



Visions and Voices: Resources for Intergenerational Worship Trinity Sunday May 27 Year B

Early Word: Psalm 29 The Voice of the Lord



What this is: Bible Engagement



Where it's used: In any intergenerational gathering; Bible Reading; Early Word

Time: 5 minutes



Bible focus/theme: Psalm 29



What's needed:



- Copy of text on screen or printed, with words in blue highlighted as indicated
- Large print-out poster of Chris Booth's *Psalm 29 The Voice of the Lord* Art image link here <https://www.dropbox.com/s/qqjsgqydit1huf4/1.%20Voice%20of%20the%20LORD.jpg?dl=0>
- Large green cloth (sheet or table cloth)
- Several angel ornaments (eg Christmas tree ornaments)
- Plastic farm animals (cows etc...)
- Red and orange cellophane cut in clumps of flames
- Small pebbles or stones
- Strips of bubble wrap
- ~12 wood blocks in various sizes
- Small leafy off-cuts/twigs
- 7 speech bubbles on sticks/skewers saying "The Voice of the Lord"
- Plasticene for holding items upright.
- Two leader-readers



Psalm 29

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
Ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
worship the LORD in holy splendor.

The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over mighty waters.

The voice of the LORD is powerful;
The voice of the LORD is full of majesty.
The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.

The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.
The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl,
and strips the forest bare;

and in his temple all say, "Glory!"
The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

Introduction

Our reading from the Psalms today describes things that happen - dramatic things, amazing things, lots of different things - that happen when God speaks. Over and over the psalm announces 'The Voice of the Lord'...and then describes it in widely different ways - from water to cows!

I wonder what we imagine the Voice of God to be like?
Who would like to have a go at telling us or showing us what they think the Voice of God might sound like.

(Invite suggestions from among your gathering, using the phrase 'The Voice of the Lord', thanking each person for their creative contribution)

In this Psalm, the Voice of the Lord makes things happen, just as it does throughout the Bible. Right from the start - God speaks and creation begins. Things are made and change at the Voice of the Lord.

As we hear the reading of Psalm 29 today, you are invited to help make the things that the Psalm speaks about, here on the green space.

If you would like to help putting the things in place, come and choose some things now.

As participants gather around the items provided for constructing the representation of the passage, ask them to name what the items they are choosing are, holding them up for the whole gathering to see. Make sure all the items are taken by someone - either offering multiple items to the volunteers you have, or calling for more volunteers from among your gathering until all of the items are allocated to someone.

Continue

Now we are ready to put together our reading.

Those who have items to add to our green-space, listen out for when things are mentioned, and work together to put your items in place.

And those of you who don't have tactile items, please join in the words in **blue**. These are the words that invoke **The Voice of the Lord**, or call on people to give voice to the glory of God, using the word Ascribe which means 'Give voice' or 'Say that this is how it is'. . So you are invited to give your voices.

Read the Psalm, slowly and expressively, giving time for joining in, and for those with items to place them on the green space.

After reading once in this way, invite the whole gathering to come and

look at what was made on the green space. If you have people who prefer not to move from their seats, you can use simple technology - video on a smart phone and chrome cast to the screen to help make it more visible.

Invite them to identify the parts of the psalm they can see in the green space - keeping the psalm on screen or in print copy handy, to help recount the phrases.

Invite people to return to their places and read the psalm again, this time dividing the reading between those who had been working with the tactile items in the greenspace - now to read the phrases in blue, while the rest of the gathering read the phrases in black. Designate two leader-readers to lead each of the group



Conclude

Thankyou readers and responders, crafters and creators. We have done well to lift up this psalm - taking all our voices and all our creativity. The Voice of the Lord takes many forms, so we've needed many voices and images to help us express the Voices of the Lord today.

May the Spirit help is to listen well, as Voice of the Lord echoes around us in many ways.

Creative Extension

Psalm 29, was composed many millenia in the middle east, ago, so naturally used the sounds that were part of the world around the ancient Jewish community, to help express the impact of hearing the Voice of the Lord in their midst.

If we were composing a Psalm today to describe the Voice of the Lord in different ways, what sounds and images and metaphors would we use?

Write a Psalm together, following the structure of Psalm 29, but substituting in 21st century sounds.

Ascribe to the LORD O
Ascribe to the LORD and
Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
worship the LORD in holy

The voice of the LORD is over the
the God of glory.....,
the LORD, over

The voice of the LORD is;
The voice of the LORD is full of
The voice of the LORD the.....;
the LORD theof
He makes like a ,
andlike a..... ..

The voice of the LORDof
The voice of the LORD the.....;
the LORDtheof

The voice of the LORD causes the to
and the;

and in..... all say, “.....”
The LORD sits enthroned the;
the LORD sits enthroned as forever.
May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!