Psalm 104

1 Praise the Lord, my soul.

Lord my God, you are very great;
you are clothed with splendor and majesty.

2 The Lord wraps himself in light as with a garment;

he stretches out the heavens like a tent 3 and lays the beams of his upper chambers on their waters.

He makes the clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind.

- 4 He makes winds his messengers, flames of fire his servants.
- 5 He set the earth on its foundations; it can never be moved.
- 6 You covered it with the watery depths as with a garment;

the waters stood above the mountains.

- 7 But at your rebuke the waters fled, at the sound of your thunder they took to flight;
- 8 they flowed over the mountains, they went down into the valleys, to the place you assigned for them.
- 9 You set a boundary they cannot cross; never again will they cover the earth.
- 10 He makes springs pour water into the ravines;

it flows between the mountains.

11 They give water to all the beasts of the field;

the wild donkeys quench their thirst.

- 12 The birds of the sky nest by the waters; they sing among the branches.
- 13 He waters the mountains from his upper chambers;

the land is satisfied by the fruit of his work.

- 14 He makes grass grow for the cattle, and plants for people to cultivate—bringing forth food from the earth:
- 15 wine that gladdens human hearts, oil to make their faces shine, and bread that sustains their hearts.
- 16 The trees of the Lord are well watered, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.
- 17 There the birds make their nests; the stork has its home in the junipers.

18 The high mountains belong to the wild goats;

the crags are a refuge for the hyrax.

- 19 He made the moon to mark the seasons, and the sun knows when to go down.
- 20 You bring darkness, it becomes night, and all the beasts of the forest prowl.
- 21 The lions roar for their prey and seek their food from God.
- 22 The sun rises, and they steal away; they return and lie down in their dens.
- 23 Then people go out to their work, to their labor until evening.
- 24 How many are your works, Lord! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.
- 25 There is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with creatures beyond number—living things both large and small.
- 26 There the ships go to and fro, and Leviathan, which you formed to frolic there.
- 27 All creatures look to you to give them their food at the proper time.
- 28 When you give it to them, they gather it up;

when you open your hand, they are satisfied with good things.

29 When you hide your face, they are terrified;

when you take away their breath, they die and return to the dust.

30 When you send your Spirit, they are created,

and you renew the face of the ground.

- 31 May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works—
- 32 he who looks at the earth, and it trembles, who touches the mountains, and they smoke.
- 33 I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.
- 34 May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the Lord.
- 35 But may sinners vanish from the earth and the wicked be no more.

Praise the Lord, my soul.

Praise the Lord.

Ordinary Time

July 22, 2018



Psalm 104:1-3

Praise the Lord, my soul.

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and lays the beams of his upper chambers on their waters.

He makes the clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind.

† Photo of Sandy Hollow by Steve Holtrop

God Gathers Us for Worship

Welcome and Call to Worship: Psalm 114

*Song of Praise: "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

- Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
 I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with your powerful hand.
 Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore,
 feed me now and evermore.
- Open now the crystal fountain, where the healing waters flow.
 Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.

 Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer, ever be my strength and shield,
 ever be my strength and shield.
- 3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.

 Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.

 Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever sing to you,

 I will ever sing to you.

Words: William Williams; tr. Peter Williams, William Williams; Music: John Hughes; Words and Music: Public Domain

*Song of Praise: "Ten Thousand Reasons"

Chorus: Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

- 1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
 it's time to sing Your song again.
 Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
 let me be singing when the evening comes. (to chorus)
- You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.
 Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
 For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;
 ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. (to chorus)
- 3. And on that day, when my strength is failing, the end draws near, and my time has come; still my soul will sing Your praise unending ten thousand years and then forevermore! (to chorus)

We Share Our Joys & Concerns and Pray for One Another

We Dedicate Ourselves to Holy Living

Guide for Grateful Living: Exodus 20:1-17

*Song: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with Thee; Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not; as Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Chorus: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed Thy hand hath provided:
great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (to chorus)

Words: Thomas Chisholm, Music William Runyan, © 1951 Hope Publishing Company

We are Sent with God's Blessing

*Benediction

*Closing Song: "Great Is He" altos lead, singing through twice; sopranos join, singing through twice more; then men join in!

Altos: Great is he who's the King of kings and the Lord of lords, he is wonderful!

Sopranos: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, he is wonderful!

Men: Alleluia, salvation and glory, honor and power, he is wonderful!

Author Unknown

Worship Participants

We are often left groaning, alone in our tents.

We see the impermanence of things we thought were secure.

Help us, we pray, to walk by faith.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: II Corinthians 5:17-21

Song of Hope: "In God Alone"

In God alone my soul can find rest and peace, in God my peace and joy.

Only in God my soul can find its rest, find its rest and peace.

Words: based on Psalm 62:1; Music: Jacques Berthier; © 1991 Les Presses de Taize (France), admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Scripture: Psalm 104 (printed on back of bulletin)

Sermon: "Praise the Lord, O My Soul" Rev. Dan DeGroot

*Song of Response: "O Worship the King"

1 O worship the King all-glorious above, O gratefully sing his power and his love: our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

3 Your bountiful care, what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

5 O measureless Might, unchangeable Love, whom angels delight to worship above! Your ransomed creation, with glory ablaze, in true adoration shall sing to your praise!

Words: Robert Grant, Music: W. Gardiner's Sacred Melodies, attr. to Johann Michael Haydn, Public Domain

We Offer Our Gifts and Prayers

Offertory Prayer and Offering of our Gifts

Each week at Covenant we receive a monetary offering to support the mission and ministry of the church. This morning's offering will support the Tuition Assistance Fund which help support families who otherwise would still not be able to meet the financial obligations of Christian education.

*God Greets Us, We Greet One Another

*Song of Praise: "We Will Extol You, God and King"

1. We will extol You, God and King, and bless Your holy name. Day after day we'll sing Your praise, forever and forever.

Chorus:

One generation will call to the next:
"Our God is good, and His hand is strong!"
All of the world sings His marvelous acts,
and our voice will join with theirs in the song.

- 3. We contemplate the splendor of the world Your hand has made. Far greater still the majesty we see in the Creator! (to chorus)
- 4. Now may Your name be sung in ev'ry tongue, in ev'ry place.

 Singing the fame of Your great love in ev'ry generation. (to chorus)

Words & Music: Greg Scheer, © 2006 Faith Alive Christian Resources

We Are Renewed in God's Grace

Scripture: II Corinthians 5:1-10

Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father, we hold before you our impermanent world, our tent. It is broken in so many ways, and it is we who have broken it.

Forgive us for what we have done.

Forgive us for what we have left undone.

So often we choose our comfort over the survival of others.

So often we ignore their suffering.

Forgive us for what we have done.

Forgive us for what we have left undone.

So often we cling to the shadows of this life. So often we imagine our tents to be permanent.

Forgive us for what we have done.

Forgive us for what we have left undone.

When we look around and inward,

We see broken people, broken relationships, broken promises, broken dreams, broken cars, and broken homes, and it is hard work to fix.

We have lost parents and grandparents, spouses, and even children.

(Continued on next page...)