

Praising God

The Holy Spirit has inspired men and women throughout history to state the praise of Almighty God. This morning, let's let those words awaken praise in us. That same Spirit is here among us, to fill up our minds, and then to inspire our hearts. May those words help to transport us into worship of our loving God.

David committed this psalm to Asaph and his associates on the day that the ark was brought into Jerusalem. **1 Chronicles 16:23-36**

LEADER:

Sing to the LORD, all the earth;
proclaim his salvation day after day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

CONGREGATION:

For great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;
he is to be feared above all gods.

LEADER:

For all the gods of the nations are idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.

CONGREGATION:

Splendor and majesty are before him;
strength and joy in his dwelling place.

LEADER:

Ascribe to the LORD, O families of nations,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength,
ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name.

CONGREGATION:

Bring an offering and come before him;
worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.

LEADER:

Tremble before him, all the earth!

CONGREGATION:

The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved.

LEADER:

Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;
let them say among the nations,

CONGREGATION:

"The LORD reigns!"

LEADER:

Let the sea resound, and all that is in it;
let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them!

CONGREGATION:

Then the trees of the forest will sing,
they will sing for joy before the LORD,
for he comes to judge the earth.

LEADER:

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures forever.

CONGREGATION:

Cry out, "Save us, O God our Savior;
gather us and deliver us from the nations,
that we may give thanks to your holy name,
that we may glory in your praise."

LEADER:

Praise be to the LORD, the God of Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.

CONGREGATION:

Then all the people said "Amen"
and "Praise the LORD."

O For A Thousand Tongues

The Te Deum as it is called is an early Christian hymn from the 4th or 5th century. Let's let these words assist us worship our God.

*You are God; we praise you.
You are the Lord; we acclaim you.
You are the Eternal Father; all creation worships you.
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

His Glory Fills The Earth

Te Deum

(continued)

*The glorious company of apostles praise you.
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.
Throughout the world, your Church acclaims you:
Father, of majesty unbounded; your true and only Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ, worthy of all worship;
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.
You, Christ, are the king of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.
When you became man to set us free,
you did not spurn the virgin's womb.
You overcame the sting of death,
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come and be our judge.
Come, then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,*

*and bring us with your saints in glory everlasting.
Amen.*

Hallowed Be Your Name

Listen to Thomas Traherne (a poet from the 1600's) extol the glories of our God....

For all the mysteries, engines, instruments, with which the world is filled, which we are able to employ for the use to your glory. For all the trades, variety of operations, cities, temples, streets, bridges, mariner's compass, admirable picture, sculpture, writing, printing, songs and music; with which the world is beautified and adorned. For all the powers of perception that rule within us, we praise you. For the secret depth of fathomless consideration that receives the information of all our senses, that makes our centre equal to the heavens, and comprehends in itself the magnitude of the world; the involv'd mysteries of our common sense; the inaccessible secret of perceptive fancy; the repository and treasury of things that are past; the presentation of things to come; your name be glorified for evermore. O miracle of divine goodness! O fire! O flame of zeal, and love, and joy!

And then for our earthly bodies, you created all things visible, all things material sensible, animals, vegetables, minerals, bodies celestial, bodies terrestrial, the four elements, volatile spirits, trees, herbs, and flowers, the influences of heaven, clouds, vapors, wind, dew, rain, hail and snow, light and darkness, night and day, the seasons of the year, springs, rivers, fountains, oceans, gold, silver, and precious stones. corn, wine, and oil, the sun, moon, and stars, cities, nations, kingdoms. and the bodies of men, the greatest treasures of all, for each other.

What then, O Lord, have you intended for our souls, since you have given to our bodies such glorious things!

Thomas Traherne (1637-1674)

Indescribable

OFFERING
Love Never Fails

SERMON

A Life Of Love