1 Why are the nations in tumult, and why do the peoples devise a vain plot?

2 The kings of the earth rise up, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his anointed:

3 Let us break their bonds asunder and cast away their cords from us.

4 He who dwells in heaven shall laugh them to scorn; the Lord shall have them in derision.

5 Then shall he speak to them in his wrath and terrify them in his fury:

6 Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.

7 I will proclaim the decree of the Lord; he said to me: You are my Son; this day have I begotten you.

8 Ask of me and I will give you the nations for your inheritance and the ends of the earth for your possession.

9 You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.

10 Now therefore be wise, O kings; be prudent, you judges of the earth.
11 Serve the Lord with fear, and with trembling kiss his feet, lest he be angry and you perish from the way.

12 for his wrath is quickly kindled.

12 Happy are all they who take refuge in him.

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, material from which is included here, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000 and published by Church House Publishing.

Related Resources

Texts and Resources for A Service of the Word

Main Volume

Buy the Book

Common Worship: Main Volume is available from Church House Publishing

Download the Reflections on the Psalms app

Source URL: https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/common-material/psalter/psalm-2