

ORDER OF SERVICE

30 January 2022

Doxology 709
Praise God

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn 15
Let all the world, in every corner, sing

Young at Heart
Christine Bradbeer

Welcome and Notices
Mr Keith Ferres, Session Clerk

Offering and Dedication

Hymn 189
Holy Spirit, hear us

Reading: Psalm 150
Tibor Kosa

Hallelujah Psalms #5
Hallelujah! Amen
Psalm 150

Prayer of Intercession
and
The Lord's Prayer

Hymn 512
Take my life

Benediction

NOTICES

30 January 2022

www.blackburnpc.org.au

Wednesday 2 February 1.30 pm Prayer Meeting resumes
Sunday 6 February 11 am Divine Worship. **Gathered**
Heaven on Earth: the Blueprint. #1
Also streamed on Facebook Live.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Congregational members:
Will and Joan RENSHAW



and

S and D from the Frankston Church who are serving with IRFA in South Asia. For guidance and wisdom in church planting. No image by request.



GARDENIA ST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
53 Gardenia Street,
Blackburn 3130



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Account name: Blackburn Presbyterian Church
BSB: 013-328. Account number: 2970 40694

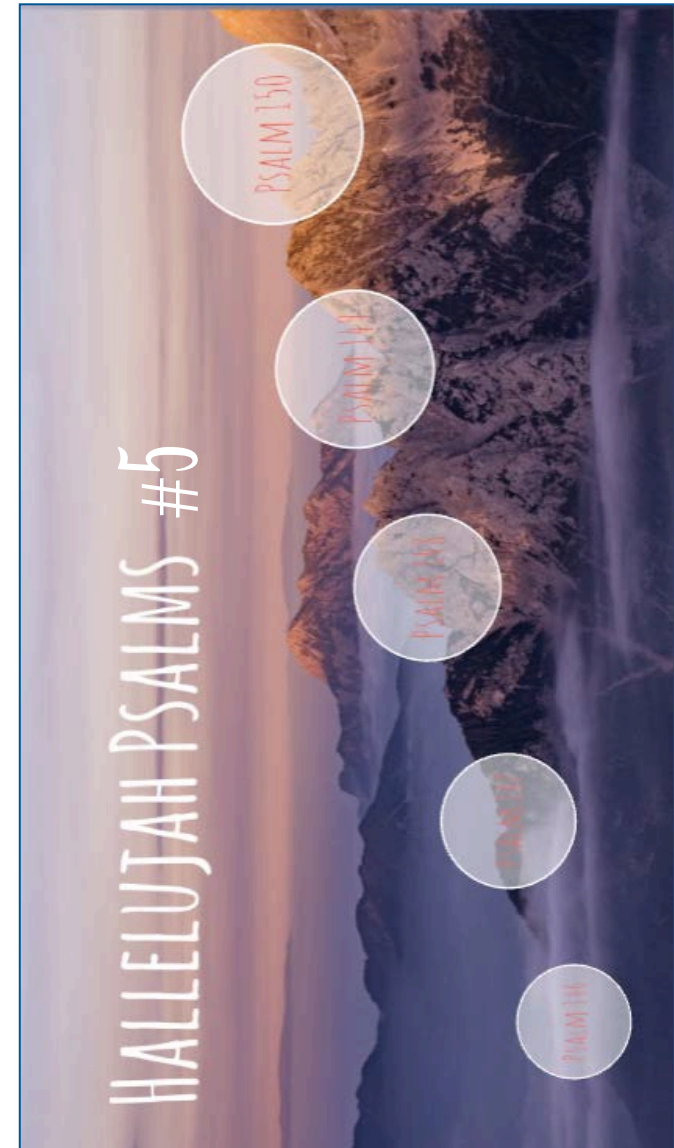
GARDENIA ST.

PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

BLACKBURN

Sunday 30 January

WELCOME





The authorities heavily suppressed the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly. Security forces used unlawful force to crush protests. The authorities continued to arbitrarily detain hundreds of protesters, dissidents and human rights defenders, and sentenced many to imprisonment and flogging. Women, as well as ethnic and religious minorities, faced entrenched discrimination as well as violence. Enforced disappearances, torture and other ill-treatment were committed with impunity on a widespread and systematic basis.

Amnesty International 2021

The Iranian government sees Christianity as a Western threat against the Islamic way of life. Secret churches are often raided. Their leaders and church members can be arrested and given long prison sentences for "crimes against national security". Those who convert to Christianity from stricter Muslim families also face intense persecution at home.

Christians from Armenian and Assyrian communities are protected by the state, but still treated as second-class citizens. They are not allowed to tell others about Jesus or speak in the local language during church services. Christians from a Muslim background are most vulnerable to persecution from the government and from their communities.

The government's control of religion is highest in urban areas, while rural areas are monitored less. However, the business of urban areas gives Christians more freedom to organise meetings and activities than in rural areas, where believers are more easily recognised.

Open Doors Australian 2021.

Sermon
Notes

Hallelujah Psalms #5 Hallelujah! Amen Psalm 150

Today's psalm rounds off the whole psalter with an entire psalm of praise. Its brevity is invigorating, the pace cannot slacken, everything has been said, now we simply exult in God.

1. The where of praise (v. 1)

The call is to those who gather in God's 'holy place' to unite with the heavenly hosts in their praise of God. In Covid we have seen people gathering to praise using technology as never before. The psalmist envisions a universe of praise. Heaven and earth can be united in this. Themes and vocabulary unite believers across time and space. What characterises our contribution?

2. The why of praise (v.2)

We praise God for his acts of greatness, his power in creation, but even more for his wonderful power revealed in his loving salvation. The wonder of a redemption that we could never have conceived: establishing justice, and healing all hurts in and through Christ, bringing his glory to beautify a floundering humanity. Put simply, Yahweh, our God is magnificent.

Are our goals in sync with His?

"Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither has it entered into the heart of man the things God has prepared for them that love him" said Paul to the Corinthians. (1 Corinthians 2:9)

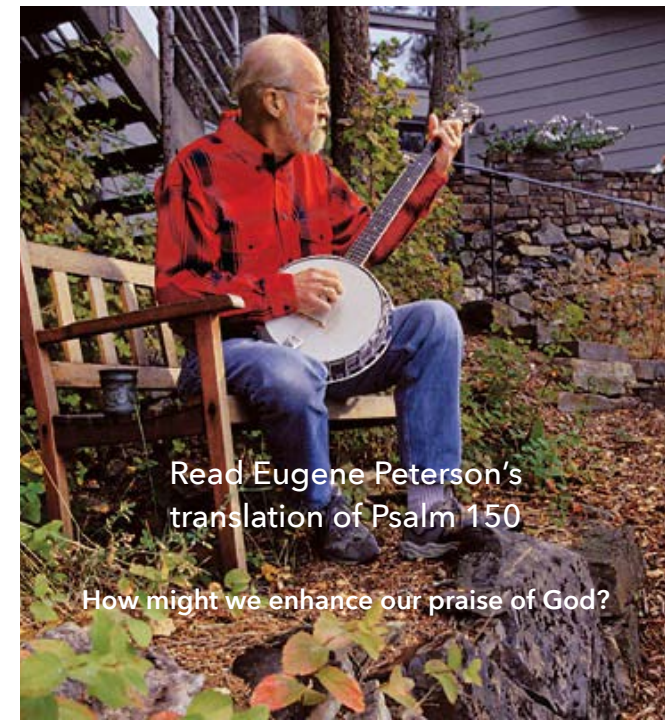
3. The how of praise (v.3-5)

'Praise God with everything you have'. From great national occasions; the horn or shofar was used to summon the nation on great occasions, to the instruments of simple everyday occasions (pipe and flute); the lyricism of our daily reflections. Timbrel and dance speak of joyous celebrations such as typified a victory or wedding. Every type of instrument is called into the joyful praise of God.

4. The who of praise (v.6)

Everything that has 'breath' is called upon to express praise to YHWH, the Lord. We think of Psalm 148 (v.7-12) every imaginable creature on land, sea and in the air, and Psalm 16 where 'babes and sucklings' all contribute to the anthem praise.

How much do we want to participate in this? How can we enjoy and enhance our contribution to praising God? What changes might help us to do this?



Read Eugene Peterson's
translation of Psalm 150

How might we enhance our praise of God?

Hallelujah!

Praise God in his holy house of worship,
praise him under the open skies;
Praise him for his acts of power,
praise him for his magnificent greatness;
Praise with a blast on the trumpet,
praise by strumming soft strings;
Praise him with castanets and dance,
praise him with banjo and flute;
Praise him with cymbals and a big bass drum,
praise him with fiddles and mandolin.

Let every living, breathing creature praise God!

Hallelujah!