



How to live in God's world according to God's Word—that's the challenge we all face. Our next series will see us spend 8 weeks looking at the Psalms to see how these might help.

Sunday Worship

Sunday April 7th Psalm 1- A Blessed life (followed by Church Lunch)

Sunday April 14th Psalm 2- The Lord reigns (Including Holy Communion)

Sunday April 21st Psalm 77- Hope for unfinished stories

Sunday April 28th Psalm 63- Water in the wilderness

Our services are 'live streamed' so that you can join us from home, and if you miss any of the services you can find them on our dedicated YouTube channel - just search Hornsea URC on YouTube to find us.

The book of psalms has been called a manual for all the seasons of the soul. Those seasons include times of grief and heartache but also joy and exhilaration. Periods of confident hope may alternate with days of perplexity and fear. There are different kinds of psalms which speak to these different seasons. And there are different ways of grouping the psalms, but Old Testament scholar Mark Futato suggests a "big three" division into-

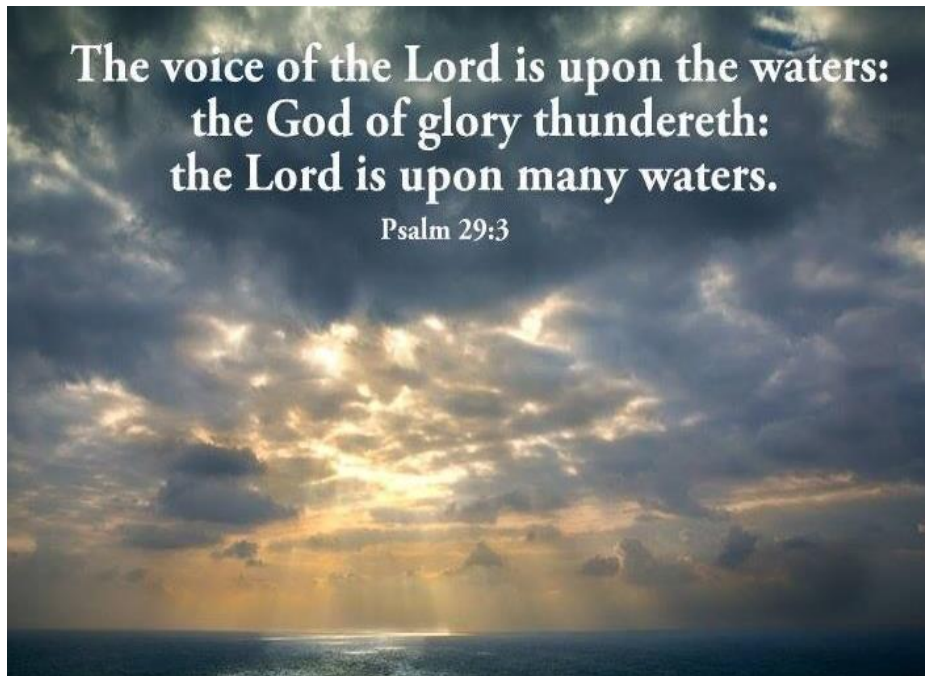
1. *Songs of Praise* – These psalms provide us with a proper orientation, the way things ought to be. They give us a good sense of our surroundings and point us in the right direction.

2. *Songs of Lament* – These psalms express disorientation. This is what happens when we get off track. Then we become confused, lose our sense of direction, become unsure of ourselves, fearful, depressed. Ever been there? I know I have!

3. *Songs of Thanksgiving* – These psalms help us get reoriented or back on track. These psalms pick us up, dust us off and set us back on our way rejoicing.

In this 8- week series we will learn wisdom from all three categories to help us navigate the twists and turns of our journey from earth to heaven.

Our hope is that our spring in the Psalms will enable us to better experience the abundant life for which God created us. That's the reason God has given us the book of Psalms.



The voice of the Lord is upon the waters:
the God of glory thundereth:
the Lord is upon many waters.

Psalm 29:3

Margaret writes: -

I was reading some Bible Notes the other day – and you know when something just speaks to you ...? Well, this one did to me – so I thought I would share some of it with you.

David repeatedly refers to the voice of the Lord in this psalm – he talks of the way in which God speaks powerfully in creation.

Many of the psalms are focused on the worship of God in the temple but this psalm encourages worshippers to go

outside and recognise the awesome power of God in creation – something most of us will have experienced recently, simply stepping out of our front door to be met by ferocious winds.

Thomas Brooks, the 17th-century preacher, expressed this well when he wrote **“What are the heavens, the earth, the sea, but a sheet of royal paper, written all over with the wisdom and love of God?”**

In this question Brooks is encouraging us to expect God to speak to us in creation and it will not always be loud and wild!! So, what are we waiting for?



Taken from Premier – Voice of Hope.

Coming up in May: -

These Synod Forums are open to **all** of the church, so who would like a trip to Scarborough? There will be cars going, just ask any of the Elders if you are interested



Synod Forum

10.30am – 1pm
Followed by lunch together

Saturday 11th May 2024
At St. Andrew's United Reformed Church, Scarborough, YO11 2LN

Saturday 1st June 2024
At Gleadless United Reformed Church, Sheffield, S12 2NP

Saturday 8th June 2024
At Salem United Reformed Church, Burley in Wharfedale, LS29 7DG

Saturday 6th July 2024
At Christ Church LEP, Hipperholme, HX3 8AA

All members and friends of the Yorkshire Synod churches are invited to join us in faith-shaped conversation about the life and mission of the local church.

Please bring a packed lunch. Coffee, tea and cakes or pastries provided

Prayer FOCUS

Please continue to pray for all caught up in war.

Pray for those forced to leave their country, especially the Ukrainian families now in Hornsea

Pray for Gaza. Here is a prayer written by the women of Palestine for the World Day of Prayer last month: -

We pray for women, who even now are losing children and other family members. We pray that their strength be a beacon of resilience, as they endure all challenges and pain with grace. Grant them courage to navigate adversity. And may their aspirations for peace and prosperity shine brightly in the midst of these difficulties.

In this time of war, we pray for the healing of hearts and the restoration of peace. May compassion prevail over hatred, and may the suffering of all those affected by the war be alleviated. Grant them strength, solace, and hope for a brighter and harmonious future.

We pray for all families who have lost members; for the kidnapped, the missing, and all who are still under the rubble. May the spirit of God grant them all patience and strength as they wait to be reunited.

Lord Jesus, we pray for the end of all wars, especially in the land you called home. You are our Saviour, the one who taught us the real meaning of peace. Guide us and give us power to practice peace in our daily lives.

Amen.



A painting by Sieger Koder entitled 'Rachel's cry'. Based on Jeremiah 31.v15