



Week 1: A Worshiping Community PRACTICE

We have provided suggestions of musical settings of the Psalms used this week. GTG = Glory to God (2013); PH = The Presbyterian Hymnal: Hymns, Songs, and Spiritual Songs (1990).

Day 1 (Sunday) – Living a life of PRAISE (Part 1)

Psalms 146-150 are known as the “Final *Hallel*” (*hallel* is Hebrew for “praise”). These final Psalms are a reminder of God’s faithful presence in the world. Today, read Psalm 146 and:

- Reflect: What is the author saying about God? about humanity?
- Pray: Give thanks to God for...
- Act: What is my response to the words of this Psalm? How will it make an impact on my living?
- Metrical Psalm Suggestion: “I’ll Praise My Maker” - GTG 806, PH 253

Day 2 (Monday) – Living a life of PRAISE (Part 2)

Psalms 146-150 are known as the “Final *Hallel*” (*hallel* is Hebrew for “praise”). These final Psalms are a reminder of God’s faithful presence in the world. Today, read Psalm 147 and:

- Reflect: What is the author saying about God? about humanity?
- Pray: Give thanks to God for...
- Act: What is my response to the words of this Psalm? How will it make an impact on my living?
- Metrical Psalm Suggestion: “Sing to God, With Joy and Gladness” - GTG 657

Day 3 (Tuesday) – Living a life of PRAISE (Part 3)

Psalms 146-150 are known as the “Final *Hallel*” (*hallel* is Hebrew for “praise”). These final Psalms are a reminder of God’s faithful presence in the world. Today, read Psalm 148 and:

- Reflect: What is the author saying about God? about humanity?
- Pray: Give thanks to God for...
- Act: What is my response to the words of this Psalm? How will it make an impact on my living?
- Metrical Psalm Suggestion: “Let the Whole Creation Cry” - GTG 679, PH 256

Day 4 (Wednesday) – Living a life of PRAISE (Part 4)

Psalms 146-150 are known as the “Final *Hallel*” (*hallel* is Hebrew for “praise”). These final Psalms are a reminder of God’s faithful presence in the world. Today, read Psalm 149 and:

- Reflect: What is the author saying about God? about humanity?
- Pray: Give thanks to God for...
- Act: What is my response to the words of this Psalm? How will it make an impact on my living?
- Metrical Psalm Suggestion: “Give Praise to the Lord” - GTG 550, PH 257

Day 5 (Thursday) – Living a life of PRAISE (Part 5)

Psalms 146-150 are known as the “Final *Hallel*” (*hallel* is Hebrew for “praise”). These final Psalms are a reminder of God’s faithful presence in the world. Today, read Psalm 150 and:

- Reflect: What is the author saying about God? about humanity?
- Pray: Give thanks to God for...
- Act: What is my response to the words of this Psalm? How will it make an impact on my living?
- Metrical Psalm Suggestion: “Praise Ye the Lord” - GTG 633, PH 258

Day 5 (Friday) – Cultivating Holy Expectancy

A sticking feature of worship in the Bible is that people gathering in what we could only call a “holy expectancy.” They believed they would hear the *Kol YHVH*: the voice of God. Today, seek to cultivate a perpetual openness to Jesus as your Teacher.

- How is Jesus speaking to you? (through singing birds, or a sad face, ...)
- How is Jesus moving through you? (your voice, your hands, ...)

Day 6 (Saturday) – Gathered Community

Make plans to enter the worship space early tomorrow. Lift your heart in adoration to the One who gives life. Take an opportunity to breathe, remembering the One who gives breath. Picture in your mind the ways God has been present with you this week.

Consider all those who will worship. As people enter, pay attention to those who might need to experience God’s presence, imagine them surrounded by God’s Holy Spirit. Hold them in the gathered presence of the divine community.

Reflection for the Week: Led *into* Worship

How might God be calling you to lead others into this Divine Presence?

- Is God inviting you to share leadership in an area of worship?
- What might you offer?
- Have a conversation with John Allen about how/when you might lead others in worship.