

Psalm 104

A choral reading

CHARACTERS: Leaders 1 & 2, Chorus is divided into 2 parts

RUN TIME: 5 minutes

SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Psalms 104

FK reading level 3.3

LEADER 1: Praise the LORD, my soul.

CHORUS: LORD my God, you are very great;

LEADER 2: You are clothed with splendor and majesty.

CHORUS: The LORD wraps himself in light as with a garment

LEADER 1: He stretches out the heavens like a tent

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

LEADER 2: He makes the clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind.

CHORUS: He makes winds his messengers, flames of fire his servants.

LEADER 1: He set the earth on its foundations

ALL: It can never be moved.

LEADER 2: You covered it with the watery depths as with a garment;

CHORUS B: the waters stood above the mountains.

LEADER 1: But at your rebuke the waters fled,

CHORUS A: at the sound of your thunder they took to flight

LEADER 2: They flowed over the mountains,

CHORUS B: They went down into the valleys to the place you assigned for them.

LEADER 1: You set a boundary they cannot cross;

CHORUS A: never again will they cover the earth.

LEADER 2: He makes springs pour water into the ravines

CHORUS B: It flows between the mountains.

LEADER 1: They give water to all the beasts of the field;

CHORUS A: the wild donkeys quench their thirst.

LEADER 2: The birds of the sky nest by the waters;

CHORUS B: they sing among the branches.

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LEADER 1: He waters the mountains from his upper chambers;

CHORUS A: the land is satisfied by the fruit of his work.

CHORUS B: He makes grass grow for the cattle and plants for people to cultivate— bringing forth food from the earth:

LEADER 1: wine that gladdens human hearts,

LEADER 2: oil to make their faces shine,

CHORUS A: and bread that sustains their hearts.

LEADER 1: The trees of the LORD are well watered,

CHORUS A: the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.

LEADER 2: There the birds make their nests; the stork has its home in the junipers.

CHORUS B: The high mountains belong to the wild goats;

CHORUS A: the crags are a refuge for the hyrax.

LEADER 1: He made the moon to mark the seasons,

CHORUS B: and the sun knows when to go down.

LEADER 2: You bring darkness; it becomes night, and all the beasts of the forest prowl.

CHORUS A: The lions roar for their prey and seek their food from God.

CHORUS B: The sun rises, and they steal away; they return and lie down in their dens.

ALL: Then people go out to their work, to their labor until evening.

LEADER 1: How many are your works, LORD! In wisdom you made them all

ALL: the earth is full of your creatures.

LEADER 2: There is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with creatures beyond number—

CHORUS A: living things both large and small.

CHORUS B: There the ships go to and fro, and Leviathan, which you formed to frolic there.

ALL: All creatures look to you to give them their food at the proper time.

LEADER 1: When you give it to them, they gather it up;

LEADER 2: when you open your hand, they are satisfied with good things.

CHORUS A: When you hide your face, they are terrified;

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

ALL: When you send your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.

LEADER 1: May the glory of the LORD endure forever;

CHORUS A: may the LORD rejoice in his works—

LEADER 2: he who looks at the earth, and it trembles,

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CHORUS B: who touches the mountains, and they smoke.

ALL: I will sing to the LORD all my life;

CHORUS A: I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

ALL: May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the LORD.

CHORUS B: But may sinners vanish from the earth and the wicked be no more.

LEADERS 1 & 2: Praise the LORD, my soul.

ALL: Praise the LORD!