



PSALM 150

et everything that has breath
praise the Lord! [Alleluia]!

(PSALM 150:6)

STRUCTURE

- v.1** Praise the Lord! Where?
In His sanctuary.
- v.2** Praise the Lord! Why?
For His great deeds.
- v.3-5** Praise the Lord! How?
With every instrument.
- v.6** Praise the Lord! Who?
Everything that has breath.

AT A GLANCE

- THE END** Psalm 150 is the most extreme and unqualified statement of unfettered praise in the Old Testament, bringing the psalter to a triumphant conclusion.
- OF A KIND** The concluding six psalms in the psalter are known as the final Hallel (short for Hallelujah), a Hebrew phrase meaning "Praise the Lord!"
- "SANCTUARY"** (v.1) Simply a "holy place," this term often indicates the temple in Jerusalem, although here it could indicate the heavenly throne room.

CHRIST IS HERE

Psalm 150 showcases the praise that Saint Paul describes in Philippians 2: every knee bowing and every tongue confessing that Jesus Christ is Lord at His name.



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Psalm 150 showcases the praise that Saint Paul describes in Philippians 2: every knee bowing and every tongue confessing that Jesus Christ is Lord at His name.



In Psalm 145, David, with his final words in the psalter, summons all creation to join him in praising the Lord: "Let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever." Responding to David's call, a crescendo of praise begins and builds until Psalm 150, which concludes the psalter with unfettered praise offered in the very sanctuary of God, in the highest heavens. The last words of this final psalm echo David's summons: "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!" (v. 6). We praise the Lord both for His "deeds," his actions in history to save His people, and for His character as a God of love, "according to His excellent greatness" (v. 2). Every instrument is enlisted in this praise, which brings our journey through the psalter to a close. Yet if this journey has taught us anything, we know that even the jubilant praise of Psalm 150 does not have the final word. We will continue to be people of lament and praise until the Last Day, when all laments are finally answered and there will be nothing but praise. Psalm 150 teaches that praise will have the final word. It is a glimpse of heaven to sustain us on our way. Praise the Lord!

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USE IN THE CHURCH

Antiphon: Thu: v. 1b; Fri: v. 4

In the Daily Office: Sung daily with 148 and 149 at late morning (Lauds)

At the Divine Service:

Three-Year:

Psalm for Easter 5B (ant: v. 6)

Hymn: LSB 805, "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

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SPIRITUAL CARE

- Praise for the Lord's mercy and grace.
- In thanksgiving for God's love and blessings.
- Before the Divine Service.
- For faith in times of sorrow or trouble.
- For those who teach God's Word.

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PSALM PRAYER

O God, the object of praise, the zeal of the angels, You take pleasure in worship from humanity, not because You need us, but to display Your goodness to us. Hear our prayers, and grant that the clear confession of our faith may be Your trumpet, our lips Your cymbals, our souls Your harps, and that all together may sweetly sing in clear strains the praise of Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

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