

## Book 5 - Part A - Psalms 107-119

### Psalm 107(DBT)

### DCM

Both Old and New Version provide excellent offerings for this delightful psalm, though in most texts the OV example by William Kethe is spoilt by some later editor having put the breaks between the sections in the wrong places. I have provided the NV which is almost unaltered and a DCM version which is a new write.

This is partially based on the CM version by William Kethe. There is an excellent tune in DCM, Old 107th, but DCM imposes certain restraints. There must be an even number of four line verses before the two repeating verses, which themselves must always metrically come in the same position in the verse where they occur. To some extent, this dictates either some compression or some expansion to make the verses fit. In addition, this particular tune has rather a striking rhythm which the words need to fit. The tune is not in Playford, but is in the 1929 Scottish psalter, and at least some editions of the English Hymnal.

This also supplies a précised version of the chorus verses so as to fit them into one DCM verse. The Roux version, though I have not used it, swaps the order of the repeating lines so as to place them together and then the two varying ones together as the second half of the verse.

### Part 1 - Those that hunger and thirst

1. O praise and thank the Lord our God ~ for he is good and sure  
His steadfast love and loyalty ~ for ever shall endure.
2. Let those he has redeemed so say, ~ those he has gathered in,
3. From east and west and north and south ~ from foes and lands foreign.
4. Some wandered in bleak desert wastes: ~ they could not find their way:  
They found no city nor a place ~ where they could rest or stay.
5. They hungered, thirsted, parched and dry ~ were famished lost and grey:  
In their souls, in their inner selves ~ fainted and ebbd away.
6. **In pain they cried out, to the Lord ~ in trouble and duress:  
And he delivered them from woe, ~ saved them from their distress.**
7. He set their feet on a straight path ~ became for them their guide:  
To bring them to a city where ~ they could live and abide.
8. **Let them tell out before the Lord ~ the steadfast love he's shown:  
The wondrous deeds that he has done ~ for Adam's flesh and bone.**
9. He satisfies the thirsty soul; ~ he cool refreshment brings.  
And from his cornucopia fills ~ the hungry with good things.

*In pain they cried out to the Lord ~ he saved them from distress.  
He set their feet upon the path ~ that to his city brings.  
Let people thank the Lord for all ~ his wonders and goodness  
The thirsty soul he quenches, fills ~ the hungry with good things.*

### **Part 2 - Those bereft**

10. Some sat in darkness and deep gloom ~ in iron mis'ry chained.
11. They'd rebelled, rejected God's words, ~ they languished locked, detained.  
The counsel of the Lord most high, ~ they scorned and sought to spoil.
12. They stumbled and were without help: ~ he bound their hearts to toil
  
- 13 In pain they cried out, to the Lord ~ in trouble and duress:  
And from woe, he delivered them ~ saved them from their distress.**
14. He saved them from darkness, deep gloom ~ from shadows brought them out.  
Their bonds he broke and snapped the chains ~ that wrapped their lives about.
  
- 15 Let them tell out before the Lord ~ the steadfast love he's shown:  
The wondrous deeds that he has done ~ for Adam's flesh and bone.**
16. He broke down the great doors of bronze, ~ made brazen gates yield sway:  
And severed iron bars in two ~ in pieces cast away.

*In pain they cried out to the Lord ~ he saved them from distress  
Brought them from darkness and deep gloom ~ breaking apart their chains.  
Let people thank the Lord for all ~ his wonders and goodness  
He broke the doors of bronze and snapped ~ the iron bars in twain.*

### **Part 3 - Those lost in sin**

17. As fools in ways of rebellion ~ some turned to paths unblest.  
For their iniquities they were ~ afflicted and sore pressed.
18. Their souls abhorred all kinds of food ~ distaste in every breath.  
They drew near to, they fast approached, ~ the yawning gates of death.
  
- 19 In pain they cried out, to the Lord ~ in trouble and duress:  
And from woe, he delivered them ~ saved them from their distress.**
20. He sent his word out to heal them ~ his voice to manumit.  
He saved them when they were brought low, ~ rescued them from the pit
  
- 21. Let them tell out before the Lord ~ the steadfast love he's shown:**

**The wondrous deeds that he has done ~ for Adam's flesh and bone.**

22. Let them with thanks make sacrifice ~ their grateful gifts employ.  
His works and wondrous deeds proclaim ~ with shouts of ringing joy.

***In pain they cried out to the Lord ~ he saved them from distress***

*He sent his word to heal them and ~ from the pit redeploy.*

***Let people thank the Lord for all ~ his wonders and goodness***

*Proclaim their thanks with sacrifice ~ his works with shouts of joy.*

#### **Part 4 - Those that go down to the sea in ships**

23. Some went down to the sea in ships, ~ in vessels weak and frail:  
They plied their trade upon the seas, ~ the kingdom of the whale.
24. They see the great expanse of waves; ~ they work where waters sweep.  
They witness the works of the Lord, ~ his wonders in the deep.
25. God spoke and called up wind and storm: ~ the waves rose up on high.
26. First they were brought down to the depths, ~ then tossed up to the sky.  
Their souls dissolved at their peril, ~ all that it might portend.
27. They lurched like drunks staggered and reeled: ~ they were at their wits' end.

**28 In pain they cried out, to the Lord ~ in trouble and duress:  
And from woe, he delivered them ~ saved them from their distress.**

29. He stayed the storm and silenced it: ~ he made the waves be still:  
30 So were they glad to reach a port, ~ a place safe and tranquil.

**31. Let them tell out before the Lord ~ the steadfast love he's shown:  
The wondrous deeds that he has done ~ for Adam's flesh and bone.**

32. Before the nation's meeting may ~ his name be lifted high:  
Before the elders' bench let all ~ him praise and magnify.

***28-32 In pain they cried out to the Lord ~ he saved them from distress***

*He stills the storm, makes waves be still ~ with respite them rewards.*

***Let people thank the Lord for all ~ his wonders and goodness***

*Exalt him in the council and ~ before the nation's lords.*

#### **Part 5 - Conclusion**

33. The Lord makes rivers dry deserts: ~ turns springs to thirsty ground,  
34. And fruitful earth to salty waste: ~ since evil there abounds.  
35. He makes the desert watering holes: ~ turns thirsty ground to springs.

36. He brings the hungry there to live: ~ in towns for their dwellings.
37. Some sow seed, plant their vineyards too ~ that give a fruitful yield:
38. He blesses them with much increase: ~ their herds spread in the field.
39. He brings down others to trouble ~ in disaster disgraced.
40. On princes he pours out contempt ~ to wander trackless wastes.
41. But he from hardship lifts the poor ~ from all that makes them weep:  
And multiplies their families ~ as with a flock of sheep.
42. The wicked see and shut their mouths: ~ the upright all rejoice.
43. Whoso is wise, muse on the Lord, ~ his steadfast love and choice.

### Psalm 107 (TBa) LM

The NV example is in LM. P&G describes Part 4 as, 'the West Gallery equivalent of Eternal Father strong to save', and provides a striking tune, New Poole. Other tunes associated with this version include Abridge, Wareham and Winchester New.

#### Part 1 - Those that hunger and thirst

1. To God your grateful voices raise, ~ who does your daily patron prove;  
And let your never-ceasing praise ~ attend on his eternal love.
- 2,3. Let those give thanks whom he from bands ~ of proud oppressing foes  
released;  
And brought them back from distant lands, ~ from north and south, and west  
and east.
- 4,5. Through lonely desert ways they went, ~ nor could a peopled city find;  
Till, quite with thirst and hunger spent, ~ their fainting soul within them pined.
6. **Then soon to God's indulgent ear ~ they did their mournful cry address;  
Who graciously chose them to hear, ~ and freed them from their deep  
distress.**
7. From crooked paths he led them forth, ~ and in the certain way did guide  
To wealthy towns of great resort, ~ where all their wants were well supplied.
8. **O then that all the earth with me ~ would God for this his goodness  
praise,  
And for the mighty works which he ~ throughout the wond'ring world  
displays!**

9. For he from heav'n the sad estate ~ of longing souls with pity views;  
To hungry souls that pant for meat, ~ his goodness daily food renews.

### **Part 2 - Those bereft**

10. Some lie with darkness compassed round, ~ in death's uncomfortable shade,  
And with unwieldy fetters bound, ~ by pressing cares more heavy made.
- 11,12. Because God's council they defied, ~ and lightly prized his holy word,  
With these afflictions they were tried; ~ they fell, and none could help afford.
13. **Then soon to God's indulgent ear ~ they did their mournful cry address;  
Who graciously chose them to hear, ~ and freed them from their deep  
distress.**
14. From dismal dungeons, dark as night, ~ and shades as black as death's abode,  
He brought them forth to cheerful light, ~ and welcome liberty bestowed.
15. **O then that all the earth with me ~ would God for this his goodness  
praise,  
And for the mighty works which he ~ throughout the wond'ring world  
displays!**
16. For he with his Almighty hand ~ the gates of brass in pieces broke;  
Nor could the massy bars withstand, ~ or tempered steel resist his stroke.

### **Part 3 - Those lost in sin**

17. Remorseless wretches, void of sense, ~ with bold transgressions God defy,  
And, for their multiplied offence, ~ oppressed with sore diseases lie.
18. Their soul, a prey to pain and fear, ~ abhors to taste the choicest meats;  
And they by faint degrees draw near ~ to death's inhospitable gates.
19. **Then soon to God's indulgent ear ~ they did their mournful cry address;  
Who graciously chose them to hear, ~ and freed them from their deep  
distress.**
20. He all their sad distempers heals, ~ his word both health and safety gives;

And, when all human succour fails, ~ from near destruction them retrieves.

21. **O then that all the earth with me ~ would God for this his goodness  
praise,  
And for the mighty works which he ~ throughout the wond'ring world  
displays!**
22. With off'rings let his altar flame, ~ whilst they their grateful thanks express,  
and with loud joy his holy Name ~ for all his acts of wonder bless.

#### **Part 4 - Those that go down to the sea in ships**

- 23,24. They that in ships, with courage bold, ~ o'er swelling waves their trade pursue,  
Do God's amazing works behold, ~ and in the deep his wonders view.
25. No sooner his command is past, ~ but forth the dreadful tempest flies,  
Which sweeps the sea with rapid haste, ~ and makes the stormy billows rise.
26. Sometimes the ships, tossed up to heav'n, ~ on tops of mounting waves  
appear;  
Then down the steep abyss are driven;~ whilst ev'ry soul dissolves with fear.
27. They reel and stagger to and fro, ~ like those with fumes of wine oppressed;  
Nor do the skilful sailors know ~ which way to steer, what course is best.
28. **Then soon to God's indulgent ear ~ they did their mournful cry address;  
Who graciously chose them to hear, ~ and freed them from their deep  
distress.**
- 29,30. He does the raging storm appease, ~ and makes the billows calm and still;  
With joy they see their fury cease, ~ and their intended course fulfil.
31. **O then that all the earth with me ~ would God for this his goodness  
praise,  
And for the mighty works which he ~ throughout the wond'ring world  
displays!**
32. Let them, where all the tribes resort, ~ advance to heav'n his glorious Name,  
And in the elders' sov'reign court, ~ with one consent his praise proclaim!

## Part 5 - Conclusion

- 33,34. A fruitful land, where streams abound, ~ God's just revenge, if people sin,  
Will turn to dry and barren ground, ~ to punish those that dwell therein.
- 35,36. The parched and desert heath he makes ~ to flow with streams and springing  
wells,  
Which for his lot the hungry takes, ~ and in strong cities safely dwells.
- 37,38. He sows the field, the vineyard plants, ~ which gratefully his toil repay;  
Nor can, whilst God his blessing grants, ~ his fruitful seed or stock decay.
39. But when his sins heav'n's wrath provoke, ~ his health and substance fade  
away;  
He feels th' oppressor's galling yoke, ~ and is of grief the wretched prey.
40. The prince who slights what God commands, ~ exposed to scorn, must quit  
his throne;  
And over wild and desert lands, ~ where no path offers, stray alone.
41. Whilst God, from all afflicting cares, ~ sets up the humble man on high,  
And makes in time his num'rous heirs ~ with his increasing flocks to vie.
- 42,43. Then sinners shall have nought to say, ~ the just a decent joy shall show;  
The wise these strange events shall weigh, ~ and thence God's goodness  
fully know.

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## Psalm 108 (TBa) CM

Verses 1-5 of this psalm repeat vv 7-11 of Psalm 57. verses 6-13 repeat Psalm 60 vv 5-12. These have different meters. So this version does not repeat those words exactly. Apart from vv 6 & 11, there are merely a few small modernisations. This is otherwise largely as written by T&B. P&G provides a fuguing tune, called Weston.

- 1 O God, my heart is fully bent ~ to magnify your Name;  
My tongue with cheerful songs of praise ~ shall celebrate your fame.
- 2 Awake, my lute, do not my harp ~ your warbling notes delay,  
Whilst I with early hymns of joy ~ welcome the dawning day.

- 3 To all the list'ning tribes, O Lord, ~ your wonders I will tell;  
And to those nations sing your praise, ~ which round about us dwell.
- 4 Because your steadfast love excels ~ and highest heav'n transcends,  
And far beyond th' aspiring clouds ~ your faithful truth extends.
- 5 Be you, O God, exalted high ~ above the starry frame;  
And let the earth, with one consent, ~ confess your glorious Name.
- 6 So those you love may be rescued ~ and salvation declare.:  
Let your right hand protect us still: ~ let you answer my prayer.
- 7 Since God himself has said the word, ~ whose promise cannot fail,  
"With joy I shall Shechem divide, ~ and measure Succoth's vale.
- 8 Gilead is mine, Manasseh too, ~ and Ephraim owns my cause:  
Their strength my regal pow'r supports, ~ and Judah gives my laws.
- 9 Moab I'll make my servile drudge, ~ on vanquished Edom tread;  
And through the proud Philistine lands ~ my conqu'ring banners spread."
- 10 By whose support and aid shall I ~ their well-fenced city gain?  
Who will my troops securely lead ~ through Edom's guarded plain?
- 11 Have you rejected us, O God ~ have you your face concealed?  
And will you no longer lead our troops ~ go with them in the field?
- 12 O, to your servants in distress ~ your speedy succour send;  
For vain it is on human help ~ for safety to depend.
- 13 Then valiant acts shall we perform, ~ if you, your pow'r disclose;  
For God it is, and God alone, ~ that treads down all our foes.

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### Psalm 109 (DBT) CM

Outside Hardy's Mayor of Casterbridge, I suspect it will be rare that anyone would sing this cursing psalm congregationally. Although evil people may belong to both sexes, some of the references make it impossible to translate this psalm into gender neutral language. As far as I am aware, no translation has tried, and I have not done so either. One of the words used for 'adversary' or 'accuser' in this psalm is the word from which Satan derives.

### **Part 1 - The cry of one afflicted by enemies**

1. God of my praise do not be deaf ~ nor silent to my plea,  
For wicked and deceitful folk ~ mouth evil words at me.
2. They speak of me with lying tongue ~ from venom never pause:  
They wrap me round with hateful words ~ and fight me without cause.
3. I gave them love which they've repaid ~ as devils, enemies.  
Though I'd prayed for them, they have made ~ themselves my advers'ries.
4. They give me evil in exchange ~ for my good will they spurn:  
And for the love that I gave them ~ hatred is their return.

### **Part 2 - The cry for justice over the enemy**

5. "Appoint," they say, "to manage him ~ a knave placed in command:  
And let a hostile accuser ~ stand close by his right hand".
6. Let him be judged and be condemned, ~ his prayer be counted sin.
7. His days, let them be few, his post ~ another take and win.
8. Let his children be fatherless ~ his wife a widow make,
9. To wander and to beg through wastes ~ with dreary, empty ache.
10. Let all his goods a bailiff seize, ~ a stranger loot his toil.
11. To him and to his orphaned brood, ~ let none be kind or loyal.
12. Let his line soon come to an end; ~ put his lineage to rout.  
In the next generation, let ~ his name be blotted out.
13. Let his forefathers' wickedness ~ be held before the Lord:  
And no sin of his mother be ~ erased from the record.
14. Let their sins always stand before ~ the Lord what'ere may be;  
That he may wholly cut them off ~ from the earth's memory.

### **Part 3 - The cry describing the enemy's wickedness**

15. For he chose never to keep faith, ~ but rather, with each breath,

The poor, needy and sick of heart ~ he hounded to their death.

16. He loved to curse; let him be cursed; ~ his words on him rebound:  
As he did not like blessing, let ~ such far from him be found.

17. He clad himself with cursing as ~ the coat or cloak he owns:  
Let it like water soak his bowels, ~ seep as oil through his bones.

18. Let it be like the garment that ~ he wraps about his frame  
And like a belt to gird himself ~ each day as though his name.

19. May this be the wage that the Lord ~ pays as reward or dole,  
To my accusers, those who speak ~ their evil of my soul.

#### **Part 4 - The cry to the Lord to intervene**

20. But Lord, my lord, on my behalf ~ step in for your name's sake.  
Because your steadfast love is good ~ seize me and rescue make.

21. I am poor and needy; my heart ~ is shaken and succussed.

22. Stretched like a shadow, I decline ~ shrugged off like a locust.

23. My knees are weak for want of food: ~ my flesh is parched and dry.

24. I am a scorn to those who shake ~ their heads and vilify.

25. Help me my Lord and God. Save me ~ by your love, true and stout.

26. Let them know that it is your hand ~ which has brought this about.

27. Though they may curse yet you will bless, ~ though conflict is their choice:  
Though they attack, they will be shamed. ~ Your servant will rejoice.

28. Clothe my accusers with reproach; ~ let shame make them a joke:  
Let them be wrapped in ignom'ny, ~ dishonour be their cloak.

29. With my mouth I will thank the Lord ~ with mighty force give praise.  
In the midst of the multitude ~ I shall his glory raise.

30. For he stands at the poors' right hand; ~ the needy he consoles:  
And saves their lives from those who would ~ judge and condemn their souls.

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## Psalm 110 (DBT) CM

The reference to Melchizedek in this psalm is so striking and mysterious that it tends to distract attention from how difficult it is to work out what the rest of the psalm is actually saying. Verse 3 is almost incomprehensible. Not only is there is no unanimity as to what it means but there is hardly any resemblance between how the various versions translate it. Nor is it entirely clear how the final verse relates to the verses that precede it. There are three versions here. This one in CM. There is no tune particularly associated with it.

1. The Lord spoke and said to my Lord, ~ "sit down at my right hand:  
Until I make your enemies ~ your footstool to command."
  2. The Lord will stretch your staff across ~ ev'rything that yours is:  
Extending from Ziön in power ~ to rule your enemies.
  3. In majesty your people will ~ muster freely to you:  
From womb of morning you'll receive ~ the gift of youthful dew.
  4. The Lord has sworn that you shall be, ~ he will not change his mind - :  
A priest as is Melchizedek, - ~ of his order and kind.
  5. At your right hand your Lord brings down ~ kings in his day of wrath.
  6. He judges nations, shatters heads ~ tears life away from cloth.
- He brings down rulers through the earth: ~ he makes heaps of the dead:
7. He shall drink from the roadside brook: ~ and so lift up his head.

## Psalm 110 10,10,10,10

This comes from an earlier Scottish psalter that preceded Roux, but with a number of changes. There is an original Bourgeois tune in this metre Old 110th. I have not been able to locate the sheet music for this, but there are a number of other tunes that it would go well to. Song 22 or Sursum Corda are both possibilities.

- 1 The Lord spoke to my lord these words of his,  
"Sit yourself down and rest at my right hand:  
Until the time I make your enemies,  
Into a stool on which your feet may stand".
- 2 The sceptre of your regal power and might  
From Sion shall the Lord reach and enclose:  
So be therefore the ruler in the fight  
And in the midst of all your mortal foes.

- 3     When you are clad in holy majesty,  
       Your people shall come willingly to you:  
       The youth that springs out of your womb shall be  
       Compared and liken'd to the morning dew.
- 4     Thus God has sworn, and will not change his mind,  
       Nor shall repent, nor his faith break or wreck:  
       "You are a Priest for ever of the kind,  
       And in succession to Melchizedek".
- 5     The sovereign Lord our God who stands watching,  
       At your right hand, to be your help and stay:  
       Shall wound proud princes and crush powerful kings  
       In love for you on that his wrathfull day.
6.    The nations he shall judge, the heathen weigh,  
       Raising in heaps the bodies of the dead:  
       To break the heads and bring beneath his sway  
       The rulers of the earth so widely spread.
- 7     For he who hastily pursues his foes  
       Shall drink the brook that runs beside the way:  
       And when he has confounded all of those,  
       He shall lift up his head on high that day.

### **Psalm 110 (Tba) 888 888**

This has been modernised slightly and the order of some of lines have been reversed. Although strictly this should be in 888 888, as explained elsewhere there are relatively few tunes in this metre. Because of the way this particularly psalm is written so that many of the verses flow straight through their six lines, some tunes in 88 88 88 should work.

1. The Lord unto my Lord thus spake:  
    "till I your foes your footstool make,  
        Sit down in state at my right hand:
2. Supreme in Zion you shall be,  
    and all your proud opposers see  
        Subjected to your just command."
3. The willing nations shall obey  
    you, in your pow'r's triumphant day;

And, when your rising beams they view,  
Shall all (redeemed from error's night)  
appear as numberless and bright  
As crystal drops of morning dew."

4. The Lord hath sworn, nor sworn in vain,  
that, like Melchizedek's, your reign  
And priesthood shall no ending know:
5. At your right hand he will permit,  
no proud competitor to sit  
But in his wrath crowned heads o'erthrow.
6. The sentenced heathen he shall slay,  
and fill with carcasses his way,  
Till he has struck earth's tyrants dead:
7. But in the high-way brooks shall first,  
like a poor pilgrim, slake his thirst;  
And then in triumph raise his head.

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**Psalm 111(SHa)**

**666 666**

Query whether a decent tune exists for this metre, 666 666. Playford has a Proper tune which is attractive but does not seem to have survived to the modern era and also suggests Old 120th, which is in some hymn books. It is possible Barnby's Laudes Domini might fit. The Hebrew original is an acrostic, each line beginning with the next Hebrew letter.

1. With heart I do accord  
to praise and laud the Lord,  
In presence of the just;
2. For great his works are found,  
To search them such are bound,  
as do him love and trust,
3. His works are glorious.  
His righteousness to us,  
For ever shall endure:
4. His wondrous works he would  
We still remember should;  
his mercy is full sure.

5. Such as to him bear love,  
a portion fair above  
    He hath up for them laid:  
For this they shall well find,  
He will them have in mind,  
    and keep them as he said.
  
6. For he did not disdain  
his works to show them plain,  
    By lightnings and by thunders:  
When he the heathens' land  
Did give into their hand,  
    where they beheld his wonders.
  
7. Of all his works ensu'th  
both judgment, right, and truth,  
    Whereto his statutes tend:
8. He has decreed these sure,,  
For ever to endure,  
    on which we may depend.
  
9. Redemption great he gave  
his people for to save,  
    It also hath appeared;  
His promise doth not fail,  
But evermore prevail:  
    his holy Name be feared.
  
10. Whoso with heart full fain  
true wisdom would attain,  
    The Lord fear and obey:  
Such as his laws do keep,  
Shall knowledge have full deep;  
    his praise shall last alway.

**Psalm 111 (DBT)      CM**

This version attempts to replicate in English metre the acrostic of the Hebrew original. It also shows why this form does not resonate in English. As English has no corresponding distinction between the sounds of Aleph and 'Ayin, I have chosen 'a' for one and 'e' for the other.

1. Alleluia with all my heart ~ I'll thank, acclaim the Lord.  
Before the band of the righteous ~ his counsel spread abroad.
2. Great are the works of our good Lord ~ his people to ignite  
Desired by those that delve in them ~ that in his works delight.
3. His deeds are honour, majesty; ~ how splendours them attend.  
While his wide righteousness shall wear ~ for ever without end.
4. Zest for the marvels, he with zeal ~ as Zion's Lord proclaims,  
Choosing grace, charity and love ~ as chief causes he names.
5. To those in terror and his fear ~ he gives his tribes his food.  
You hold in mind your covenant ~ of yore that you've imbued.
6. Keenly he showed his countryfolk ~ the power that his works cast.  
Lavished on them the lands of all ~ the nations, first to last.
7. My works are just, my deeds faithful ~ the Lord makes all demur.  
Now his commandments and notions ~ are nothing else but sure.
8. So they stand firm throughout all time ~ resolute and steadfast.  
Each done in truth and equity ~ for ever they shall last.
9. Providing pure redemption, he ~ held his people in hand,  
Setting his covenant in stone; ~ it shall forever stand.
10. Quake and quail at his holy name ~ which quickens as its fruit.  
Reverence for the righteous Lord ~ is wisdom's start and root.
11. Shrewd shall be those who understand ~ and do what he shall say.  
To all times shall his praise endure ~ and holy tribute pay.

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**Psalm 112 (TB)**

**DLM**

This text is unaltered. There are two issues to address with this psalm. The first is that it is almost impossible to amend it into workable gender neutral language. The CW psalter, the TNIV and the NRSV try, by moving the text into the plural, but that renders it less personal and destroys its immediacy. Furthermore, 'Blessed is the man' is 'ashrei ish' which is specifically male, 'the husband' etc. Most other modern translations accept

that. Furthermore, as this is a metrical version that will already be familiar to some users, after careful reflection, I felt it better to stick to the traditional form of expression and accept that it is primarily addressed to heads of household and those who exercise roles of responsibility in society. They may be of either sex. Nevertheless the message does apply to all.

The second issue is that the Hallelujah at the head of the psalm is part of it and should be sung!

## HALLELUJAH.

1. That man is blessed, who stands in awe  
of God, and loves his sacred law:
- 2 His seed on earth shall be renowned,  
and with successive honours crowned.
- 3 His house, the seat of wealth, shall be  
an unexhausted treasury;  
His justice free from all decay  
shall blessings to his heirs convey.
- 4 The soul that's filled with virtue's light  
shines brightest in affliction's night:  
to pity the distressed inclined,  
as well as just to all mankind.
- 5 His lib'ral favours he extends,  
to some he gives, to others lends;  
Yet what his charity impairs,  
he saves by prudence in affairs.
- 6 Beset with threatening dangers round,  
unmoved shall he maintain his ground;  
The sweet remembrance of the just  
shall flourish when he sleeps in dust.
- 7 Ill tidings never can surprise  
his heart, that fixed on God relies:
- 8 On safety's rock he sits, and sees  
the shipwreck of his enemies.
- 9 His hands, while they his alms bestowed,  
his glory's future harvest sowed;  
Whence he shall reap wealth, fame, renown,  
a temp'ral and eternal crown.
- 10 The wicked shall his triumph see,  
and gnash their teeth in agony:

While their unrighteous hopes decay,  
and vanish with themselves away.

**Psalm 112(SHa) 8888 88**

This is a different version that goes to the same tune as Coxe's Lord's Prayer. The metre comes from S&H but apart from v 8 the rest is rewritten.

1. Hallelujah, favoured is he  
    who fears the Lord and loves his law.
2. His seed, great in the land, shall be  
    both bless'd and upright evermore.
3. His house with wealth is unsurpassed.  
    His righteousness always shall last.
4. Light rises in the darkness for  
    the upright who keeps his commands.  
Compassionate, true to the core,  
    straight, gracious and righteous he stands.
5. As a good man he freely lends  
    and justly his affairs attends.
6. For he shall never slip nor fall,  
    and righteous shall be remember'd.
7. He need not fear bad news at all  
    but trust the Lord, be undeterred.
8. His heart is firm, his fear is past,  
    for he shall see his foes downcast.
9. The poor his gifts shall gratify;  
    for ever stands his righteousness.  
His horn in honour lifted high,  
    brings to the wicked pain, distress.  
They see and gnash their teeth, distraught  
    and so their longings waste to nought.

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**Psalm 113(SHa)**

**888 888 D**

The tune for this is Old 113th. The Carillon at Ludlow plays it each Thursday. The tune is in Playford.

- 1/2 Praise God, all you that serve the Lord,  
praise you, his name with one accord;  
Yea, bless'd for ever be his Name,
3. Who from the rising of the sun,  
till it returns where it begun,  
is to be praised with great acclaim.
4. The Lord all nations does surmount  
as we his glory shall account,  
above the heavens high to be.
5. With God the Lord who can compare,  
enthroned in heaven dwelling there?  
Of such great pow'r and force is he.
6. He condescends himself to know,  
to behold life on earth below,  
and also in the heaven' above.
7. He lifts the needy from the dust  
the poor from ashes where they're thrust,  
raised by his mercy and his love,
8. To place them with princes on high  
the great ones of great dignity  
that rule his people spread abroad.
9. The barren he causes to bear,  
and with great joy her child to rear;  
so therefore praise, O praise the Lord!

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**Psalm 114 (DBT) CM**

Back in the sixties of the last century, the BCP prose version of this psalm used to be sung on Easter Sunday to a curious modal chant called 'tonus peregrinus'!

1. When out of Egypt Israel came ~ Jacob from foreign speech:  
2. Judah became his sanctuary ~ Israel his realm and reach.

3. The sea saw that and took to flight: ~ Jordan turned round to flee.
4. The mountains skipped and danced like rams: ~ the hills like lambs leapt free.
5. What made you take your flight O sea? ~ Jordan why did you flee?
6. Why mountains did you skip like rams: ~ or hills like lambs dance free?
7. Writhe earth before the face of God ~ before the Lord trembling:
8. Who turns the rock into a pool ~ flint to a bubbling spring.

**Psalm 114 (Milton)      10 10 10 10 10 10**

John Milton wrote a version of this psalm when aged 15. Unfortunately in the original the first two lines of the third verse each have an extra foot and the first line contains a cross reference which requires specialist knowledge to understand and then turns out to be incorrect. So even though this is by Milton, I have taken the liberty of making some very small alterations. Possible tunes may be Finlandia 'Be still my soul', 'Song 1', 'Eternal Ruler of the ceaseless round', or 'unde et memores'. Two others are 'Credo Domine' or 'Sacramentum Unitatus', though neither is well known.

- 1      When the blest seed of Isaac's faithful Son,  
         After long toil their liberty had won,  
         And past from Pharoah's fields to Canaan Land,  
         Led by the strength of the Almighty's hand,  
         Jehovah's wonders were in Israel shown,  
         His praise and glory were in Israel known.
2.      That saw the troubled sea, and shivering fled,  
         And sought to hide his froth-becurlèd head  
         Low in the earth, Jordan's clear streams recoil,  
         As a faint host that hath received the foil.  
         The high, huge-bellied Mountains skip like rams  
         Amongst their ewes, the little hills like lambs.
3.      Why fled the Ocean? And why skipped the hills?  
         Why turned Jordan toward his Crystal rills?  
         Shake earth, and at the presence be aghast  
         Of him that ever was, and ay shall last,  
         That glassy floods from rugged rocks can crush,  
         And make soft springs from fiery flint-stones gush.

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## Psalm 115 (SHa) CM

This has not required much alteration beyond some changes to update C16 syntax. The needs of scansion made it impossible to modernise the second section of verse 4.

1. Not unto us, O Lord, not us ~ but to your name give praise:  
Both for your truth and steadfast love ~ give the glory always.
2. Why should the heathen nations ask: ~ "Where is their God, where now?"
3. Our God he is in heav'n, and does ~ what he pleases and how.
4. Their idols are silver and gold: ~ work of men's hands they be:
5. They have a mouth but do not speak: ~ have eyes but do not see.
6. And they have ears joined to their heads ~ but do not hear a thing  
And noses too with nostrils but ~ smell nothing life may bring.
7. Hands too, they have, but handle not, ~ and feet but cannot walk:  
A throat they have, yet through its maw ~ they neither speak nor talk.
8. They and their makers are alike. ~ So, who trusts them shall be.
9. But Israë'l trust in the Lord: ~ your help and shield is he.
10. O Aaron's house, trust in the Lord: ~ your help and shield is he.
11. You that fear him trust in the Lord: ~ your help and shield to be.
12. The Lord has been mindful of us; ~ he will bless us also:  
On Israë'l and Aaron's house, ~ his blessings he'll bestow.
13. The Lord will bless those that fear him ~ alike both great and small.
14. May the Lord increase more and more ~ your children and you all.
15. May you be bless'd by the Lord now, ~ blessed by the Lord most high:  
Who has made both the heav'ns and earth, ~ fixed them immovably.
16. The heav'ns above - the highest heav'n - ~ they belong to the Lord:  
But the earth to Adam's children ~ he gave as his award.
17. Those that are dead do not with praise ~ proclaim the Lord's renown:  
Nor any such as to the place ~ of silence should go down.

18. But we, alive, shall bless the Lord ~ henceforth for evermore:  
He only is worthy of praise. ~ Praise, praise the Lord therefore.

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### Psalm 116 (DBT) CM

This is another psalm where the versions differ on how they number the verses. This numbering follows that used by the CW psalter. Vv 10/11 has some input from T&B but the rest has changed so much that it would be inappropriate to attribute it as T&B.

1. I love the Lord because he heard ~ my supplicating plea:  
Life long I shall call on him since ~ he turned his ear to me.
2. The cords of death encompassed me; ~ the pains of Sheol took hold:  
Trouble and torment held me tight ~ with sorrows multifold.
3. Then I called on the Lord by name: ~ "O Lord rescue my soul".
4. Righteous and gracious is the Lord, ~ his love tender and whole.
5. The Lord protects the callow heart ~ in its simplicity:  
When I was brought low, in great need, ~ he saved and rescued me.
6. Return again my soul, repose, ~ and take your rest anew:  
Because our bounteous Lord has dealt ~ generously with you.
7. For you've pulled back my soul from death ~ kept me, Lord, from that town.  
My eyes you've plucked back from their tears ~ my feet from falling down.
8. So I shall walk before the Lord ~ where people know his grace:  
In the land of the living, and ~ before his very face.
9. I trusted even when I said ~ that I was sore oppressed.  
Though I said, "people all tell lies", ~ though panicked and distressed.
10. So what return to him can I ~ for all his bounty make?
11. On the name of the Lord, I'll call; ~ salvation's cup I'll take.
12. And public'ly shall I repay ~ my vows unto the Lord.  
So all his people shall behold ~ the acts that I record.

13. Precious in the sight of the Lord ~ is the death of his own:  
His faithful servants, steadfast souls, ~ treasured before his throne.
14. Lord I am but your servant, slave, ~ child of your kitchen maid:  
Yet you have freed me from my bonds ~ released me from that shade.
15. To you I'll make a thank offering ~ and call upon your name.
16. And pay my vows before your flock ~ them publicly proclaim.
17. In the courts of the Lord's own house ~ his holy name applaud:  
In your midst O Jerusalem ~ praise, praise O praise the Lord.

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**Psalm 117 (Sha)                      CM**

This is the shortest psalm in the book.

- 1        O all you nations of the world ~ exalt the Lord always:  
          And all you peoples everywhere ~ extol him with your praise.
2.        Great is his steadfast love for us, ~ his truth never decays;  
          And so, O praise the Lord our God, ~ O praise the Lord always.

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**Psalm 118 (SHa) The Hallel    CM**

It is likely that some or all of this psalm is what Jesus and the disciples sang where scripture says "When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Vv 14- 24 are particularly appropriate for Maundy Thursday, and go well to the tune Richmond, "Come let us join our cheerful song". That is in a single metre, but because of the way some of the verses partially repeat each other, Part 1 vv 1-13 would go better to a double metre. I have therefore set out the first two parts differently. Part 2 would nevertheless fit a double metre as would the shorter part 3.

**Part 1**

1. Give thanks, confess the Lord is God ~ for very good is he:  
Because his steadfast love shall last ~ for all eternity.
2. Let Israël affirm that his ~ mercy shall ever last:
3. Let Aaron's house likewise confess ~ that his mercy stands fast.

4. Let those who fear the Lord acclaim, ~ confess that they are sure:  
That his mercy, his steadfast love, ~ for ever shall endure.
5. In pain I cried out to the Lord ~ in anguish made my plea:  
He answered me and gave me room; ~ he heard and set me free.
6. The Lord is at my side, with me, ~ and so I need not fear  
What anyone will do to me ~ what they may bring to bear.
7. The Lord is at my side, with me ~ as help and aid to know,  
So shall I see my enemies, ~ those that hate me brought low.
8. Better seek shelter with the Lord ~ and refuge with him find:  
Than place ones confidence or trust ~ in any human kind.
9. Better seek shelter with the Lord ~ take refuge in his tent  
Than place ones confidence or trust ~ in prince or president.
10. The nations all surrounded me ~ but in the Lord's own name:  
I cut them down and round about ~ and drove them from the frame.
11. They circumscribed, surrounded me ~ fenced in on every side:  
Yet I quashed them in the Lord's name ~ and so cut down their pride.
12. They swarmed about me as the bees ~ and died as burns the thorn:  
Yet in the Lord's name so did I ~ cut them down, clipped their horn.
13. Twice did they push me back and more ~ I was about to fall:  
Until the Lord came to my help ~ and rescued me from thrall.

## **Part 2 Hymn for Maundy Thursday**

14. The Lord is my defence, my strength, ~ my choicest fruit, my song,  
He has become for me today, ~ a Saviour great and strong.
15. The upright's tents re-echo with ~ salvation's joyful shout.
16. The right hand of the Lord our God ~ will bring great things about.
17. The Lord's right hand is lifted high. ~ His hand does mighty things.  
I shall not die, but live to tell ~ the wonders our God brings.
18. The Lord has harshly chastened me; ~ respite he may deny:  
But has not giv'n me to death ~ nor left me out to die.

- 19 Open to me the holy gate ~ let me worship within  
 20 Swing open wide these gates of God ~ and let the righteous in.
- 21 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, ~ and ever will you praise,  
 For you have heard me and become ~ my Saviour for always.
- 22 The stone the builders once refused ~ is now the corner tie.  
 23 The Lord has done a thing which is ~ amazing to the eye.
- 24 This is the day the Lord has made, ~ has acted to commit.  
 We will rejoice exultantly. ~ Let us be glad in it.

### Part 3

25. Lord save us; so we supplicate; ~ and Lord prosper us too.  
 26. Blest whoso comes in the Lord's name: ~ in your house we bless you.  
 27. The Lord is God and is our light; ~ so make your sacrifice:  
 And tie it to the altar's horns ~ which you with garlands splice.
28. You are my God, I will confess ~ and give you every thanks  
 You are my God, whom I exalt, ~ the one who all outranks.  
 29. Give thanks, confess the Lord is God ~ for very good is he:  
 Because his steadfast love shall last ~ for all eternity.

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### Psalm 119 (DBT) CM

The original is built in an accrostic of eight verse blocks. Each verse in each block begins with the same Hebrew letter. It is not possible in English verse to replicate the accrostic pattern, which would not work anyway. As a consequence of its form, it is a succession of thoughts, almost interjections. However, in addition to its accostic form, it also built round the repetition of a number of key words. This version has tried to express something of the pattern of repetition. There is a 'proper' tune to the OV in both Playford and P&G. P&G also offers a number of tunes for individual blocks of the NV as does the Scottish Psalter. The section titles come from the Word Bible Commentary.

### Part 1 vv1-8      ⌘      Appreciation of the Torah

1. Blesséd are they, blesséd each one ~ who's blameless in their ways:  
 Who walks by the Lord's sacred law ~ and never from it strays.
2. Blesséd are those that give themselves ~ his edicts to observe:

Who seek the Lord with all their heart ~ and never from him swerve.

3. They do not do iniquity ~ or tread with what betrays:  
They do not give themselves to sin ~ for they walk in his ways.
4. Your precepts you prescribed, laid down ~ so they might be observed.  
They are to be watched over, kept ~ and faithfully preserved.
5. Would that my ways were firmly set; ~ would that I were steadfast:  
To keep your statutes for they are ~ in all things unsurpassed.
6. Then I would not be put to shame, ~ dishonoured or maligned:  
When I see your commandments and ~ regard them in my mind.
7. I will confess you from my heart ~ upright and clean of hand:  
As I learn what your verdicts are ~ how righteously they stand.
8. I shall observe your statutes, I ~ shall keep them and obey:  
Do not abandon me, disowned, ~ nor leave me cast away.

**Part 2 vv 9–16      כ      Divine teaching of wisdom**

9. How shall a youth keep his path pure, ~ a young person stay clean:  
How watch to live it by your word, ~ whatever such may mean?
10. With all my heart have I sought you; ~ to you I would draw near:  
So do not let me wander, nor ~ from your commandments veer.
11. I hide your sayings in my heart; ~ I treasure them within:  
So that I might not do you wrong, ~ nor turn aside to sin.
12. Blesséd are you and only you ~ O Lord, powerful, active:  
Teach me your statutes, O my God; ~ instruct me how to live.
13. I have recounted the judgements ~ that your mouth has declared:  
The verdicts that you have spelled out, ~ my lips have gladly shared.
14. So in your edicts I rejoice; ~ I count them as my health:  
More than abundancy of goods ~ or every sort of wealth.

15. I meditate within my soul ~ your precepts to descry:  
I pay attention to your paths: ~ on them I fix my eye.

16. For in your statutes I delight, ~ in them I place my joy:  
I never shall forget your word ~ or cease it to employ.

### **Part 3 vv17–24    1    Expressions of Lament**

17. Reward your servant gen'rously ~ as one you have preferred:  
Then I shall live, and so attend, ~ and so obey your word.

18. Open my eyes, uncover them, ~ the veil from them withdraw:  
That I may see and gaze upon ~ the wonders of your law.

19. I am a stranger on the earth, ~ an alien in the land:  
So do not hide your commandments ~ which I must understand.

20. My soul is crushed with longing, it ~ is ravished and on fire:  
It yearns at all times to know what ~ your verdicts might require.

21. You reprimand the arrogant, ~ condemn the proud to clay:  
Accursed are those, the haughty that ~ from your commandments stray.

22. Roll back from me reproach and scorn; ~ let them no longer jeer:  
For I have kept and watched out for ~ your edicts without peer.

23. Against me rulers plot and scheme ~ they sit and speak in hate:  
Yet on your statutes, I your slave ~ will muse and and meditate,.

24. Your edicts are my sport, my joy ~ and my intense delight:  
They are my counsellors and guides; ~ they teach me what is right.

### **Part 4 vv25–32    7    A cry for help**

25. My soul is brought down to the dust ~ and to the dirt adheres  
So by your word, revive my life; ~ call me back from my fears.

26. When I recounted all my ways ~ you listened to my plea:  
Instruct me in the path to walk; ~ your statutes teach to me.

27. Cause me to understand the way ~ your precepts do require:

Then I shall meditate upon ~ how wonderful you are.

28. My soul falls down and weeps with grief; ~ my eyes with tears are blurred:  
So strengthen me and raise me up ~ according to your word.
29. Turn me aside from lying ways ~ and from deceit's sharp claw:  
Bestow on me with graciousness ~ the blessings of your law.
30. The way of faithfulness and trust ~ I have picked as my part:  
Upon your verdicts set my star, ~ to them aligned my heart.
31. To your firm edicts I hold fast; ~ I've trusted your renown:  
So Lord do not leave me ashamed ~ and do not let me down.
32. The way of your commandments, I ~ both run and make my part:  
So then you will enlarge my soul, ~ give me a bigger heart.

**Part 5 vv 119:33–40**



**Prayers for a spiritual life**

33. Show me the way of your decrees; ~ O Lord teach it to me:  
Then I shall keep it to the end; ~ let them my bounty be.
34. Cause me to understand your law; ~ so I may guard it well:  
With all my heart to follow it, ~ obey what it might spell.
35. Lead me in your commandments' path; ~ let them give me my light:  
Let me tread gladly by their track, ~ for that's my true delight.
36. Bend my heart to your edicts as ~ the lead it would obtain:  
Dispose it to live for your will, ~ and not for unjust gain.
37. Avert my eyes from vanities ~ the trivial and absurd:  
Revive my life, preserve my span, ~ in your way by your word.
38. Establish for your servant ~ your sayings long revered:  
Set them up and bring them about ~ so that you may be feared.
39. The scorn that I dread, turn away; ~ avert its likelihood:  
I need not fear reproach or shame ~ for your verdicts are good.
40. How for your precepts have I yearned ~ the wisdom that you give:

Preserve me in your righteousness ~ and in it let me live.

**Part 6 vv 41–48    †    Testimony and a matching lifestyle**

41. Lord let your steadfast love come down; ~ Lord, let it come to me:  
With the salvation promised which ~ your sayings state will be.
42. Then I shall answer words that taunt ~ and speak the word that's yours:  
For I depend upon your word ~ and trust it with my cause.
43. Let not entirely from my mouth ~ the word of truth elope:  
For on your edicts I attend; ~ in them I place my hope.
44. I shall obey your law: I shall , ~ keep it continually:  
For ever and for evermore ~ as long as time shall be.
45. I walk about at liberty, ~ roam a wide open space.  
I seek your precepts, study them ~ and make from them my base.
46. Your edicts I shall voice in words, ~ speak out in front of kings  
And yet I shall not be ashamed ~ nor chastened by such things.
47. I relish your commandments and ~ in them take my delight:  
Because I love them: so I lift ~ my hands up to your height.
48. I honour your commandments with ~ a love that's passionate:  
And on your statutes I shall muse, ~ my heart shall meditate.

**Part 7 vv 49–56    †    Comfort in crisis**

49. Remember your word to your slave ~ and to your servant's ear:  
In which you give me cause to hope ~ and wait in trust, not fear.
50. In my affliction this is what ~ gives comfort to my soul:  
Your sayings bring me back to life, ~ revive and make me whole.
51. Proud people mock me, scoff and scorn ~ behind me and before:  
Yet neither do I turn aside, ~ nor seek to twist your law.
52. For I refresh my mem'ry with ~ your verdicts from of old:  
For I am comforted in them ~ O Lord, I am consoled.

53. Hot fury grips me, burns my soul ~ at those who rouse my crew:  
The wicked who have left your paths, ~ those who forsake your law.
54. Your statutes I have made my song ~ the music of your grace:  
Wherever I may choose to make ~ my home and resting place.
55. I call to mind your name as Lord ~ and think of it by night:  
So I can keep your law, and strive ~ to live by what is right.
56. This has been how things are for me, ~ how I have passed my days:  
Because I keep your precepts, so ~ can I live by your ways.

**Part 8 vv 57-64    𐤆    Illustrations of obedience**

57. You are my portion, Lord, my share, ~ what you have given me.  
I have said I will keep your words, ~ obey them faithfully.
58. Before your face, I humbly beg ~ and plead with all my heart:  
According to your sayings, show ~ your favour to my part.
59. I've paid attention to your ways ~ to live by how they beat:  
And to your edicts turned my steps ~ retraced them with my feet.
60. I hurry and I press ahead ~ for I will not delay  
To keep all your commandments and ~ them ever to obey.
61. The wicked wrap me in their toils ~ they bind me with their ropes:  
Yet I will not forget the your law ~ the place of all my hopes.
62. I rise to thank and praise you in ~ the middle of the night:  
Because the verdicts you bestow ~ are just and true and right.
63. I am a friend to those who fear ~ and hold your name in awe:  
To those who keep your precepts, both ~ behind them and before.
64. Your steadfast love, Lord, fills the land ~ from highest peak to low:  
Teach me your statutes, show me Lord ~ the way that I should go.

**Part 9 vv 65-72    𐤇    God's goodness**

65. You are good to your servant Lord; ~ you have your slave preferred:  
For you have stood by such a one ~ according to your word.
66. Teach me good understanding and ~ discernment that is just:  
For your commandments are the place ~ where I have lodged my trust.
67. Before I was afflicted; then ~ I wandered, strayed and erred:  
But now I give attention and ~ I pay heed to your word.
68. For you are good and you do good ~ for such you can't but be:  
Instruct me in the way to live, ~ your statutes teach to me.
69. The proud have plastered me with lies, ~ smeared me in every part:  
But still I keep your precepts and ~ watch them with all my heart.
70. Their hearts are gross as fat or grease ~ in haughty, callous spite:  
But in your law I place my joy; ~ in it I take delight.
71. For me it has been good to be ~ afflicted and brought low:  
So I might learn your statutes and ~ so come, your ways to know.
72. More precious is your law to me ~ that your mouth spoke of old:  
Than pieces in their thousands both ~ of silver and of gold.

**Part 10 vv 73–80    Learning God's will**

73. Your hands have made and fashioned me ~ both created and planned:  
Teach me all your commandments which ~ will help me understand.
74. Let those who fear you faithfully ~ see me and so rejoice:  
Because I hope, and trust your word ~ and in it placed my choice.
75. I know, Lord, how your verdicts are ~ righteous and true and just  
For you keep faith with me though you ~ may lay me in the dust.
76. Pray let your steadfast love support, ~ console and comfort me:  
According to your sayings to ~ your servant faithfully.
77. Let your compassion reach my heart ~ to live before your sight:  
For in your law I place my trust ~ and all of my delight.

78. The proud - let them be put to shame ~ for wronging me with lies:  
While on your precepts I will muse ~ and seek to become wise.
79. Let those who fear you turn to me, ~ those waiting on your gaze:  
So they may know your edicts, and ~ may understand your ways.
80. Lord, to your edicts let my heart ~ be wholly for your name:  
To stand there blameless, true, complete ~ and not be put to shame.

**Part 11 vv 81–88    7    Life's problems**

81. For your salvation my soul faints; ~ I yearn from my deep core:  
I place my hope in you, O Lord ~ and wait upon your law.
82. In searching out your sayings, Lord, ~ my eyes both fail and fade:  
I say "when will you comfort me, ~ relent, relieve this shade?"
83. For I am like a wineskin that ~ is shrivelled in the smoke:  
Your statutes, I will not forget ~ which you set down and spoke.
84. Your servant tarries many days; ~ how long must that wait be?:  
When will you give your verdict on ~ those persecuting me?
85. The proud have dug their pits for me, ~ they would my hurt procure:  
To seek to trap me in this way ~ is quite against your law.
86. All your commandments shall stand firm, ~ on faithfulness are stayed:  
Yet faithless liars hound my steps; ~ O Lord come to my aid.
87. They'd almost wiped me from the earth ~ expunged me from your land:  
But I do not forsake or quit ~ the precepts you command.
88. Revive me by your steadfast love, ~ let not my heart grow cold:  
That I may keep the edicts that ~ you have pronounced of old.

**Part 12 vv 89–96    8    Opting for what lasts**

89. Your word is everlasting, Lord ~ eternal, without term:  
In the high heavens endlessly, ~ it stands secure and firm.

90. From age to age your faithfulness ~ for ever shall endure:  
The earth, your land, you have fixed fast, ~ established and secure.
91. Your verdicts last even today ~ and to the present stand:  
For all things are your servants ~ and answer your command.
92. If it had not been that your law ~ had been my full delight:  
I would have died in my distress, ~ and perished in my plight.
93. Your precepts I hold in my mind, ~ and never will forget:  
Because you have preserved my life ~ by all that they beget.
94. Deliver me for I am yours; ~ for you alone I wait:  
Since I have sought your precepts and ~ have lived by all they state.
95. The wicked hide about my path; ~ they lurk to slaughter me:  
But on your edicts I shall muse ~ with assiduity.
96. To all perfection I have seen ~ that limits can be placed:  
But your commandments know no bounds ~ are not constrained or cased.

**Part 13 vv 97–104    □    Appreciation of the Torah's wisdom**

97. O how I love your law, O Lord ~ my treasure and my stay:  
I meditate upon its themes; ~ I study it all day.
98. For your commandments make me wise, ~ more so than all my foes:  
May such be my possession, such ~ be always my repose.
99. I have more insight, wisdom more ~ than all those who teach me:  
Because your edicts surely shall ~ my meditation be.
100. I understand more than the old, ~ the elders of the land:  
Because I keep your precepts and ~ I live as you command.
101. I hold my feet back from the path ~ of evil, the bad way:  
So as to keep your word and walk ~ in obedience each day.
102. I do not put your truth away, ~ your verdicts set aside:  
For you instruct me how to live, ~ and you have been my guide.

103. Sweet are your sayings to my taste ~ they are my hope and stay:  
No honey to my mouth or tongue ~ can be as sweet as they.
104. Your precepts make me understand, ~ keep me from going awry.  
I hate the way of falsehood and ~ each path that is a lie.

**Part 14 vv 105–12 ¶      Come wind, come weather**

105. Your word is for my feet a lamp, ~ a lantern shining bright:  
A blazing torch to mark my way ~ and for my path a light.
106. I've sworn a sev'nfold oath that's strong ~ and to it I will hold:  
That to your verdicts I will cleave, ~ which righteousness enfold.
107. I am afflicted greatly, Lord ~ assailed and wracked with strife:  
As you have promised, by your word ~ restore to me my life.
108. Accept the off'ring of my lips ~ made voluntarily:  
Instruct me in your verdicts Lord; ~ teach your wisdom to me.
109. Repeatedly I clasp my soul, ~ take my life in my hand:  
Yet I neither forget your law ~ nor shut out your command.
110. The wicked set a snare for me ~ to trap me in my way:  
But still I do not step aside ~ nor from your precepts stray.
111. Your statutes are my heritage; ~ I claim them for all time.  
They are a joy that fills my heart ~ with ecstasy sublime.
112. I've set my heart on your decrees ~ and such I do intend:  
To live by them, observe their force, ~ till time itself shall end.

**Part 15 vv 113–20 ▢      Making the right choices**

113. I hate the double-minded sort, ~ the half-hearted deplore:  
And those divided in themselves; ~ therefore I love your law:
114. You are my secret hiding place, ~ my shield and strong defence:  
And so have I hoped in your word, ~ there placed my confidence.

115. You evil-doers turn aside ~ and keep away from me:  
So the commandments I may keep ~ that my God may decree.
116. Sustain me with your sayings and ~ I shall yet live anew.  
Do not let me be put to shame ~ when I have hoped in you.
117. Uphold me and I shall be saved: ~ redeem and rescue me:  
Then on your statutes I will fix ~ my gaze continually.
118. All those who from your statutes stray ~ you cast out with disdain:  
Their cunning is as worthlessness ~ and their deceit is vain.
119. All the earth's wicked people you ~ like dross simply discard:  
And so I love your edicts which ~ I hold in high regard.
120. At you my flesh bristles in dread; ~ I quiver to my core:  
Because I fear your edicts that ~ I hold in highest awe.

**Part 16 vv 121–28    ♪    In God's service**

121. I've acted as your verdicts state ~ and by your righteousness:  
Never leave me abandoned to ~ those who would me oppress.
122. Bail yourself for your servant's good, ~ give pledge and guarantee:  
Restrain the proud, hold back their hands, ~ do not let them oppress me.
123. In waiting your salvation Lord, ~ my eyes both fade and fail:  
To see your sayings of righteousness ~ my sight grows faint and frail.
124. According to your steadfast love ~ deal with your servant, please:  
Instruct me in your statutes, now, ~ and teach me your decrees.
125. I am your vassal and your slave ~ so make me understand:  
Teach me your edicts so that I ~ may know what you command.
126. It is time Lord for you to act ~ your hour to intervene  
For they are breaking your own law, ~ have cast it from the scene.
127. So I love your commandments more, ~ than riches can provide:  
I love them more than the best gold ~ refined and purified.

128. So I find all your precepts right, ~ your straight and upright way:  
I hate all paths that are untrue ~ that lie and lead astray.

**Part 17 vv 129–36    ¶    Taking God's side**

129. Your edicts are so wonderful, ~ they dumbfound and inspire:  
And so I keep them and my soul ~ obeys what they require.
130. The entry of your word brings light; ~ it is an open door:  
Shining its understanding glow ~ for souls simple and raw.
131. My mouth is open and I pant ~ with breath rapid and strong:  
For your commandments I desire, ~ I gasp; I thirst; I long.
132. Be gracious to me, turn again; ~ let favour be your aim:  
As your firm verdict long has stood ~ for those who love your name.
133. According to your sayings set ~ my footsteps sturdily:  
And do not let iniquity ~ get mast'ry over me.
134. From tyrant and oppressor's hold ~ ransom me from their thrall:  
Then I will keep your precepts and ~ observe, obey them all.
135. Let your face shine upon your slave; ~ smile on your servant's gaze:  
So tutor me in your decrees ~ and so teach me your ways.
136. My sight is blocked by floods of tears; ~ from my eyes rivers pour:  
For people do not heed your ways; ~ they do not keep your law.

**Part 18 vv 137–44    ¶    God's ways are right**

137. O Lord, whose name is holy, you ~ are righteous, sound and just:  
Your verdicts are both sound and right - ~ true, sturdy and robust.
138. The edicts that you've laid on us ~ you've charged with righteousness:  
They can be fully trusted and ~ abound in faithfulness.
139. I am consumed by jealousy ~ with zealous fervour stirred:  
Because your enemies forget ~ and have ignored your word.

140. Your sayings have been well refined ~ smelted and purified:  
And so your servant dotes on them ~ and has found them well tried.
141. Though I am little and despised, ~ unnoticed and maligned:  
Your precepts, I do not forget ~ nor cast them from my mind.
142. Your righteousness is righteousness ~ that stands for evermore:  
Since everlasting truth itself ~ identifies your law.
143. Trouble and anguish have found me ~ confined in painful plight:  
Yet your commandments nourish me ~ and are my true delight.
144. Your edicts spell out righteousness ~ for all time, evermore:  
Bring me to understand them and ~ I shall live by their lore.

**Part 19 vv 145–52    ⤴    Responses to crisis**

145. I call with all my heart; I cry; ~ please answer me O Lord:  
I will obey your just decrees ~ and give them my accord.
146. I call out to you, rescue me; I cry; deliver me:  
I will uphold your edicts with ~ utmost tenacity.
147. I greet the dawn with cries for help; ~ I rise before it's light:  
I have placed in your word my trust, ~ my hope, since it is right.
148. My eyes greet every watch of night; ~ through the dark hours they wait:  
So on your sayings, I may muse, ~ and mercies meditate.
149. According to your steadfast love, ~ hear my voice and my plea:  
According to your verdicts Lord ~ give my life back to me.
150. Those who chase wickedness draw near ~ they scheme and good abhor:  
They steer clear of your righteousness; ~ they are far from your law.
151. Yet Lord you are close by my side; ~ at my right hand are you:  
All the commandments that you give ~ are trustworthy and true.
152. I've known your edicts from of old; ~ I've learnt from them of yore:

That long ago you laid them down ~ to stand for ever more.

**Part 20 vv 153–60 7 Prayers at a time of need**

153. Look on my suff'ring, rescue me ~ from tribulation's pit:  
For I have neither left your law ~ nor yet forsaken it.
154. Contend for me in my dispute; ~ redeem me faithfully:  
And as your sayings promise, so ~ give life and heart to me.
155. As for the wicked, salvation ~ is far from where they dwell:  
For they do not seek your decrees ~ or heed what such might spell.
156. Bounteous is your compassion, Lord; ~ your tender mercies teem:  
So by your verdicts grant to me ~ my life and self-esteem.
157. Many pursue and pester me; ~ foes have me in their sway:  
Yet I do not swerve from your paths, ~ nor from your edicts stray.
158. I see the treach'rous - lying dogs; ~ I loathe them from my heart:  
They neither keep your sayings, nor ~ follow what they impart.
159. See how I love your precepts, how ~ I live by what they say:  
So by your loving kindness, Lord ~ give life to me each day.
160. The well spring of your word is truth ~ which it throughout displays:  
So all your verdicts shall endure ~ as righteousness always.

**Part 21 vv 161–68 8 A life that honours God**

161. Princes have persecuted me, ~ without reason or cause:  
But my heart shudders at your word; ~ dread makes its pulses pause.
162. Your sayings fill me with great joy; ~ I relish their repute:  
As one who finds a treasure trove ~ of plunder, spoil or loot.
163. I hate lies and detest them; ~ all falsehood I abhor:  
But I desire what you command; ~ O how I love your law.
164. I praise you seven times each day ~ with thanks and joyfulness:  
Because your verdicts are so just ~ and realise righteousness.

165. A mighty peace shall rest upon ~ all those that love your law:  
Nothing can trip them in their path ~ or bring them to the floor.
166. On your salvation, Lord, I wait, ~ there place my hope and trust:  
I keep all your commandments for ~ they are both true and just.
167. My soul observes your edicts still, ~ keeping and doing them:  
I love them well, beyond compare, ~ a precious diadem.
168. Your precepts and your edicts, I ~ shall keep, observe and do:  
For all my ways and all my paths ~ are open before you.

**Part 22 vv 169–76    ¶    Heartfelt wishes and claims**

169. May my cry come before your face, ~ my ringing shout draw near:  
O Lord cause me to understand ~ what your word has made clear.
170. O let my cries for mercy come ~ before your holy face:  
According to your sayings, Lord, ~ rescue me from this place:
171. So let my lips pour forth their praise ~ my mouth worship with ease:  
For you teach and explain to me ~ your statutes and decrees.
172. Of your own sayings shall my tongue ~ sing out with joyfulness:  
For your commandments all profess ~ justice and righteousness.
173. May your hand be my help and aid ~ steadfast as rock or stone:  
For I have set my choice upon ~ your precepts as my own.
174. I long for your salvation, Lord, ~ deliv'rance from this plight:  
Your law is everything I love ~ and my utmost delight.
175. Let my soul live and then it shall ~ praise you with thanks well made:  
Then your decisions shall help me, ~ your verdicts be my aid
176. I'm wand'ring like a sheep that's lost; ~ so seek your servant out:  
Since your commandments I hold firm, ~ neither forget nor doubt

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