

## **Psalms of Praise February 9, 2022**

Today we will look at Psalms of Praise. Remember to always be asking, “What does this have to do with my personal faith journey?”

### **Opening Prayer: Psalm 146**

#### **Review of Psalms:**

Psalms are written in verse because they are meant to be sung and are poetry. The Hebrew title of Psalms is *tehillim* which “means songs of praise.” This has the same root as *hallelujah*. The Greek word for Psalms is *psalms* which means “a song sung to the accompaniment of stringed instruments.”

#### **Types of Psalms:**

**\*Hymns of Praise, Enthronement Hymns, Songs of Zion, \*Psalms of Lament, Songs of Sacred History, Songs of Trust, Royal Psalms, Wisdom Psalms, Liturgies,**

The three major types of Psalms we study in this course are marked with an asterisks (\*).

#### **Questions/Concerns about the Psalms so far?**

**Introductions:** Name and favorite restaurant

#### **Psalms of Praise:**

Praise directed toward God in honor of who God is and what God has done for God’s people. Key words are praise, rejoice, sing glory, joy and joyful. Most Psalms have elements of praise in them. These psalms were meant for and used in communal worship.

The word **Praise** appears 150 times in the Psalms

69 Psalms use the word **Praise**

The phrase **Praise the Lord** appears 73 times

“Hallelujah” in Hebrew means “Praise to Yahweh” or “Praise the Lord.”

Look at your own life, ask yourself:

1. What reasons do you have to praise God?
2. Can you think of a past event of God’s faithfulness?
3. Can you think of something that God did for you?
4. Are there blessings God has given you?

How do we generally show our praise to God?

What words do we use to praise God?

#### **As a group, read Psalm 150:**

1. Why should God be praised?

2. Where should God be praised?
3. Who should praise God?
4. Does this psalm say anything to you today?

### **Read Psalm 8**

1. What does this psalm say about God?
2. What does this psalm say about humans?
3. What does this psalm say to you today?

### **Read Psalm 111**

1. What does it look like to give “thanks to the Lord with my whole heart.”? (vs.1)
2. What do verses 4-5 tell us about the nature of God?
3. Precepts means “laws”. What does it mean that God’s precepts are trustworthy and are to be performed faithfully and uprightly? (vs 7-8)
4. How do we read vs. 9 as Christians? How do you think Jewish people read vs. 9?
5. Read verse 10. Fear does not necessarily mean be afraid. It is closer to “revere” or to worship, love, and obey. What is our motivation for “fearing” God? What does it look like to “fear” the Lord? What is the relationship between “fear” and “wisdom”?

### **Read Psalm 100**

1. What does it look like to make a joyful noise to the Lord?
2. Why should we make a joyful noise to the Lord?
3. What is the difference between knowing things about God, and knowing God? What has happened in your life to help you really know God?
4. Verse 4 is talking about entering the Temple gate and courtyard. How do we enter into God’s gates and courts with praise today?
5. What do we learn from verse 5? God is good, all the time!

### **Just for fun:**

Write your own Psalm:

Begin with an invocation addressing God

Add your reason for praising God

End with an ascription of praise.

### **Looking Ahead:**

Psalms of Lament next week with Deacon Brad

### **Closing Prayer:**

Read Psalm 148