



ing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

(PSALM 98:1)

STRUCTURE

v. 1-3 Salvation for all.

v. 4-6 Make a joyful noise.

v. 7-9 Let creation celebrate the king.



AT A GLANCE

OF A KIND A psalm of praise.

"RIGHT HAND AND HOLY ARM" Exodus imagery (EX. 15:6).



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This psalm is rightly associated with Christmas and is bursting with joy over the mighty redemption that the Lord has wrought for His people. Jesus' name means "the Lord saves" (MATT. 1:21), and this psalm is all about praising God for how He has saved us in the incarnation, life, death and resurrection of His Son. God's salvation, righteousness, steadfast love and faithfulness are all revealed in the incarnation of Christ. The language of the psalm recalls God's mighty act of deliverance in the Exodus and applies it to the people's return from exile — both from the land and from Eden. The ultimate fulfillment of all of God's deliverances are "yes" and "amen" in Jesus. The songs of God's people are not to be empty praise but a praise that tells who God is and what He has done. The theme of our songs will always be God's salvation in Christ. All nations and all of creation are to praise God for what He has done for the world in His Son.

USE IN THE CHURCH

Antiphon: v. 1b ("For the Lord has done marvelous things")
In the Daily Office: Saturdays at Matins; Matins for Virgins or a Holy Woman
At the Divine Service: Introit for Holy Cross (ant: v. 2); introit verses for Christmas Day and New Year's Eve (also formerly for Circumcision)
One-Year:
Introit for Cantate (ant: v. 1a, 2b)
Gradual (v. 2, 3b–4a) for Christmas Eve and Christmas Midnight (formerly for Christmas Day and Circumcision)
Verse for Trinity 19 (v. 1a)
Three-Year:
Introit for Epiphany 6A (ant: v. 2) and Easter 5C (ant: v. 1)
Seasonal Gradual for Christmas (v. 1a)
Psalm for Christmas Dawn (ant: v. 2), Easter 6B (ant: v. 2) and Proper 28C (ant: v. 9b)
Hymns: LSB 387, "Joy to the World"
LSB 792, "New Songs of Celebration Render"

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PSALM PRAYER

PSALM
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O Lord, You have made Your salvation known to us and revealed Your righteousness to the nations. Once You were judged by the Gentiles. When You come again to judge, be merciful to those for whose sake You were judged; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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