

## WORSHIP & MUSIC

### (Selected Psalms)

Psalms say that only where God is praised is there life. (Claus Westermann, <i>Praise and Lament in the Psalms</i> )	Worship is at the center of everything the church believes, practices, and seeks to accomplish. (Warren Wiersbe, <i>Real Worship</i> )
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### WORSHIP IS A RESPONSE TO REVELATION

- **There are many means of revelation**

- The works of God reveal generally and incompletely (Ps 19:1-6)
- The Word of God reveals specifically and more completely (Ps 19:7-11)
- Both combine with other means to provide visible glimpses into the invisible mystery that is God

Earth's crammed with heaven and every common bush afire with God; but only he who sees takes off his shoes—the rest sit round and pluck blackberries.

(Elizabeth Barrett Browning, *Aurora Leigh*)

- **There are many ways to respond**

*Come, let us **sing for joy** to the Lord; let us **shout aloud** to the Rock of our salvation. <sup>2</sup>Let us come before him **with thanksgiving** and extol him **with music and song**. <sup>3</sup>FOR the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods. <sup>4</sup>In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. <sup>5</sup>The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land. <sup>6</sup>Come, let **us bow down in worship**, let us **kneel before** the Lord our Maker; <sup>7</sup>FOR he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. (Ps 95:1-7)*

***Walk about** Zion, go around her, **count** her towers, **consider well** her ramparts, **view** her citadels, that you may tell of them to the next generation. FOR this God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even to the end. (Ps 48:12-14)*

- **There are as many WAYS to worship as there are REASONS to worship**

- Worship is always rooted in one's understanding of God
- Doxology will be weak where theology is weak

- **Singing is one of the most common ways to worship, but only ONE**

Q: Are there musical styles that are right and wrong to use in worship?

**If musical style is a  
MORAL IMPERATIVE,  
a matter of right vs. wrong, then**

**If musical style is a  
PERSONAL PREFERENCE,  
a matter of individual inclination, then**

- **Classical**
- **Traditional**
- **A cappella**
- **Pop**
- **Jazz**
- **Blues**
- **Country**
- **Rock**
- **Rap**
- **Hip Hop**

***Psalm 150***

<sup>1</sup>*Praise the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens.*

<sup>2</sup>*Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness.*

<sup>3</sup>*Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre,*

<sup>4</sup>*praise him with tambourine and dancing, praise him with the strings and flute,*

<sup>5</sup>*praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals.*

<sup>6</sup>*Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord.*