise forms of words so good and devout.”

(Luther, Preface to the Edition of the Psalter in 1545)
“Perhaps our other denominations would have greater love for the Bible if we sang from the Psalms as often as our fathers did after the Reformation. Many of those songs came out of the fiery furnace, and so they brought our fathers a mighty sense of God’s holiness, as well as a keen awareness of his laws.”

(Andrew Blackwood)
“The more deeply we grow into the psalms and the more often we pray them as our own, the more simple and rich will our prayer become.”

(Bonhoeffer)
“Whenever the Psalter is abandoned, an incomparable treasure vanishes from the Christian church. With its recovery will come unsuspected power.”

(Bonhoeffer)