

Book 4 - Psalms 90-106

Psalm 90(TBa) CM

This is 'the funeral hymn' and its tune is St Stephen's. P&G has a particularly attractive setting, which is better than the settings in most hymn books. Verses 11 and 12 have been rewritten as the original translations are difficult to follow and the Hebrew of 11 is unclear. Apart from that there are only a few changes to avoid outmoded manners of expression. A short selection would be 1-6 or even 1, 4, 5 & 6.

- 1 O Lord the saviour and defence ~ of us your chosen race:
From age to age you still have been ~ our sure abiding place.
 - 2 Before you brought' the mountains forth, ~ or Earth, our world did frame:
You always were the mighty God, ~ and ever stay the same.
 - 3 Mortals you turn, Lord, back to dust, ~ from which we first were made:
And when you speak the word, "Return," ~ 'tis instantly obey'd.
 - 4 For in your sight a thousand years ~ are like a day that's past:
Or like a watch in dead of night, ~ whose hours un-minded waste.
 - 5 You sweep us off as with a flood; ~ we vanish hence like dreams:
At first we grow like grass that feels ~ the sun's reviving beams:
 - 6 But howsoever fresh and fair ~ its morning beauty shows:
It's all cut down and withered, droops ~ before the ev'ning close.
 - 7,8 We by your anger are consumed, ~ and by your wrath dismayed:
Our public crimes and secret sins ~ before your sight displayed.
 - 9 Beneath your anger's sad effects ~ our drooping days we spend:
Our un-regarded years break off, ~ like tales that quickly end.
 - 10 Our term of life is seventy years, ~ an age that few survive;
But if, with more than common strength, ~ to eighty we arrive;
- Yet then our boasted strength decays, ~ to sorrow turned, and pain:
So soon the slender thread is cut, ~ and we no more remain.

Part 2

- 11 Who knows your anger's power, its dread; ~ or how one should revere?
And yet your wrath rises and falls ~ according to our fear.
- 12 Give us the measure of how short ~ the days are that remain:
So that our hearts may understand ~ and a true wisdom gain.
- 13 Return O Lord. Come back. Relent. ~ How long yet shall it be.
Comfort and have compassion for ~ your servants, is our plea.
- 14 To satisfy and cheer our souls ~ your morning mercy send;
That we may all our days to come ~ in joy and comfort spend.
- 15 Let happy times make recompense ~ and dry our former tears,
Or equal at the least the term ~ of our afflicted years.
- 16 To all your servants, Lord, let these ~ your wondrous works be known,
And to our offspring yet unborn ~ your glorious pow'r be shown.
- 17 Let your bright rays upon us shine; ~ and give our work success:
The glorious work we have in hand ~ establish, Lord, and bless.

Psalm 90 Watts version

This is the well-known Isaac Watts version, associated with Remembrance Day and sung to St Anne (see Psalm 22). As Watts wrote it, he omitted verse one, and selects extra verses out of order, some of which, marked with asterisks, are not normally sung. Watts also provided a number of other hymns developed out of this psalm, in several metres, which have not survived in modern use.

1. O God, our help in ages past, ~ our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, ~ and our eternal home.
- 2 Under the shadow of thy throne ~ thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone, ~ and our defence is sure.
- 3 Before the hills in order stood, ~ or earth received her frame,
From everlasting thou art God, ~ to endless years the same.
- 4 * Thy word commands our flesh to dust, ~ "Return, ye sons of men:"

- All nations rose from earth at first, ~ and turn to earth again.
- 5 A thousand ages in thy sight ~ are like an ev'ning gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night ~ before the rising sun.
- 6 * The busy tribes of flesh and blood, ~ with all their lives and cares,
Are carried downwards by the flood, ~ and lost in following years.
- 7 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, ~ bears all its sons away;
They fly, forgotten, as a dream ~ dies at the op'ning day.
- 8 * Like flowery fields the nations stand ~ pleased with the morning light;
The flowers beneath the mower's hand ~ lie with'ring ere 'tis night.
- 9 O God, our help in ages past, ~ our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while troubles last, ~ and our eternal home

Psalm 91 TBa 888 888

This is an attractive version, but as explained with Psalm 37, there are unfortunately not many tunes in it. Possibilities are Martin's Lane, Monmouth and Whitby. The only changes are slight modernisations of the grammar. There seems to be some disagreement whether Luther's ein feste Berg, 'a safe stronghold our God is still', is inspired by this psalm or 46. CW allocates this to Compline.

- 1 Whoso has God their guardian made,
shall under the Almighty's shade
Secure and undisturbed abide.
- 2 Thus to my soul of him I'll say,
He is my fortress and my stay,
My God, in whom I will confide.
- 3 His tender love and watchful care
shall free you from the fowler's snare,
And from the noisome pestilence:
- 4 He over you his wings shall spread,
and cover your unguarded head;
His truth shall be your strong defence.
- 5 No terrors that surprise by night
shall your undaunted courage fright,

6 Nor deadly shafts that fly by day;
Nor plague of unknown rise, that kills
in darkness, nor infectious ills
That in the hottest season slay.

7 A thousand at your side shall die,
at your right hand ten thousand lie,
While your firm health untouched remains;

8 You only shall look on and see
the wicked's dismal tragedy,
And count the sinner's mournful gains.

9 Because (with well-placed confidence)
You make the Lord your sure defence,
And on the Highest shall rely;

10 Therefore no ill shall you befall,
nor to your healthful dwelling shall
Any infectious plague draw nigh.

11 For he, throughout your happy days,
to keep you safe in all your ways
Shall give his angels strict commands;

12 And they, lest you should' chance to meet
with some rough stone to wound your feet
Shall bear you safely in their hands.

13 Dragons and asps, that thirst for blood,
and lions roaring for their food,
Beneath his conqu'ring feet shall lie;

14 Because he loved and honoured me,
therefore, says God, I'll set them free,
And fix their glorious throne on high.

15 They'll call; I'll answer, when they call,
and rescue them should ill befall;
Increase their honour and their wealth:

16 And when with undisturbed content
their long and happy lives are spent,
Their ends I'll crown with saving health.

Psalm 91 (DBT) CM

As there are so few tunes in triple 8s, this is an alternative CM version. In vv 14-16, some of the verbs are so emphatically singular, that I felt I had no alternative but to retain this. There does not seem to be any tune closely associated with this Psalm. However, Playford suggests the ancient welsh tune, St Mary's. Like St Stephen's the setting in P&G is more attractive than the usual version in hymn books.

- 1 Whoso that in the secret place ~ of the most high should dwell:
 Under the shadow of his grace ~ shall be kept safe and well.

- 2 “You are my hope, my stronghold still”, ~ to the Lord will I say:
 “He is my God. I shall take him ~ as my whole trust and stay”.

3. He'll free you from the fowler's snare: ~ from deadly pestilence.
4. Beneath his wings, he'll shelter you: ~ his pinions, your defence.

- His faithfulness will keep you safe, ~ his hand to intervene:
 His truth shall be your sure defence, ~ your shield, protecting screen.

- 5 You need not fear the dread of night: ~ nor arrow's flight by day.
- 6 Nor pestilence that stalks the dark: ~ nor bane of the noon's ray.

7. A thousand at your side may fall, ~ their bodies cast askew:
 Ten thousand at your right hand, but~ it shall not come near you.

- 8 Your eyes have only but to look ~ and see spread out abroad:
 The wicked get their just deserts, ~ the bad get their reward.

- 9 If you make God on high your home: ~ the refuge you frequent.
- 10 No harm shall happen to you and ~ no scourge come near your tent.

- 11 His angels, he will charge to keep ~ you safe where 'ere you go.
12. They'll bear you up, protect your foot ~ from stone's hard stubbing blow.

- 13 You shall walk over roaring lion ~ the snake, down you shall put:
 Trample upon the lion cub's neck, ~ tread serpent under foot.

- 14 “ Because he sets his heart on me ~ I'll rescue him from shame:
 And lift him up to a high place ~ because he knows my name.

- 15 When he calls to me, I'll respond, ~ be with him in distress:
 I will equip and rescue him ~ honour him with largesse.

- 16 My servant I will satisfy ~ and length of days bestow:
Give blessings of deliverance ~ and my salvation show”.

Psalm 92 (Tba) CM

This has had some alteration. It is headed ‘a Song for the Sabbath Day’. There’s no tune particularly associated with this psalm, though Playford suggests Martyrs for a different version in the same metre.

1. A good and pleasant thing it is ~ to thank the Lord most high;
And to repeat our hymns of praise ~ his name to magnify,
2. With every morning's early dawn ~ his goodness to relate;
And of his constancy each night ~ the glad effects narrate!
3. Upon the ten stringed instrument ~ and on the lyre too
We'll make our sacred melodies ~ resound on harp tuned true.
- 4 For through the works of your hands, Lord, ~ you make my heart rejoice;
The thought of them shall make me glad, ~ to shout with cheerful voice.
- 5,6 “How wondrous are your works, O Lord ! ~ how deep are your decrees!”
The senseless cannot understand ~ nor fool, the thing he sees.
- 7 They little think, when wicked sprout, ~ like grass, fresh in the day:
How soon their short-lived splendour must ~ for ever pass away.
- 8 You will for ever reign but see: ~ your enemies O Lord.
- 9 Your enemies will perish and ~ the base be strewn abroad.
- 10 My horn you have exalted like ~ the horn of the wild ox:
With plenty you anointed me, ~ with fresh oil for my locks.
- 11 My eyes have seen my stubborn foes ~ to utter ruin brought:
My ears will hear the dismal end of those ~ who have against me fought.
- 12 The righteous though like fruitful palms, ~ shall make a glorious show;
As cedars that in Lebanon ~ in stately order grow.
- 13, These, planted in the house of God, ~ within his courts shall thrive;

- 14 Their vigour and their lustre both ~ shall in old age revive.
- 15 They shall proclaim his righteousness; ~ he is upright and strong:
He is my rock, my steadfastness; ~ in him there is no wrong.

Psalm 93 (Tba) LM

This psalm has a tune, Creation, in P&G based on the chorus 'The heavens are telling' by Haydn. It has also been sung to Tallis's canon, and by merging each pair of verses, provides a hymn that could be sung to Jerusalem, for those that do not think Blake's words entirely theologically appropriate for liturgical use, but miss singing the tune. The translation is fairly free, and save for a few minor alterations, is as written.

- 1 With kingship, clad, with strength arrayed, ~ the Lord, that o'er all nature
reigns,
The world's foundations strongly laid, ~ and the vast fabric still sustains.
- 2 How sure established is your throne, ~ which shall no change or eon see!
For you, O Lord, and you alone, ~ are God from all eternity.
- 3,4 The floods, O Lord, lift up their voice: ~ they toss the troubled waves on high;
5. But God above can still their noise, ~ and make the angry sea comply.
6. Your promise, Lord, is ever sure, ~ and they that in your house would dwell,
That happy station to secure, ~ must still in holiness excel.

Psalm 94 (Tba) CM

This has had some but not much alteration. There's no tune specifically identified with this psalm. If one were singing an even number of verses, Kings Lynn, although theoretically in a different metre might go rather well.

1. O God, to whom revenge belongs, ~ your vengeance now disclose;
2. Arise, O judge of all the earth, ~ and crush your haughty foes.
- 3, How long, O Lord, shall the wicked, ~ their wicked triumphs make?
4. How long their braggart actions boast, ~ and insolently speak.
- 5 They crush your folk, your heritage ~ and unprovoked they spill
6. The widow's and the strangers blood, ~ and helpless orphans kill.

- 7 “God neither sees nor understands”, ~ is what the people say
“No notice and no heed to us ~ does Jacob’s God us pay.”
- 8 At length, you stupid fools, your wants ~ endeavour to discern;
In folly will you still proceed, ~ and wisdom never learn?
9. Can he be deaf, who formed the ear? ~ or blind, who framed the eye?
10 Shall earth's great Judge not punish those ~ who his known will defy?
- 11 He fathoms every person’s thoughts, ~ to him their hearts lie bare;
His eye surveys them all, and sees ~ as wind their counsels are.

Part 2

- 12 Bless’d is the one, whom you, O Lord, ~ in kindness shall chastise,
And by your sacred law to walk ~ you lovingly advise.
- 13 Such soul shall rest and safety find ~ in seasons of distress,
Whilst God prepares a pit for those ~ that stubbornly transgress.
- 14 For from his people, God will not ~ his favour wholly take;
His own possession and his lot ~ he never will forsake.
- 15 For justice will again be joined ~ to righteousness and stay:
While those who are upright in heart ~ will follow in that way
- 16 Who will appear in my behalf ~ when wicked souls invade?
Or who, when sinners would oppress, ~ my righteous cause shall plead?
- 17,18, Long since had I in silence slept, ~ save that the Lord was near,
19 To stay me when I slipped: when sad, ~ my troubled heart to cheer.
- 20 Will you, who are a God most just, ~ their sinful throne sustain,
Who make the law a false pretence ~ their wicked ends to gain?
- 21 Against the lives of righteous folk ~ they form their close design;
And, blood of innocents to spill, ~ in solemn league combine.
- 22 But my defence is firmly placed ~ in God the Lord most high;
He is my rock, to which I may ~ for refuge always fly.

- 23 The Lord shall cause their ill designs ~ on their own heads to fall;
He in their sins shall cut them off, ~ our God shall slay them all.

Psalm 95 (DBT) The Venite 8787D Iambic

The tune for this version of the Venite is Sullivan's Golden Sheaves. The Venite is part of the traditional BCP Morning Prayer. CW prescribes it for Friday morning. It is now permitted to omit verses 8-11 and proceed straight to the Gloria, though this carries the risk of depriving this psalm of a major part of its message.

1. Come let us sing unto the Lord, ~ the rock of our salvation,
2. Gather before him to applaud ~ with psalms of jubilation,
3. The God above all gods who's king ~ who rules o'er all creation.
Our thanks to him we gladly bring ~ assembled as his nation

4. He holds the corners of the earth. ~ Its peaks and depths he fashions.
5. The very sea he brought to birth, ~ and laid the land's foundations.
6. So come, fall down, before Him kneel, ~ worship our Lord and Maker
7. We are his holy commonweal, ~ the sheep upon his acre.

8. If this day you hear him speak ~ in heart be not resisting,
For Moses struck the rock in pique, ~ provoked by their persisting.
9. Your forbears put me to the test, ~ required I prove my fitness
To lead them, being unimpressed ~ with all that they'd been witness.

10. For forty years was I distressed ~ with that whole generation.
In their hearts had they transgressed, ~ ignored my exhortation
To heed my Word, hold to my path, ~ on me their hope to centre.
11. Accordingly I swore in wrath ~ my rest they should not enter.

*In righteousness he brings to birth, ~ his hour of visitation.
In triumph he shall judge the earth. ~ So hear His proclamation
And glory to the Father raise, ~ to Son and Holy Spirit,
Alpha and Omega we praise, ~ may we His life inherit*

Psalm 95 SHa (CM)

This is an alternative version in CM. There is no tune particularly associated with this psalm, although Playford suggests St David's which is not in modern books.

- 1 O come let us lift up our voice, ~ sing gladly to the Lord;
In him our rock of health rejoice, ~ and sing with one accord:
- 2 Yea, let us come before his face, ~ give him our thanks and praise;
In singing psalms to laud his grace ~ let us be glad always.
- 3 For why? the Lord he is no doubt ~ a great and mighty God!
A King above all gods throughout, ~ the whole wide world abroad.
- 4 The secrets of the earth so deep, ~ the corners of the land:
The hills and peaks so high and steep ~ he holds all in his hand:
- 5 The sea and waters too are his, ~ for he them both has wrought:
The earth and all that in it is ~ his hand has made of nought.
- 6 Come, let us bow and praise the Lord, ~ before him let us fall:
And kneel to him with one accorde, ~ for he has made us all.
- 7 For why? he is the Lord our God, ~ for us he does provide:
We are his flock, he does us feed, ~ his sheep, and he our guide.
- 8 To-day if you his voice should hear, ~ then harden not your heart:
As you with grudging many a year ~ provoked him in desert;
- 9 When your forefathers tempted me, ~ my power seeking to prove:
Though they my mighty works did see, ~ still me they tried to move.
- 10 Twice twenty years they did me grieve, ~ and that caused me to say:
They err in heart, will not believe; ~ they have not known my way.
- 11 At that I swore - at that my wrath ~ was kindled in my breast:
- That they should never tread the path ~ that enters in my rest.

*All Glory to the Father, Son, ~ and Spirit, One and Three.
As was, and is, and shall be so ~ through all eternity.*

Psalm 96 (DBT) CM

Pss 96-9 are all about the Lord as King.

Although vv 5-8 derive largely from S&H there is so little of S&H left in the remainder that it would be misleading so to attribute it. P&G provides a tune that was used for this psalm at Widdecombe for Christmas Day. This psalm would also go well with a DCM tune. St Fulbert would fit as a simple tune.

- 1 Come sing a new song to the Lord : ~ sing to him all the earth
- 2 Sing! Praise the Lord from day to day: ~ salvation speak with mirth.

- 3 His glory to the nations tell: ~ his wonders to all folk.
4. Great is the Lord and to be praised ~ feared more than gods of smoke.

5. For all the gods of nations, all ~ are idols that will fade,
Whereas our God, he is the Lord ~ who the high heavens made.

6. Splendour and majesty display; ~ they go before his face:
Might and beauty are in his shrine: ~ they fill his holy place.

7. Ascribe unto the Lord all tribes ~ of nations praise afford;
All might and glory evermore ~ ascribe unto the Lord:

8. Ascribe the glory to the Lord ~ that is due to his name:
Into his courts your off'rings bring ~ and enter with the same.

Part 2

9. In the beauty of holiness ~ fall down, worship the Lord:
Let all the earth tremble and quake; ~ before his face be awed.

10. The nations tell, the Lord is king ~ the world he firmly stays:
It never shall be moved and he, ~ justly, peoples assays.

11. Let heav'ns rejoice, the earth be glad: ~ seas and all in them roar.
12. Let field and all in them exult: ~ trees, woods, sing him before.

- 13 Before the Lord who comes! He comes ~ fairly to judge the earth;
To judge the world in righteousness, ~ in truth the peoples' worth.

Psalm 97 (DBT) CM

Although this started from the Scottish version, there is too little left from the original to justify claiming it as

a basis.

1. The Lord is king, let earth be glad: ~ let ev'ry coast delight.
2. Dark clouds surround him: and his throne ~ stands in justice and right.
3. Fire goes before him: fire burns up ~ his foes on every side.
4. His lightening lights up all the world: ~ the earth saw, shook and writhed.
5. Peaks at the presence of the Lord ~ like wax melt in his sight.
6. The heav'ns declare his righteousness: ~ all see his glorious light.
7. Let those who serve their images ~ be shamed as futile clods:
And likewise those that idols praise. ~ So worship him all gods.
8. Ziön hears and Ziön is glad: ~ Judah's daughters rejoice.
In your judgements, her villages ~ revel, Lord in their choice.
- 9 For you O Lord are lifted high, ~ exalted very far:
Above both the whole earth below ~ and all the gods that are.
- 10 Hate evil, if you love the Lord. ~ His faithful people, stand!
He guards their souls, delivers them, ~ snatched from the wicked's hand.
11. Light is spread for the righteous and ~ joy for the sound in heart.
- 12 Rejoice you righteous in the Lord: ~ praise each remembered part.

Psalm 98 (DBT) CM

This psalm is designated as an alternative to the Magnificat in BCP Evening Prayer. It is also traditionally associated with Christmas. One suspects it may even underlie Pope and Furness's Peace o'er the Earth.

1. Sing to the Lord a new made song ~ who wondrous things has done.
2. With his right hand and holy arm ~ deliv'rance he has won.
3. Before the peoples' eyes, the Lord ~ has shown his saving might:
And made his righteousness appear ~ before the nations' sight:
4. He has recalled his steadfast love, ~ constant to Jacob's kin.
The utmost ends of earth have seen ~ our God, salvation win.

5. So raise a shout of joy, all earth: ~ sing praises to the Lord.
Burst into songs of gladness and ~ with music him applaud.
6. Make music to the Lord with lyre, ~ with both the lyre and song.
7. Sound trumpets to the Lord, our king, ~ and shofar loud and long.
8. Let sea, let earth and all contained ~ in them a roar employ.
- 9 Let rivers clap their hands and let ~ peaks join with songs of joy,
- 10 Before the Lord who comes to judge ~ the earth in verity.
In justice he will judge the world, ~ nations with equity.

Psalm 98 (IW)

This is the Isaac Watts very free paraphrase. Part 1 is less well known. Part 2 is particularly well known as a Christmas hymn, normally sung to Antioch, sometimes attributed to Handel. The headings are from Watts.

Part 1, Praise for the gospel.

- 1 To our Almighty Maker, God,
New honours be addressed;
His great salvation shines abroad,
And makes the nations blessed.
- 2 He spoke the word to Abraham first;
His truth fulfils the grace;
The Gentiles make his name their trust,
And learn his righteousness.
- 3 Let the whole earth his love proclaim
With all her diff'rent tongues,
And spread the honours of his name
In melody and songs.

Part 2, The Messiah's coming and kingdom

- 1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room,

And heav'n and nature sing.

- 2 Joy to the earth! the Saviour reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love.

Psalm 99 (DBT) CM

There is considerable disagreement among commentators as to what the third line of v 8 actually means.

1. The Lord is king, our sovereign reigns; ~ so let the nations quake.
He sits enthroned on cherubim; ~ so let the firm earth shake.
2. The Lord is great in Zion, high ~ o'er all nations adored.
3. May your great name in awe be praised ~ for holy is the Lord.
4. The king in strength loves justice to ~ establish equity.
To Jacob you have acted with ~ judgement and probity.
5. Exalt, lift up our God, the Lord ~ on high to be adored.
Worship and at his footstool fall ~ for holy is the Lord.
6. Moses and Aaron with his priests, ~ Samuel with those that call:
They each invoked the Lord by name; ~ and he answered them all.
7. He spoke to them from deep within ~ the cloudy pillar's stem.
They kept the edicts and the laws ~ the statutes he gave them.

8. O Lord, our God, you answered them, ~ a God who took their sin.
Though you took vengeance on their wrongs ~ you bore them as your kin.
9. Exalt, lift up our God, the Lord ~ on high to be adored.
Worship him on his hallowed hill ~ for holy is the Lord.

Psalm 100 The Jubilate (SH) LM

This version, probably written by William Kethe, is so well known that it needs no introduction

- 1 All people that on earth do dwell, ~ sing to the Lord with cheerful voice:
Him serve with fear, his praise forth tell, ~ come ye before him and rejoice.
- 2 The Lord ye know is God indeed; ~ without our aid he did us make;
We are his flock, he doth us feed, ~ and for his sheep he doth us take.
- 3 O enter then his gates with praise, ~ approach with joy his courts unto.
Praise, laud, and bless his Name always ~ for it is seemly so to do.
- 4 For why? The Lord our God is good, ~ his mercy is for ever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood, ~ and shall from age to age endure.

Psalm 100(DBT) CM

This is another version in CM so that one can sing the Jubilate to one of the many lively fuguig tunes that are available in this metre.

1. Be joyful in the Lord all earth; ~ with gladness serve his Name:
Enter his presence with a song; ~ your praise his face acclaim.
2. Know that the Lord our God is God. ~ He made us. We are his.
We are his people and the sheep ~ that graze upon his leas.
3. Enter his gates with grateful thanks; ~ with praise explore his courts
Give thanks to him and bless his name, ~ be glad with his cohorts.
4. The Lord is good; his steadfast love ~ is now and for always:
His faithfulness stands firm and lasts ~ through everlasting days.

Psalm 101 (DBT) CM

Between versions there is a wide range of different numberings of the verses of this psalm.

1. I celebrate your steadfast love ~ and justice, Lord, in song
2. I study how to live a life ~ blameless and without wrong.

3. When will you come to me, for I ~ walk with my heart upright,
4. And in my house let no base thing ~ encroach upon my sight?

5. I hate the deeds of deviants ~ they shall not stick to me.
6. I dodge the crooked heart, and vice ~ I will not know or see.

7. I shall destroy whoso slanders ~ their neighbour privily:
8. Nor tolerate the lofty eye ~ nor heart that walks proudly.

9. My eyes shall favour as my friends, ~ the faithful in the land:
10. And choose those who walk blamelessly ~ to serve at my right hand.

- 11/12. No one who works deceit or fraud, ~ is false or who tells lies:
Shall I let dwell within my house ~ or stand before my eyes.

13. Early shall I silence, wipe out, ~ the wicked of the land:
14. And cut off from the Lord's city ~ the evildoer's hand.

Psalm 102(DBT) CM

This is classed as a penitential psalm, but falls naturally into three sections, a penitential and personal first and third section with a more optimistic second section. If singing the second section alone, there is much to be said for starting from v 13. As with Psalm 101, there is no unanimity about numbering the verses. This version follows the numbering of the CW version. This psalm probably should be sung to a tune in minor key. The repetition of 'change' in active and passive mode in v 28 is in the Hebrew.

1. Lord hear my prayer and let my cry ~ rise to you for redress.
2. Do not hide your face from me in ~ the day of my distress.

3. Give ear to me and when I call ~ in haste answer my cry.
4. Like smoke my days are blown away ~ my bones burnt as a pyre.

5. Wounded my heart, withered like grass: ~ my bread I cannot eat.
6. I groan aloud: my bones stick to ~ my flesh, my very meat.

7. I am become a desert fowl ~ an owl in ruin aloof.
8. Like screeching owl, I watch alone ~ a bird perched on a roof.

9. All day my enemies taunt me ~ their jeering they rehearse:
They ridicule me when they use ~ my name as mocking curse.

10. Ashes I eat and mix my drink ~ with tears as you just clown,
11. As in indignant wrath you first ~ lift up then throw me down.

12. My days are like a shadow that ~ lengthens as hours pass:
I fade as something dried and parched ~ and wither like the grass:

13. Yet you Lord sit enthroned secure; ~ forever you will last:
Your fame through generations stands ~ till time itself has passed.

Part 2

14. You will rise up and on Ziön ~ pour mercy kind and dear:
Now is the hour to favour her, ~ the chosen time is here.

15. Your servants delight in her stones: ~ her dust kindles their care.
16. Lord, nations fear your name: their kings ~ your glory cannot bear.

17. The Lord, when he rebuilds Ziön ~ and in glory is seen,
18. Will heed the prayer of the poor ~ and not despise their keen.

19. Let this be written for all time ~ a message to record.
That future generations and ~ the unborn praise the Lord.

20. "The Lord looked from his holy height:~ from heav'n he saw the earth,
21. To hear the prisoners' anguished groans: ~ free those condemned to death."

22. To tell the Lord's name forth so that : in Ziön it's proclaimed:
And in Jerusalem with joy ~ his praises are acclaimed,

23. Whenever people, kings and realms ~ collect with one accord:
Are gathered with each other to ~ worship and serve the Lord.

Part 3

24. In midlife he has culled my strength: ~ he has shortened my days.
I pray, "Do not take me before ~ I have lived my full phase.
25. My life is but half-lived whereas ~ from age to age you stand.
26. You founded earth and heaven as ~ the works of your own hand."
27. They will perish; you shall remain; ~ like clothes they all wear out:
28. You change them all like garments and ~ as such they're changed about.
29. They change. You are and you remain: ~ your years shall never end.
Your servants children evermore ~ before your face shall stand.

Psalm 102 vv 1-18 (John Clare) 868688

This is a version by the poet Clare. What is less well known about John Clare is that he was a capable fiddler and would also have been very familiar with the way psalms were sung in the churches of his time. It appears in the Penguin 'the Psalms in English' collected by the late Donald Davie. It has two feminine endings with extra syllables in vv 13 and 14 which musicians will need to cover with grace notes. I have not so far been able to discover whether Clare ever versified the remaining verses of the psalm.

- 1-3. Lord hear my prayer when trouble glooms. ~ Let sorrow find a way,
And when the day of trouble comes, ~ turn not thy face away:
4. My bones like hearthstones burn away. ~ My life like vapoury smoke decays.
5. My heart is smitten like the grass, ~ that withered lies and dead,
And I, so lost to what I was ~ forget to eat my bread.
6. My voice is groaning all the day, ~ my bones prick through this skin of clay.
7. The wilderness's pelican, ~ the desert's lonely owl -
I am their like, a desert man ~ in ways as lone and foul.
8. As sparrows on the cottage top ~ I wait till I with fainting drop.
9. I hear my enemies' reproach. ~ All silently I mourn;
They on my private peace encroach, ~ against me they are sworn.
10. Ashes as bread my trouble shares, ~ and mix my food with weeping cares.
11. Yet not for them is sorrow's toil, ~ I fear no mortal's frowns -
But thou hast held me up awhile ~ and thou has cast me down.

12. My days like shadows waste from view, ~ I mourn like withered grass in dew.
13. But thou, Lord, shalt endure for ever, ~ all generations through:
14. Thou shalt to Zion be the giver ~ of joy and mercy too.
15. Her very stones are in thy trust; ~ thy servants reverence her dust.
16. Heathens shall hear and fear thy name. ~ All kings of earth thy glory know,
17. When thou shalt build up Zion's fame ~ and live in glory there below.
18. He'll not despise their prayers, though mute, ~ but still regard the destitute.

Psalm 103 (DBT) CM

This Psalm is particularly important as CW allocates vv 8-18 for Monday mornings in ordinary time, and vv 1-7 and 19-end for Tuesday mornings and also for all mornings between Ascension and Pentecost. Therefore, to avoid monotony, two versions are provided, one in CM and one in LM. Henry Francis Lyte's hymn 'Praise my soul the king of heaven' is inspired by this psalm. Although inspired by S&H, this version now contains so little of the original that it would be improper to link it to that version. It will fit a double metre.

Part 1

1. O praise the Lord my soul, bless him, ~ my spirit do the same:
You secret places in my heart, ~ come, bless his holy name.
2. O praise the Lord my soul, bless him, ~ so merciful and kind:
And do not let his benefits ~ escape or slip your mind.
3. He pardons your iniquities, ~ restores your health again:
In all your deadly illnesses ~ he heals you from your pain.
4. He rescues you, retrieves your life, ~ redeems you from the Pit.
He crowns you with his steadfast love ~ and care, together knit.
5. He satisfies you with good things ~ your vigour to regain:
As eagle moults or casts her bill, ~ becoming young again.
6. The Lord brings justice and virtue: ~ to whoso wronged has been.
7. To Moses he makes his ways known: ~ his deeds to Jacob's kin.

Part 2

8. The Lord is kind and merciful ~ to all that make him grieve:
The slowest to conceive his wrath ~ and readiest to forgive.
9. He will not always strive with us: ~ nor ire for e'er preserve,

10. Nor treat us as our sins would rate: ~ nor as our guilt deserves.
11. As heav'ns stand high above the earth, ~ the sky above the floor.
So is his love outstanding for ~ those that hold him in awe.
12. As far as east is from the west ~ the sun's rise from its fall.
So far has he removed our sins, ~ rebellion from us all.
13. As fathers have compassion on ~ the children they adore:
So has the Lord compassion for ~ those that hold him in awe.
14. As he knows what we are made from, ~ how formed and brought to birth.
So he recalls we are but dust, ~ remembers we are earth.
15. As for the days of mortal souls, ~ they are as grass and hay:
Or like the flower, full fair in field ~ that fades so soon away.
16. The wind blows over it; it's gone, ~ leaving no trace or spore.
The place where it was, knows it not, ~ remembers it no more.
17. The steadfast love of the Lord lasts, ~ his righteousness also:
With those who fear him for all time ~ that generations flow.
18. Throughout unending rolling years ~ his love rests on their cause
If they but keep his covenant ~ and strive to keep his laws.

Part 3

19. In heav'n the Lord has set his throne ~ established his seat there:
His kingdom rules o'er all that is, ~ each thing and everywhere.
20. So praise the Lord his messengers, ~ his angels, homage pay:
Mighty in strength, you do his words; ~ hear his voice and obey
21. So praise the Lord all you his hosts; ~ his armies bless him still:
His ministers and servants, you ~ who carry out his will.
22. And praise the Lord his creatures all, ~ his works, his work extol,
In all the places where he rules. ~ Praise, praise the Lord my soul.

An alternative shorter version of vv 1& 2

1. Soul, bless the Lord! My inmost parts ~ his holy name praise too.
2. Soul, bless the Lord! Do not forget ~ his benefits to you.

Psalm 103 (Tba)

LM

This is an alternative version in LM and is hardly altered at all, broadly only so as to update thou to you.

Part 1

- 1,2 My soul, inspired with sacred love, ~ God's holy name for ever bless;
Of all his favours mindful prove, ~ and still your grateful thanks express.
- 3,4 It's he that all your sins forgives, ~ and after sickness makes you sound;
From danger he your life retrieves, ~ by him with grace and mercy crowned.
- 5,6 He with good things your mouth supplies; ~ your vigour, eagle-like, renews:
He, when the guiltless suff'rer cries, ~ his foe with just revenge pursues.
- 7 God made of old his righteous ways ~ to Moses and our fathers known;
His works, to his eternal praise, ~ forth were to Israel's children shown.

Part 2

- 8 The Lord abounds with tender love, ~ and unexampled acts of grace;
His wakened wrath does slowly move, ~ his willing mercy flows apace.
- 9,10 God will not always harshly chide, ~ but with his anger quickly part;
And loves his punishments to guide ~ more by his love than our desert.
- 11 As high as heav'n its arch extends ~ above this little spot of clay,
So much his boundless love transcends ~ the small respects that we can pay.
- 12-3 As far as 'tis from east to west, ~ so far has he our sins removed,
Who with a father's tender breast ~ has such as fear him always loved.
- 14-5 For God, who all our frame surveys, ~ considers that we are but clay;
How fresh soe'er we seem, our days ~ like grass or flowers must fade away.
- 16-7 Whilst they are nipped with sudden blasts, ~ nor can we find their former
place;
God's faithful mercy ever lasts ~ to those that fear him, and their race.
- 18 This shall attend on such as still ~ proceed in his appointed way;
And who not only know his will, ~ but to it just obedience pay,

Part 3

- 19,20 The Lord, the universal King, ~ in heav'n has fixed his lofty throne;
 To him, you angels, praises sing, ~ in whose great strength his pow'r is shown
- You that his just commands obey, ~ and hear and do his sacred will,
- 21 Ye hosts of his, this tribute pay, ~ who still what he ordains fulfil.
- 22 Let ev'ry creature jointly bless ~ the mighty Lord: and you, my heart,
 With grateful joy your thanks express, ~ and in this concert bear your part.

Psalm 104 (DBT) 10,10,11,11

The original in SH is by Willam Kethe and is excellent but a little discursive. It goes to the tune 'Old 104th Disposer Supreme', but will also go to Hanover, or Parry's Laudate Domine. This version is shorter and is largely rewritten, but is in the same metre. CW designates vv 1,2, 21b,22a,26 and 32-35 as an optional canticle for the Evening Service of the Word and also Evening Prayer for Mondays. In this version, one should use vv 1-4, 21-22, 26-27 and 32-35, i.e. 5 stanzas.

1. My soul, praise the Lord, speak good of his Name:
 O Lord our great God. So do you appear!
 Surpassing in glory, so great is your fame,
 Honour and great glory in you shine most clear.
2. With light as a robe you have yourself clad,
3. And like a curtain, the heavens stretched out.
 The beams of your chamber, the waters o'erspread.
4. The clouds as your chariot, on wind, winged about.
5. You make of the winds, your messengers too.
 Your servants as flames, you choose as your caul.
6. You laid earth's foundations so solid and true,
 That it should not move, no, should never at all.
7. With deep like a robe you hid it from sight.
 The waters stood proud of high hills array.
8. But at your rebuke, they turned tail and took flight
 At your voice of thunder they scuttled away.
9. They watered the hills and valleys below.
 To where you had set as their length and girth.

- 10 You set them their bound'ries beyond not to go:
Nor never again should they cover the earth.

Part 2

11. He fills with his springs the dry beds and lakes,
A torrent he makes between height and hill.
12. So in it the wild ass, its thirst it can slake,
And the beasts of the field can all drink their fill.
13. The birds of the air make their nests close by:
In riverine brakes and thickets they sing.
14. You water the hills from your chambers on high:
With fruits of your work, the good earth nourishing.
15. You make the grass grow the cattle to feed:
And crops you provide for people to eat.
16. With bread wine and good oil, you answer their need:
17. To make faces shine, our hearts glad and replete.
18. The trees of the Lord, you nourish with sap:
The cedars you plant as Lebanon's pride.
19. There birds make their nests, the storks perch in their cap:
20. High peaks for the goats, crags where hyrax may hide.
21. The moon you appoint, the months to mark out:
The sun you made so it knows when to set.
22. You bring forth the darkness as night turns about:
When beasts of the forest prowl, their prey to get.
23. The hungry lions roar, from God seek their meat.
24. But when the sun shows, to their dens repair:
25. To rest while we humans go forth in the heat
To work and to toil until ev'ning's cool air.

Part 3

26. Uncountable, Lord, is what you have made.
In wisdom you wrought and fashioned them all:
The earth with your riches is filled and assuaged,
27. And likewise the sea, in its vast ranging sprawl.

28. It teams with your creatures, both small and great:
There ships and sea monsters, sail, sport and play.
29. They look to you hopefully; on you they wait:
You give them their food in due season and day.
30. You open your hand: they find there such grace:
With good things, they're filled; they forage in trust.
31. But deep are they troubled if you hide your face.
or gather their breath so they die, turn to dust.
32. Your Spirit you send, and so they are made:
The face of the earth, you furbish anew.
33. May the Lord's great glory last and never fade:
And may he rejoice in his works all time through.
34. God looks on the earth, it trembles, quaking:
He touches the peaks; they smoke at his voice.
35. As long as I live, to the Lord will I sing,
To God all my days shall with music rejoice
36. Sweet may my thoughts be, with joy in the Lord:
But may sinners from the earth be erased.
37. The wicked wiped out but let God be adored.
Praise God O my soul, may the Lord's name be praised.

*By angels in heav'n of ev'ry degree,
And saints upon earth, all praise be addressed:
To God in three persons, one God ever blest
As it has been, now is and always shall be.*

Psalm 105 (DBT) CM

Psalm 104 recites the glory of the Lord in creation. This psalm recites the descent to and deliverance from Egypt. Psalm 106 recites the glory of the Lord in the journey through the wilderness. Ballad metre suits these two psalms particularly well.

Part 1 - Invocation to Praise

1. O thank the Lord, call on his name: ~ tell peoples of his deeds.
2. Sing, sing your praises; ponder on ~ all that from him proceeds.
3. Boast in his hallowed name; let hearts ~ that seek the Lord rejoice.
4. Look for the Lord's might, ever seek ~ his presence as your choice.
5. Remember his decrees, the signs ~ and wonders he has done:
6. You seed of Abraham, his liege: ~ Jacob, his chosen one.

Part 2 - The Covenant

7. Do not forget he is the Lord, ~ our God who calls from birth:
The judgements of the Lord our God ~ resound through all the earth.
8. He holds in mind his covenant: ~ forever it survives:
The word he ordered that should last ~ throughout a thousand lives,
9. The covenant with Abraham ~ that he had made and torn:
And bound himself with Isaac by ~ the oath that he had sworn.
10. That he enacted and confirmed ~ for Jacob as a law
For Israël a covenant ~ to stand for evermore.
11. To you I say that I shall give ~ the land of Canaan too:
The portion and inheritance ~ that I allot to you.

Part 3 - Joseph is sold into slavery

12. They were but few and strangers there; ~ they wandered to and fro:
13. Among kingdoms and nations too, ~ they had no place to go.
14. Yet he let no one bully them: ~ rebuked kings with alarm.
15. "Do not touch my anointed ones ~ nor do my prophets harm".
16. He called down famine on the earth: ~ the staff of life, he broke;
17. But sent a man ahead of them: ~ traded by his own folk.
18. Joseph was sold, a slave in chains ~ his feet in fetters dole:
Collared, afflicted till the iron ~ entered into his soul.
19. Until the time when his words came ~ to pass as he foreknew:

The Lord had tested what he'd said ~ and proved that it was true.

20. The king sent and had him released; ~ the ruler set him free:
21. He made him lord of his household, ~ of his goods his trustee.
22. So he bound princes to his will ~ taught elders his wisdom:
23. Till Israel down to Egypt came ~ and Jacob lodged in Ham.

Part 4 - Moses, Aaron and the plagues

24. God made them wax abundantly ~ mighty against their foes:
25. Whose hearts he turned to hate his kin ~ to swindle those he chose.
26. He sent them Moses his servant: ~ he chose Aaron to go:
27. Among them to display his signs, ~ in Ham his wonders show.
28. He sent darkness; he made it dark; ~ at noontime choking smoke:
His ministers did not rebel ~ against the work he spoke.
29. He turned their water into blood: ~ he caused their fish to die:
30. Their land spawned teeming frogs which filled ~ the rooms where their kings
lie.
31. He spoke and swarms of gnats and flies ~ came forth and filled the land:
32. He sent them rain, hail, fire and flame ~ on each and ev'ry hand.
33. He struck their vines and figs: he wrecked ~ the trees throughout their land:
34. He spoke and countless locusts came: ~ grubs massed at his command.
35. He ate up all the plants: they gorged ~ all the fruits of the earth.
36. He struck the first fruits of their land, ~ their heirs, their first in birth.

Part 5 - the Exodus and fulfilment

37. He brought them out of Egypt's chains ~ with silver and with gold:
Among his tribes not one stumbled; ~ none tripped of his household.
38. Egypt was glad to see them go: ~ in dread of them and fright.
39. He spread a cloud to cover them: ~ and fire to light their night.
40. They asked; he gave them quails to eat: ~ filled them with heaven's bread.

41. He split a rock and water gushed: ~ a flood in a dry bed.
42. He recalled both his holy word: ~ and servant Abraham.
43. And brought his people out with joy: ~ his chosen with acclaim.
44. He gave them lands of nations ~ their soil and earth as spoil:
They took for their inheritance ~ the fruits of others' toil.
45. So that they might his statutes guard, ~ his laws keep and record:
Faithfully his precepts obey. ~ Praise, O praise the Lord.

Psalm 106 (DBT) CM

See note for 105. The T&B version of this psalm is in Long Metre, and there is no tune particularly associated with it in CM. Playford offers St David which is a standard tune.

Part 1 - Invocation

1. O praise the Lord for he is good ~ his mercy lasts always:
2. Who can express his noble acts ~ or make heard all his praise.
3. How bless'd are those whose ways are just, ~ who always do what's right.
4. When to your people you are good, ~ remember Lord my plight.

- Look on me when you rescue them; ~ your chosen, let me see:
5. May I both see them prosper and ~ rejoice exultantly.

Let me with gladness know and share ~ your nation's radiance:
And let me join in joyful praise ~ with your inheritance.

Part 2 - God's loving care

6. Just like our forebears, we have failed ~ have sinned, turned from your way:
In Egypt to your miracles ~ no reck'ning did they pay.
7. They did not hold in mind your love ~ nor your steadfast mercy:
They rebelled at your faithfulness ~ by the sea, the Red Sea.
8. Yet he saved them for his name's sake ~ to make his power known:

He rescued and delivered them ~ to make his might be shown.

9. He reprimanded the Red Sea; ~ it dried at his command:
He led them through its deep abyss, ~ as through the desert sand.
10. From hand of foe and enemy, ~ he saved and rescued them:
And as for those that hated them, ~ them all did he condemn.
11. The waters swamped their advers'ries ~ not one of them remained:
12. Then they believed his words and sang ~ his praises unconstrained.

Part 3 - Israel's disbelief and rebellion.

13. But they sped to ignore his works, ~ forget what he had done:
They would not wait for his advice, ~ his lead, would rather shun.
14. In desert drear they wildly craved ~ with lusts fierce and unblest.
They hungered in the wilderness ~ and put God to the test.
15. So he gave them what they asked for, ~ what they thought was their goal.
But sent among them wasting plague, ~ a leanness of the soul.
16. For they were jealous of Moses ~ in camp and at their board:
And they resented Aaron who ~ was holy to the Lord.
17. The earth opened. It took Dathan, ~ swallowed him greedily:
It closed up over Abiram ~ and all his company.
18. Among their faction and their clique ~ was kindled burning fire:
The flames burnt up the wicked and ~ they were consumed in ire.

Part 4 - The Golden Calf

19. They cast a calf at Horeb as ~ a thing of gold or brass:
20. Swapping God's Glory for the form ~ of ox that feeds on grass.
21. They forgot God, their Saviour who ~ in Egypt did great deeds,
22. Marvels in Ham and fearsome things ~ upon the Sea of Reeds.
23. He said he'd wipe them out, had not ~ Moses turned his attack:

His chosen stood firm in the breach ~ God's anger to hold back.

24. Then they refused his promised land, ~ would not believe his word.
25. They muttered in their tents and spurned ~ the voice of their own Lord.
26. And so he raised his hand and swore, ~ his oath did he express:
That he would fell and scatter them, ~ across the wilderness.
27. That he would cast abroad their seed ~ among nations aside:
Dispersing them throughout the lands, ~ spreading them far and wide.

Part 5 - Idolatry and Apostasy

28. They bound themselves to Peor's Baal: ~ ate offerings to the dead.
29. They angered God in what they did: ~ so plague burst out and spread.
30. But Phinehas stepped in with force: ~ at that the plague was stayed.
31. It was reckoned as righteousness ~ through circling time's cascade.
32. At the waters of Meribah ~ they angry did him make:
So it went ill for Moses who ~ was punished for their sake.
33. They made him in his heart rebel, ~ his spirit bitter too:
A flood of rash and angry words ~ forth from his lips did spew.
34. The peoples they did not destroy ~ though the Lord told them to.
35. They mingled with the nations, learnt ~ to do as they did do.
36. They turned to serve their idols which ~ became for them a lure.
37. They slew their daughters and their sons ~ to demons, things impure.
38. They shed the blood of innocents ~ their daughter, son and child,
39. And to Canaan's idols slew them, ~ the land with blood defiled.
40. They made themselves unclean and foul ~ in all the things they did:
They played the harlot in their deeds, ~ were faithless and wicked.

Part 6 - From Rejection to Redemption

41. The Lord seethed at his people and ~ he burnt with virulence.
Abhorring them and recoiling ~ from his inheritance.
42. To the heathen, he handed them: ~ to the rule of their foes.
43. Their enemies oppressed them, crushed, ~ subdued them to their throes.
44. So many times he rescued them ~ yet they rebelled, fearless:
They chased after their own counsel, ~ sank low in wickedness.
45. Yet he saw them in their distress: ~ he heard their ringing cry.
46. He remembered his covenant ~ and relented thereby.
- With his abundant steadfast love ~ he reached out in mercy.
47. He roused in those impris'ning them ~ compassion and pity.
48. Save, gather us our Lord and God ~ from nations for always:
That we may thank your holy name ~ and glory in your praise.
49. Blest be the Lord and Israel's God ~ for ever and again.
Let all the people ever say ~ Alleluia, Amen.

Corrected by adding Golden Sheaves version of Ps 95, 17 vii 2009; some changes to Ps 95, 2 x 2009;