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A Collection of Psalms of Praise *for Today*

by members of the Stamford, CT Church of Christ

As part of their congregational study of "Praise in the Church at First," members of an adult Bible class of The Stamford Church of Christ were challenged one Sunday morning to write their own psalms of praise/prayer to God. The purpose of the exercise was to help reacquire the "lost art" of praise. The following six psalms were produced by class members and printed in the May 21, 1995, bulletin of the congregation. We thank them for allowing us to reprint those psalms here.

Psalm I

Who am I, Lord, that You should care for me?

You spoke worlds—universes—into being.
You move the clouds and light the sun.
You define truth, and
You, alone, are the source of all love
and of every good thing.
You fill the oceans,
You raise the mountains,
and fill all these places
with life that you created.
You give the very air I breathe.

And, yet, because I choose you,
You have chosen me as Your own precious child.

Psalm II

The Lord is with us, now and forevermore!
His blessings are manifest in his giving of his
only son, Christ Jesus our Lord.
Yet only through the open door of our hearts can
we first know that love,
a love which builds within us a selfless spirit of
serving.
Did not God's son Jesus promise us a comforter,
the Holy Spirit, to always be with us?
But only through the gentle entry of a caring heart
would that spirit have a proper place to dwell.
Brothers--Sisters--in--Christ, He implores us
make way for the promised one
make way for God's Holy Spirit,
the Comforter,
to dwell in all our hearts, for ever.

Psalm III

The Lord is my rock;
He comforts me in time of need

O Lord you know me as no one else.
My God you know all and I am thankful
For you alone are the Most High.
Yet you see me and call my name.
You call me Son - and I call you Father.

Therefore I will walk without fear.
You are my sword and shield.
You are everlasting to everlasting.
Your love for me endures forever.

Psalm IV

Hear me Lord and guide me
I know there is only truth
and life in following you.

This life pulls at me and confuses me.
Temptations tug at my judgment,
my ability to focus on what is important
what is from you.
Give me the strength to follow you
in joy and proclamation.

May you be my only judge.
You are my Lord,
and I will follow you.

Psalm V

Lord, you are the guide of my life,
The strength in my suffering,
The hope in my despair.

My joy in life comes from you:
A wife of faith, joy, and love,
A child of generations to come,
A world of wonder and complexity,
The awe to see, and know, and not understand.

The Steps of my life are towards home
with you.

Psalm VI

Save me O God
for the waters have come up to my neck
I sink in the miry depths where there is no foothold.
I have come into the deep waters
The floods engulf me.

How can you stand to watch us sin so much?
Every day we discover new ways to stumble.
What can keep us from sinking?
How do I keep my head above the water?
Thanks be to God.

O Lord, your steadfast love is a beacon
that guides me to the safe harbor from the storm.

Psalms written by members of the adult Bible class
of the **Stamford, Connecticut Church of Christ.**
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