

21 Seven Ways to Use



**CHRISTIAN
WORSHIP
PSALTER**

in PreK-8 Classrooms

Presented by Dale Witte,
CW Psalm Committee Member, to the
WELS National Conference on Worship,
Music, and the Arts
July 31-Aug 2, 2024 • Kenosha, WI

Get this presentation



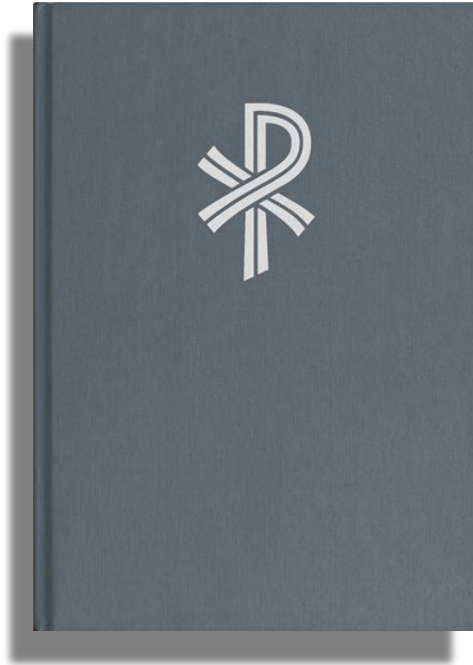
<https://bit.ly/PK8CWPsalter>

Intended Outcomes of this Presentation:



1. You will glean many ideas (and hopefully develop a few of your own!) for how to use ***Christian Worship Psalter*** in your classroom/for your group.
2. You will make ***Christian Worship Psalter*** a part of your professional liturgical and personal devotional library.
3. Hopefully, you can purchase a set of ***Christian Worship Psalters*** for your classroom/group. Don't forget the two accompaniment volumes!
4. Develop ***CW Psalter*** presentations and accompaniments for your classroom using builder.christianworship.com & [CW Playlist](#)

Christian Worship Psalter is the first Lutheran Psalter of the 21st century to include all of the following:



- All 150 Psalms with complete text pointed for singing.
- All 150 Psalms in multiple musical settings and styles.
- At least two different musical styles for each psalm (responsorial chant, metrical, lyrical, etc.)
- Every psalm includes a newly written prayer and a quote from Martin Luther about that psalm.
- An explanation of each psalm's traditional use in The Church.

Christian Worship: Psalter (NPH, 2021)



Christian Worship: Psalter Pew Edition

860 pages, 6x9"; 482 different musical settings

<https://online.nph.net/christian-worship-hymnal-psalter-pew-edition.html>



Christian Worship: Accompaniment for the Psalter, Volumes 1 and 2

1,170 pages, 8.5x11"

<https://online.nph.net/christian-worship-accompaniment-for-the-psalter.html>

The WELS Psalm Committee (2013-2021)

Pastor Michael Schultz – Hymnal Project Director

Pastor Daniel Witte – (PC Secretary) Trinity, Nicolet, MN→ One Africa Team, Lusaka, Zambia

Adrian Smith – Professor of Music, Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN

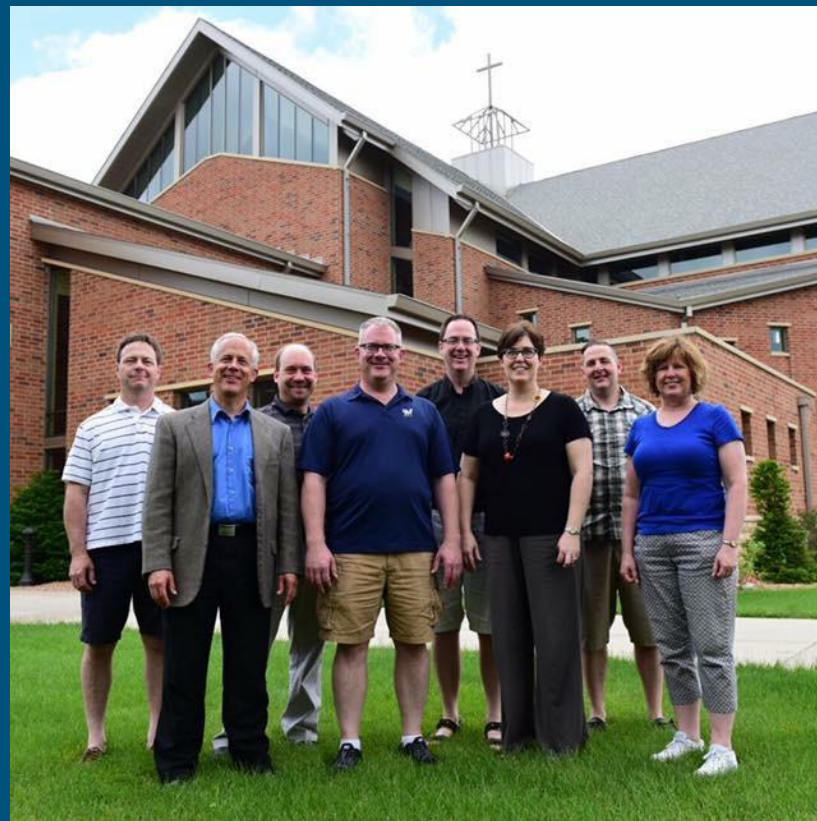
Dale Witte – Choir Director and Composer, Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Fond du Lac, WI

Pastor Paul Prange – (PC Chairman, XC Member) WELS Administrator for Ministerial Education

Grace Wessel – Professor of Music, Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN

Pastor Sam Hacker – Grace Lutheran Church, Flint, MI

Amy Hansel – (PC Tracker data entry) Church Organist, Madison, WI

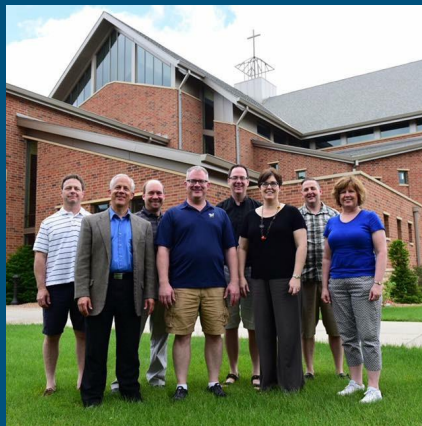


Martin Luther College • New Ulm, MN
June 15, 2015

Five Face-to-Face Meetings (2014-2018)



Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary
Mequon, WI
July 18-20, 2014



Martin Luther College
New Ulm, MN
June 15, 2015



Abiding Love Lutheran Church
Cape Coral, FL
December 28, 2016



Martin Luther College
New Ulm, MN
June 23, 2017



Interlochen, MI
Dec 28, 2017

The WELS Psalm Committee process (2013-2021):

- — Collect and scan to Google Drive all the settings of psalms in our personal libraries (“raking the leaves”)
- Find other current hymnals, psalters, octavos, and other psalm collections from church music publishers, scan, add to Google Drive
- First round of voting: Review and vote on all hymnal psalms on Tracker (those found in the three-year lectionary, i.e. the pericopes)
- Second round of voting: Review and vote on the remaining non-pericopic psalms for CW Psalter
- Discuss pertinent psalmody issues on [Basecamp](#) to archive Tracker voting, discussions, thoughts, and decisions



The WELS Psalm Committee process (2013-2021):



- Review all musical settings of the selected psalm of the week in Tracker for 150 weeks (June 2015 – August 2019)
- Reviews of all 150 psalms will be completed by mid August 2019
- Around 4,500 settings reviewed to date (FIC said @10,000→@5000→438) which included Dale's 1997 MCM thesis
- Our votes get set to the Executive Committee (XC) to be ratified. They have the power to ratify, change, reject, or propose new settings to the PC.
- Monthly Google Hangouts/Meets to discuss our voting

How were the 72 psalm settings chosen for CW21?



- The Psalm Committee (PC) reviewed and voted (1-5 stars) on each psalm setting in [Tracker](#)
- The top vote getter (hopefully 4+ stars) was recommended to the Executive Committee (XC) for use in CW21
- The XC had power to ratify the PC recommendation, recommend a different setting for the hymnal (the “A” setting) which the PC recommended to them, or to veto all recommendations and propose their own setting

What were the goals for the *CW Hymnal* Psalms?



- To provide a variety of musical settings for the 72 psalms appointed in the CW three-year lectionary
- To continue and strengthen the recent WELS tradition of singing psalmody as a congregation
- To continue to encourage congregations to sing the entire psalm in worship, not just the refrain
 - This is not what CW 1993 expected
 - This is not what the larger Christian Church expects
 - This was an unintended blessing of CW 1993 psalmody
- To glean the best existing psalm settings from church music publishers and individual composers

What are the musical styles of *CW Hymnal* Psalms?

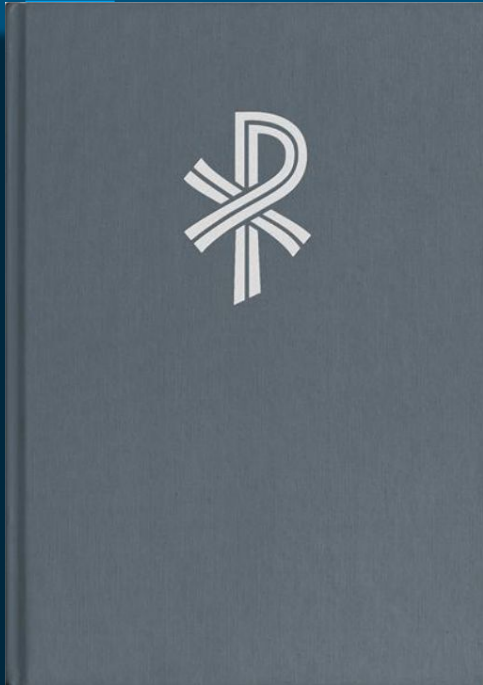


Goal: To provide a variety of musical settings for the 72 psalms appointed in the CW three-year lectionary

- Responsorial Chant (like CW93) : 59
- Metrical (like a hymn): 9
- Responsorial Lyrical (like a song): 3
- Anglican: 1

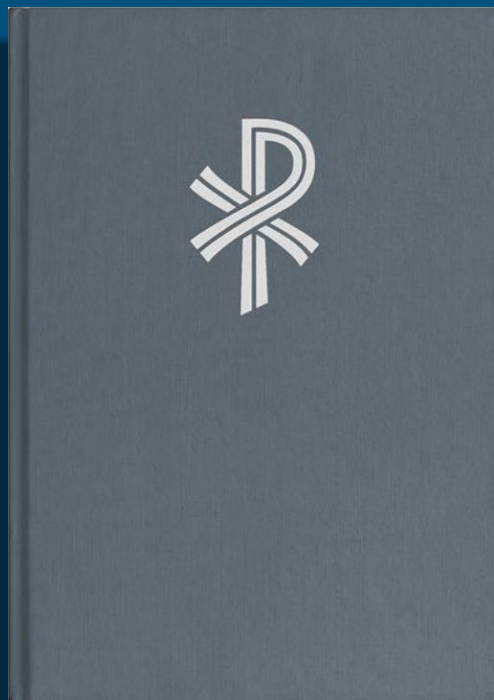
Cf. [Psalm Singing Terminology and Definitions](#)

What are the musical styles of *CW Psalter* Psalms?



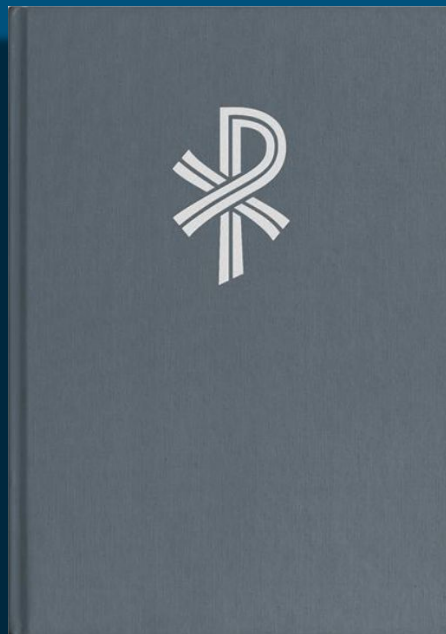
- **Responsorial Chant** (in all its various forms)
 - Sometimes different cadence lengths (one note, two notes, or three notes)
 - Sometimes multiple syllables on the final note of a cadence
- **Metrical Paraphrases** (like a hymn)
- **Responsorial Song** (like a verse and refrain song)
- **Contemporary Song** (Getty, Papa, Kimbrough, etc.)
- **Anglican Chant** (cadences of 3, 5, 3, 5 notes)
- **Gelineau** (somewhat related to Anglican, but longer)
 - Read ["A Guide to Gelineau Psalmody"](#)
 - Watch [Gelineau Psalmody Demonstration Video](#)
 - Gelineau "Rosetta Stone" - Ps 23D & 23E
- With piano, organ, or guitar accompaniments (2 vols.)

What were the goals for *Christian Worship Psalter*? (1/2)



- ✓ To provide even more musical variety for the hymnal/lectionary psalms
- ✓ All hymnal psalms will also be reprinted in the psalter as the "A" version (with a red number). Additional selections will be B, C, D, etc.
- ✓ All 150 psalms in multiple musical styles, including the complete text of every psalm for reading, and pointed for singing in NIV 2011
- ✓ Every psalm includes a newly written prayer and a quote from Martin Luther about that psalm.
- ✓ Gleaned from the best of the best from major church music publishers and individual composers.
- ✓ Modeled after *Psalms for All Seasons* (ed. Martin Tel)

What were the goals for *Christian Worship Psalter*? (2/2)



- ☒/☐ To promote the personal, devotional use of the psalms
- ☐ To provide short orders of worship centered on the psalms
- ☒/☐ To provide a table of alternate psalm appointments for the hymnal psalms
- ☒/☐ To provide a Daily Psalm chart (it's in *CW Hymnal*, p. 254 – Psalms for Prayer: A Daily Schedule)
- ☐/☒ To provide pertinent indices

Why print all 150 psalms in *Christian Worship Psalter*?



- Why include the 78 psalms not used in the three-year lectionary **if the main goal of the Psalter project was to provide variety of psalm singing for the hymnal (pericopic) psalms?**
- When can the 78 non-pericopic psalms be sung?
- How can these lesser-used Psalms be beneficial to the average Christian or used in worship?
- Why “waste” the space and resources to research, develop, and publish all 150 psalms in *CW Psalter*?

21 Seventeen Ways to Use



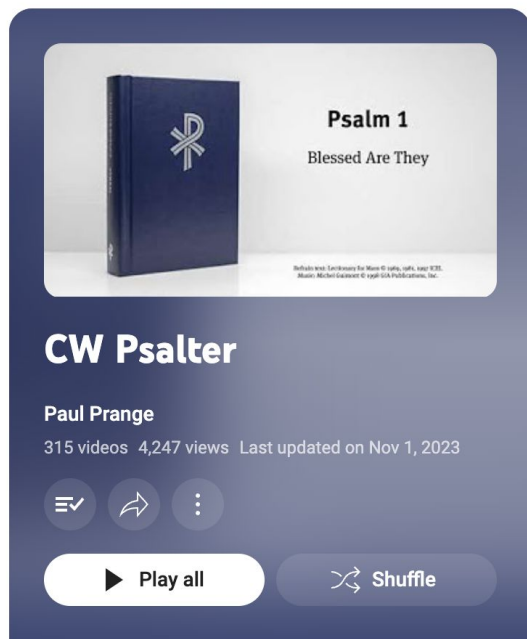
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1. Listen to Psalm recordings during quiet times to get the sound of Psalm singing and new melodies in your student's ears and hearts.



- [CW Psalter - Youtube Playlist](#) (compiled by Paul Prange, CW Psalter Chairman) includes official demonstration psalm videos, original source recordings, and metrical psalmody hymn tune examples.
- [CW Playlist](#) - Playlist is an add-on subscription for *Christian Worship: Service Builder* to assist churches in leading congregational singing for worship. Playlist offers high-quality recordings of hymns, psalms and liturgical elements recorded by professional church musicians for playback through your church's sound system. All CW Hymnal Psalms are recorded, but are all the CW Psalter Psalms. ([spreadsheet updated 6/29/23](#))
- [North Coast Sessions \(Getty\)](#) - Spotify
- [Wendell Kimbrough](#) Spotify ([62D](#), [139D](#))
- [Wasilla Bible Church Psalms Project](#) ([7B](#), 86A)
- [LSB Psalm Tone Recordings](#)

2. In Early Childhood Education (PreK-2), sing Psalm refrains that match a given unit/theme of study.



- [Coordinate Psalm refrains with units and themes](#) during Jesus time, Music time, daily activities.
- Teach by rote (*a cappella* or accompanied)
- **Repetition is the key to retention**
 - Littles sing refrains, Teachers sing the verses. (**Ps. 136B**)
 - Given enough time, “littles” are capable of learning a lot!
- **Incorporate movement** - dance, clap, play instruments, wave scarves
 - [Psalms of Praise: A Movement Primer](#) (NPH 1606173, [look inside](#))
- **Melodies no more than an octave, D-A is best for littles**
 - Middle C (C4) is the lowest note littles can sing.
 - Beware of melodies that go above C5. Model how to use head voice in upper range.
 - Adjust keys as necessary to fit the littles voices.

3. Sing a Psalm with a devotion instead of a hymn.

Do you start your morning or afternoon with a devotion in your classroom?

- [Living for Jesus](#) (Kremer Resources LLC) - 6th grade
- [Little Visits with God](#) (CPH)
- [Words of Strength and Promise: Devotions for Youth](#) (CPH, [look inside](#)) - teens

Not sure which psalm to pick? Use **Service Builder** ([LSB](#), [CW](#)) to search for a scripture passage or a descriptive word which matches the content/lesson of your devotion (eg. "[truth](#)"). Appropriate psalms, hymns, prayers, etc. will be shown from *CW Hymnal* and *CW Psalter* (a “free” digital concordance!). Talk to your pastor about getting an account on your church’s Service Builder so you can both search *CW Hymnal*/*CW Psalter* lectionaries, texts, lyrics, etc. and project the psalm and music in your classroom.

For more information about Service Builder, see...

- [CW Service Builder](#) (WELS)
- [Lutheran Service Builder](#) (LC-MS)

4. Make your own Psalm devotion using the first complete psalm of each number.

- Read the last paragraph (*in italics*), detailing how the Church uses that psalm, as an introduction to the psalm.
- Read or sing the psalm ([any method](#)).
- Conclude with the psalm prayer (2nd-to-last paragraph)
- There you go—150 devotions (or more if you divide Ps. 119 into eight verse mini-psalms) planned out for 180 school days!
- As you become more familiar with the psalms, you will be able to pick out the psalms that apply to a particular situation (morning, evening, distress, etc.)

Psalm 100



A psalm. For giving grateful praise.

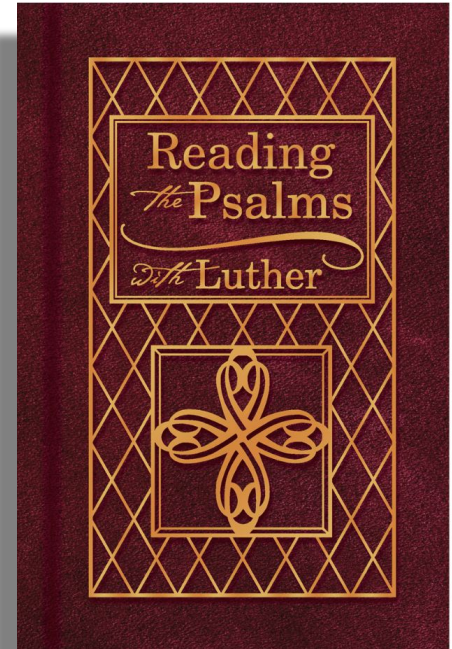
- ¹ Shout for joy to the LORD, / all the earth.
- ² Worship the LORD with / gladness;
come before him with / joyful songs.
- ³ Know that the / LORD is God.
It is he who made us, and / we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his / pasture.
- ⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his / courts with praise;
give thanks to him and / praise his name.
- ⁵ For the LORD is good and his love endures for-/ever;
his faithfulness continues through all gener-/ations.

Lord Jesus, you have made us the sheep of your pasture, and we have no more joyous privilege than to enter your gates and sing your praises. When we enter the courts of your house, fill our hearts with sincere thanksgiving for your never-ending grace; for you live and rule with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

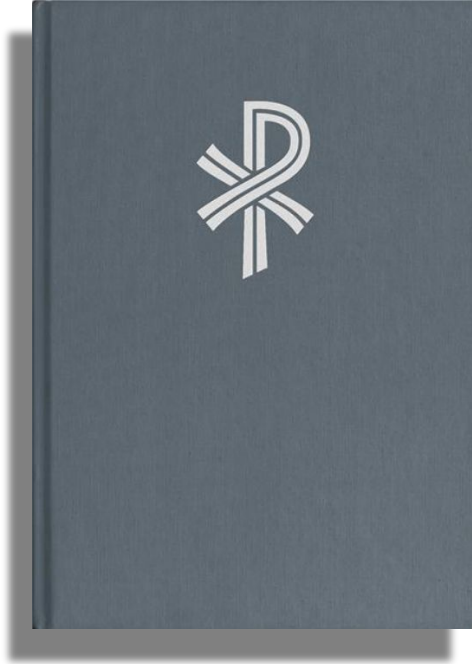
The Church sings Psalm 100 in services that give thanks to God for his many blessings, especially the gospel and its ministers. It concludes the section on the Lord as king that began at Psalm 93. Martin Luther said, "Psalm 100 is a prophecy of Christ. It calls on all the world to rejoice, praise, and give thanks. We do that by serving God, by entering his throne room and his courts and praying to him with all confidence. For his grace is an everlasting kingdom that remains certain forever and ever."

5. Find a Psalm devotion book and augment it with singing related psalms from *CW Psalter*.

- Make sure to read it through first for doctrinal/Biblical accuracy and matching your intended classroom devotional use.
- [Reading the Psalms with Luther](#) (CPH)
- [At Home With the Psalms: 100 Family Devotions](#) (Ken Kremer, NPH)
Grades 3-8
- [Blessed Is The Man: Psalms of Praise – A Man's Journey Through The Psalms](#) (NPH 222731)
- [The Songs of Jesus: A Year of Daily Devotions in the Psalms](#) (Timothy Keller)
- [The One Year Book of Psalms: 365 Inspirational Readings From One of the Best-Loved Books of the Bible](#) (William & Randy Petersen)
- [Psalms for My Day: A Child's Praise Devotional](#) (Carine MacKenzie and Alec Motyer)

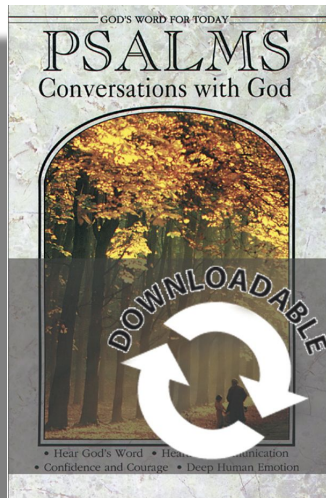


What do your students think about the Psalms?



- Do they know anything about the Psalms?
- Are the Psalms an optional part of weekly worship that can be omitted if the sermon is too long?
- Are Psalms “boring” because of the method of chanting?
- Are the Psalms a part of weekly memory work?
- Does your pastor ever preach on the Psalm of the Day?

6. Maybe they need a Psalm refresher for Bible History, Religion class, or teen Bible class?

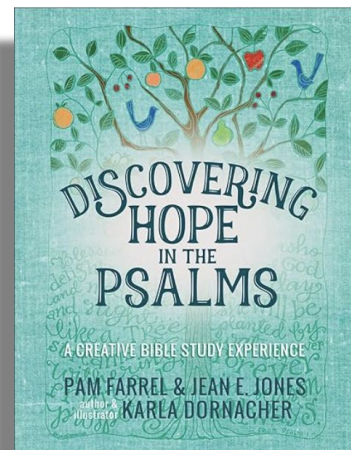


[God's Word for Today: Psalms](#) (CPH 204007, [look inside](#))

- Downloadable Bible class/worksheet format (12 sessions)
- Augment each session with the singing of a psalm setting from the Psalter (“Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, *involve me and I learn.*”)

Discovering Hope in the Psalms (Harvest House Publishers, 2017, [look inside](#))

- This Bible study of 10 psalms of hope offers compelling teachings, motivating devotions, and plenty of creative options for interacting with the psalms—including beautiful artwork to color.
- Augment each lesson with the singing of a psalm setting from the Psalter for that psalm.



7. Use the Psalms as you teach Music History, Music Appreciation, Church History, Poetry, Geography, writing biographical summaries, research, etc. (i.e. use [CMP](#)):

What is the musical style of the psalm setting? Find it in *Genres and Musical Styles* (CWP Pew edition, pp. 832-833). How does knowing what musical style a psalm setting is inform its performance? Read the *Performance Notes* (CW Psalter, pp. 822-828) for more ideas.

Who is the composer? (cf. Pss. 19A, 19D, 55B, 83B) What can you find out about them online? What else have they composed? Is music part of a larger work? When was it written? What else was happening in World History at that time? How does knowing the composer of a psalm setting inform its performance?

If the text is a metrical paraphrase, who wrote the lyrics? Are there other metrical paraphrases by the same poet? How does knowing who the poet or lyricist of a musical psalm setting inform its performance?

How accurate is the metrical paraphrase? Compare it with the Biblical psalm text. What verses are represented? (Highlight them). Which are skipped? Why? Rate the paraphrase [using a rubric on a scale of 1-4](#) (1 is literal, 4 is liberal). Why is an accurate paraphrase important?

What musical era, geographical region, or denominational background does the musical setting come from? (cf. Pss. 19A, 19D, 55B, 83B) How does this information inform its performance?



8. Preview (or review) the appointed Psalm of the Day for the church year to get ready for worship.

- **Teach your students to sing a particular musical setting of the psalm**
 - Sing the same musical setting all week?
 - Sing a different musical setting each day? (A, B, C, D, etc.)
- **Your students can help your congregation sing the Psalms better.**
 - How does your congregation chant the Psalms?
 - Do they have a good model for chanting?
- **Repetition of the Psalm and its musical setting will help bury Psalmody deep in our hearts!**
- **Do you know where to find the appointed Psalm? Consult Service Builder ([LSB](#), [CW](#)) and/or your pastor!** Even the free version of Service Builder allows you to see the readings for the church year!

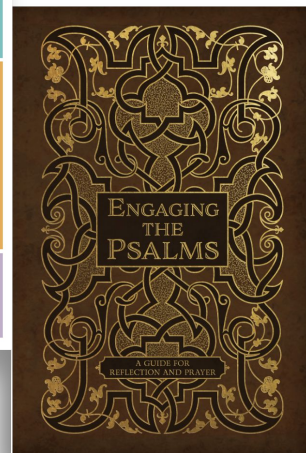


9. Explore the Psalms and their musical settings which aren't normally sung in church – Psalms for hard times.

- **Non-Pericopic Psalms:** 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 26, 28, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41, 43, 44, 48, 49, 50, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 64, 68, 70, 74, 75, 76, 77, 79, 81, 82, 83, 86, 87, 88, 92, 93, 94, 97, 99, 101, 102, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 113, 114, 117, 120, 122, 123, 125, 126, 129, 131, 132, 134, 135, 137, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 147
- If the Psalms truly are “the songs of [God’s] people, his Church, with hearts laid open, praising and lamenting,” (Martin Luther, *CW Psalter*, Introduction, p. v) then **there is a psalm that expresses every mood and situation of the Christian’s life.**
- **Look in *CW Psalter Pew Edition*, Usages Index, pp. 834-838 & Service Builder ([LSB](#), [CW](#)) for: [abandonment](#), anxiety, betrayal, boasting, brokenhearted, comfort, complaint, conflict, cruelty, death, despair, distress, doubt, enemies, envy, failure, grief, guilt, hopelessness, hostility, hypocrisy, loneliness, mocking, opposition, oppression, pain, persecution, pressure, sin, slander, stress, suffering, terror, trouble, turmoil, vengeance, violence, weariness, worry, etc.**
- **Sing Psalms during the difficult times in life** (especially in the middle & upper grades)
 - **Psalm 69** - When people hate you without reason ([69C LORD, in Your Great Love](#))
 - **Psalm 71** - When you feel worthless (71B *LORD, in Your Mercy, Hear My Prayer*)
 - **Psalm 43** - When you feel alone (43B *Still I Will Sing*)
 - **Psalm 35** - When you feel unfairly attacked (35A *Give Me Justice*)

10. Teach your students ways to pray the Psalms.

- Model how to pray through a psalm, like Psalm 23: Read the first line of verse 1, “The Lord is my shepherd,” and pray anything that comes to mind until you run out of things to say prompted from that one line. Continue with each line of the psalm. A good journaling activity!
- After reading or singing a Psalm, use the Psalm prayer written especially for each psalm in *CW Psalter*.
- Consider using the [individual Psalm sheets](#) produced by LCMS Worship for their [2024 Worship Institute](#) to help explain, teach, and pray the Psalms.
- Use a Bible Reading/Praying/Journaling Method as you read/sing the Psalms:
 - How [Martin Luther taught his barber](#) to read scripture:
 - What does this Bible lesson teach me to do? (Main Theme)
 - What does it teach me to be thankful for? (Specific Gospel)
 - What does it teach me to confess? (Specific Sin)
 - What does it teach me to ask for? (Sanctification)
 - Use the **Three “R’s”** to pray the Psalms ([Engaging the Psalms, CPH](#))
 - **Request** the Spirit's help in prayer,
 - **Read and repeat** the Psalm,
 - **Return** to the Lord in prayer.
 - **ACTS:** Adoration, Confession/Contrition, Thanksgiving, Supplication
- Consult [Psalms for Prayer—A Daily Schedule](#) in *CW Hymnal* (?!), p. 254 or the [Concordia Psalter, pp. 9-14](#) for daily psalm prayer schedules.



11. Music Literacy/Performance: Use handbells or handchimes to accompany the psalm tones.

Level 1 - Ring one reciting note (one bell, E-F-G4 or 5) for entire psalm. Chant the entire psalm on that tone. Ring once at the beginning of each verse. Only the Psalm text is needed for singing.

Level 2 - Ring the reciting note of a single psalm tone before chanting each half verse (two bells, two reciting tones).

Level 3 - Ring both the reciting and cadence chords (4-16 bells)

Level 4 - Random ring the reciting chords (for festival psalms like 47, 96, 98, 100, 148, 150 etc.). Add the cadence chords only if the harmony changes.

Level 5 - Ring the complete psalm tone (all chords) as written. Omit notes out of range (assuming 2-3 oct. set)

Level 6 - Double every note in every chord up and down (for 3-5 oct. sets)

See [The Creative Use of Handbells in Worship](#) (Hal Hopson) for more ideas.

[Teaching Resources](#): Handbell Musicians of America



12. Use your school's yearly singing schedule to plan for your students to introduce a new musical setting of the Psalm of the Day (B, C, D, etc.) to your congregation in worship.

- Your students would learn the entire psalm setting. In worship, have your students sing the hard parts (usually the verses). Let the congregation sing the easy parts (usually the refrain). Have your students lead the congregation. Or just sing the entire psalm and let the congregation listen and meditate.
- Work in coordination with your pastor, choir director, and worship coordinators to make sure you are planning for the correct psalm. **Consult Service Builder** ([LSB](#), [CW](#)) for the Psalm of the Day.
- Example: [Psalm 69C LORD, in Your Great Love](#) (Malcom Kogut, [GIA](#))
 - Students sing refrain & verses in unison (if they can sing in parts, add parts on verses)
 - Congregation sings along on the refrain after hearing the students sing it the first time.
 - Add percussion instruments (conga, clave, djembe) as able by listening to [Psalm 69 with hikes.mp4](#) recording on Youtube
 - NPH [Musicians Resource: Soprano Sax & Bass Guitar](#)

13. Pick a “Psalm of the Month” or “Psalm of the Season” to sing for weekly school chapel.

- **How much repetition does it take for you or your students to commit something to heart?**
 - What is your favorite song? How many times have you listened to it?
 - How often do we repeat psalms in worship? Do psalms become our favorites?
- **Consider a Psalm of the Season approach**
 - Sing through all of the psalms (A, B, C, D, etc.) of a Season (e.g. Advent 1, 2, 3, 4). That could be 16 different psalm settings!
 - Pick one of all of those settings to sing in weekly school chapel for that season and work on committing it to memory with your students.
- **Consider a psalm of the month approach in longer seasons** (Epiphany, Lent, Pentecost)

14. Create a Psalm Singing Challenge Bulletin Board

- Sing all 150 Psalms by the end of the school year ([Daily Office Psalms](#))
- Read/Sing all the lectionary psalms (LSB=66, CW=72) in one school year.
- Read/Sing all musical settings of the Psalm of the Day/Week
- Cross off completed Psalms on a classroom bulletin board.

(Image generated by ChatGPT 4o, can't you tell? →)





**MAY
ALL
THE
PEOPLES
PRAISE
YOU,
O GOD!**

PSALM 67:3

15. Choose a Psalm verse as a school year theme.

May the Peoples Praise You, O God! (Ps. 67:3)

The Lord is My Rock! (Ps. 18:2)

The Lord is My Shepherd (Ps. 23:1)

Be Still and Know That I Am God (Ps. 46)

I Will Proclaim What the Lord Has Done (Ps. 46:10)

Give Thanks to the Lord, for He is Good! (Ps. 106, 107, 118, 136)

- Use one or more musical settings from *CW Psalter* as a theme song(s) throughout the school year, or compose your own!
- Use the psalm chapter for school corporate chapel texts each week (pick a psalm with more than 36 verses?)

16. Connect the Psalms with Bible Stories, Catechism lessons, Christlight Lessons, and NT quotes.

Sing the Psalms while studying God's Word. (1/3)

- **The obvious one: While studying King David's life...**
 - [Psalms Based on Incidents in David's Life](#) (ESV.org)
 - [Probable Occasion When Each Psalm Was Composed](#) (from [BlueLetterBible.org](#))
 - [Chronology of David's Psalms](#) (accuracy?)
 - [The Order of the Psalms](#) (accuracy?)
- **NT Psalm Quotes** (which is the most quoted Psalm in the NT?)
 - [Psalms in the New Testament](#)
 - [Psalms that are Quoted in the New Testament](#)
 - [New Testament Quotations from the Psalms](#)
- Psalm 29 ([ESV](#), [NIV](#), [EHV](#)) - Sing while studying The Flood (Gen 6-8)
- Pss. 105, 106, 107 - retelling the entire story of the Children of Israel



16. Connect the Psalms with Bible Stories, Catechism lessons, Christlight Lessons, and NT quotes.

Sing the Psalms while studying God's Word. (2/3)

Ten Commandments (*CWP pew ed.* "Usages", p. 838)

1st Commandment – Psalm 16C v. 1, 21, 33, 91, 111, 115, 134

2nd Commandment – Psalm 8, 10, 29, 107, 138

3rd Commandment – Psalm 1, 15, 40, 50, 68, 92

4th Commandment – Psalm 127, 128

5th Commandment – Psalm 37, 94

6th Commandment – Psalm 50, 51

7th Commandment – Psalm 15, 50, 62

8th Commandment – Psalm 4, 5, 7, 12, 15, 35, 41, 50, 55, 58, 59, 62, 63, 101, 109, 119, 120, 144

9th and 10th Commandments – Psalm 19, 73, 139



16. Connect the Psalms with Bible Stories, Catechism lessons, Christlight Lessons, and NT quotes.

Sing the Psalms while studying God's Word. (3/3)



Lord's Prayer (from *CWP pew ed.* "Usages", p. 836)

1st Petition (Hallowed be your name) – Psalm 10, 12, 115, 145

2nd Petition (Your kingdom come) – Psalm 1, 2, 21, 119, 143

3rd Petition (Your will be done) – Psalm 1, 87, 103

4th Petition (Give us today our daily bread) – Psalm 34, 62, 104, 145, 146

5th Petition (Forgive us) – Psalm 51, 143

6th Petition (Lead us not into temptation) – Psalm 17, 91, 141

7th Petition (Deliver us from evil) – Psalm 3, 140

Who wrote the Psalms? [Singing the Psalms - A Bible Study](#) - slide 14

17. Music Literacy: Use psalm tones to teach sight reading and music literacy skills (1/2)

- Use [solfege \(Do, Re, Mi, etc.\)](#) to sing the psalm tones.
- Identify where DO is by the key signature (last flat = FA, last sharp = TI)
 - DO based Major (Ps. 13, p. 55)
 - LA based Minor (Ps. 15A alt, p. 63)
 - Moveable DO
- Count lines and spaces up or down from DO on the solfege ladder to find and sing the other tones.
- Talk about DO being a place of rest.
 - Where is DO found in a psalm tone? Does it feel like a resting place? (Ps. 17, p. 69)
 - What solfege tones don't feel like resting places? Why? How do they feel?
 - How does a psalm tone feel if DO isn't used as a place of rest? (16B)
- What if the key signature is modal or has chromatics? (Ps. 2, p. 5; Ps. 6, p. 23; Ps. 19B refrain & tone)
 - Chromatic alterations: ["ee" up, "ay" down](#) (exception RA is lowered RE)

17. Use psalm tones to teach sight reading and music literacy skills (2/2)

Psalm 13 No key sig? C = DO



24F No key sig? C = DO



Psalm 19 Last flat = D flat = FA



- What is the key signature?
- Where is DO? (last flat = FA, last sharp = TI)
- Are there any alterations? (“ee” up, “ay” down)
- Sing notes with solfege

28A Last sharp = F# = TI



Psalm 2 Last flat = E flat = FA



18. Strengthen part singing by singing Psalms in canon.

137C By the Waters of Babylon

1 *May be sung in canon.*



1 By the wa - ters, the wa - ters of Bab - y - lon,

2



we sat down and wept, and wept for thee, Zi - on.

3



We re-mem - ber thee, re-mem - ber thee, re-mem - ber thee, Zi - on.

19. Choose one psalm for an entire week of singing each day (during devotions, transitional times, Music class, etc.)

- With repetition comes familiarity not just of the music, but also of God's Word!
- Find Psalms you and your students like and sing them! (111A, **42D**, 146B, etc.)
- Consider singing non-pericopic Psalms throughout the week (55A, 61A, 69C, etc.)
- **Psalms in CW21 three-year lectionary (Pericopic Psalms):** 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 40, 42, 45, 46, 47, 51, 62, 63, 65, 66, 67, 69, 71, 72, 73, 78, 80, 84, 85, 89, 90, 91, 95, 96, 98, 100, 103, 104, 111, 112, 115, 116, 118, 119, 121, 124, 127, 128, 130, 133, 136, 138, 139, 145, 146, 148, 149, 150
- **Non-Pericopic Psalms:** 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 26, 28, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41, 43, 44, 48, 49, 50, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 64, 68, 70, 74, 75, 76, 77, 79, 81, 82, 83, 86, 87, 88, 92, 93, 94, 97, 99, 101, 102, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 113, 114, 117, 120, 122, 123, 125, 126, 129, 131, 132, 134, 135, 137, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 147

20. Using the Psalter for Daily Office Hours

Use the Daily Devotions from *CW Hymnal* (pp. 236-247) to pray through the Psalms through the hours of each day. The following psalms are appointed for each Office hour. Other psalms may also be used. Consult [Psalms for Prayer – A Daily Schedule](#) on p. 254 of *CW Hymnal* and *CW Psalter* Pew Edition, Usages Index, pp. 834-838.

- **Morning/Matins** - CWH p. 236-237 (Ps. 95)
- **Dawn/Lauds** - CHW p. 238-239 (Ps. 63)
- **Start of Work/Prime** - CWH p. 240-241 (Ps. 19)
- **Midday/Terce** - CWH p. 242-243 (Ps. 119)
- **Evening/Vespers** - CWH p. 244-245 (Ps. 141)
- **Close of Day/Compline** - CHW p. 246-247 (Ps. 4, 91, 134)

Psalms for Prayer— A Daily Schedule



The following seasonal psalm cycle may be used with the assigned readings in the Daily Lectionary. In addition to the psalms appointed for each morning according to season, Psalms 145–150 may be prayed in the morning throughout the year as follows: Sunday—Psalm 150; Monday—Psalm 145; Tuesday—Psalm 146; Wednesday—Psalm 147:1–11; Thursday—Psalm 147:12–20; Friday—Psalm 148; Saturday—Psalm 149. The four weeks under “General” are used during the calendar days of the Daily Lectionary and the season of Epiphany and may be repeated as often as necessary.

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
LENT							
Morning	84	119:73-80	34	5	38	22	43
Evening	42; 32	121; 6	25; 91	27; 51	126; 102	107; 130	31; 143
EASTER							
Morning	93	97	98	99	47	96	92
Evening	136; 147	124; 115	66; 116	8; 118	68; 113	50; 138	23; 114
GENERAL							
Week 1							
Morning	103	5	42	89:1-18	97	51	104
Evening	117; 139	84; 29	102; 133	1; 33	16; 62	142; 65	118; 111
Week 2							
Morning	19	136	123	15	36	130	56
Evening	81; 113	97; 112	30; 86	48; 4	80; 27	132; 139	100; 62
Week 3							
Morning	67	51	54	65	143	86	122
Evening	46; 93	89; 47	38; 99	135; 91	80; 116	6; 19	141; 90
Week 4							
Morning	110	62	13	96	116	8; 1	64
Evening	66; 23	73; 8	36; 5	132; 134	26; 130	25; 40	135; 98
CHRISTMAS							
	12/24	12/25	12/26	12/27	12/28	12/29	12/30
Morning	19	2	116	34	2	96	93
Evening	132; 114	98; 96	109; 136; 27	96; 121	101; 111	131; 97	89
	12/31	1/1	1/2	1/3	1/4	1/5	1/6
Morning	98	97	111	103	99	72	7
Evening	45; 96	99; 8	45; 29	107; 15	93; 97	96; 110	100; 67

EPIPHANY

See GENERAL above.

21. Highlight the minor festivals of the church year by singing their appointed Psalm on the day of the minor festival.

- Consult *CW Psalter*, Table of Minor Festivals, page ix and/or **Service Builder** ([LSB](#), [CW](#)) for the appointed Psalm for each minor festival.
- Coordinate minor festival days with classroom daily devotions or Bible Study.
- Search for other Readings and Hymns for each minor festival in Service Builder
 - Example: [St. Timothy, Pastor and Confessor - Jan. 24](#)
- Writing prompts for students:
 - Why is this Psalm connected with this minor festival?
 - Summarize the Biblical person/event of this minor festival.
 - If you were to choose another psalm to sing at this minor festival, what would it be? Explain how your chosen psalm connects with this person/event/minor festival
- Art prompts for students:
 - Draw a symbol or scene which represents this minor festival/event/person.

Read more about CW Psalter in ALCM's Cross Accent Magazine (Vol 31, No. 1, Spring 2023)

The Development of a New Psalter for the English-Speaking Lutheran Church

by Paul T. Prange

When the WELS decided to do an update of its popular hymnal, CW93, it had the advantage of already having a twenty-year tradition of two-thirds of its congregations singing the appointed psalm setting between the first and second lesson in most Sunday morning services.

CW93 had introduced responsorial psalm settings to WELS congregations. Each appointed psalm had one setting with a refrain, selected verses, and the Gloria Patri. Two-thirds of WELS congregations indicated by survey that they used those settings nearly every Sunday, and they expected something similar in the updated hymnal. One-third of WELS congregations indicated that the responsorial style did not work for them. Some of those congregations indicated that they would consider singing the appointed psalm if it were in a hymn-like metrical paraphrase format. A few congregations indicated that they would like more variety in psalm-setting styles.

The committee working on the interest in the hymnal update faced an interesting dilemma: Should it publish two settings of every appointed psalm in the new hymnal, one responsorial and the other a metrical paraphrase? Page considerations did not allow it. How could the new hymnal meet the needs of most congregations? How could those congregations sing the psalm in styles that went beyond responsorial and metrical paraphrase?

It would be the first American Lutheran English psalter of this style and scope. It would be curated to be usable by all English-speaking Lutheran churches across the world.



Members of the Psalter committee—Michael Schulte, Grace Hennip, Adrian Smith, Samuel Hucker, Amy Hessel, Paul Prange, Daniel Witte, Dale Witte—in the Chapel of the Christ of Martin Luther College in New Ulm, MN.

After months of deliberation, the committee working on the updated hymnal, CW21, decided to publish one setting of each appointed psalm in the hymnal per edition in a variety of styles. It also decided, crucially, to authorize the publication of a companion volume containing multiple settings of all 150 psalms. It would be the first American Lutheran English psalter of this style and scope. It would be curated to be usable by all English-speaking Lutheran churches across the world.

The committee working on the psalm section of the hymnal update became the committee working on the new psalter. It reviewed more than

CADENCE

Singing the Psalms Using Christian Worship: Psalter (2021)



Psalms 69: "God, attend to my plea, O Lord, help me quickly." From the Mainz Stundebuch, created in Paris ca. 1450.

by Dale Witte

[Jesus] said to [His disciples], "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." (Luke 24:44, NIV)

The Psalms Testify about Jesus

Why sing the psalms? Consider how the passion, death, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ leads up to the virtual necessity of using psalmody in Lutheran worship.

After instituting the Lord's Supper, Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. As he prayed to his heavenly Father, his sweat was like great drops of blood (Luke 22:44). His side was pierced with a spear while he hung, suffocating and dying, while being crucified on a cross (John 19:34). His body was wrapped in linen and sealed in a tomb, where it lay until He returned to life after descending into hell to declare his victory over death and the devil (1 Peter 3:18–20). Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene and the two Emmaus disciples.

Later that evening, he said the words that are recorded in Luke 24:44 to the eleven disciples who had locked themselves in an upper room because they were afraid that the Jews were going to come after them for "stealing" Jesus' body and claiming He was alive. It was then and there Jesus did something amazing: he opened his disciples' minds so they could understand what was written about him in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms—that is, the entire Old Testament. "Every thing must be fulfilled that was written about me," he told them.

REVIEWS

Christian Worship: Psalter.
Milwaukee, WI: Northwestern, 2021.
x, 850 pp.
ISBN 978-0-8100-3039-8.
\$22, hardback.

Christian Worship: Accompaniment for the Psalter.
Milwaukee, WI: Northwestern, 2021.
2 vol. (1170 pp.).
ISBN 978-0-8100-3042-8.
\$70, spiral bound.

Scottman Alexander Selkirk, whose experience *Daniel Defoe* later fictionalized in *Robinson Crusoe*, was picked up by the English ships *Duke* and *Duchess* in the year 1709 after spending four years on an uninhabited island 400 miles from the western coast of South America. Having lived off the land for all that time, he looked like a wild man, clothed in goat skins and needless of shoes, since his feet were calloused from hard use. But he had built two small houses—one for cooking, the other for sleeping—and had achieved some semblance of civilization. When the rescuing crew asked him how he had spent his free time, he said he had read the Bible and sung psalms, and that he was probably a better Christian while on the island than he ever was before—or ever would be again.

In addition to a Bible (probably with the metrical psalms bound with it, his marooners had given him other life-preserving equipment, such as a knife, a musket, a hatchet, and a cooking pot. One can imagine Selkirk, after eating his evening meal, opening his only book to the place where he had left off and then raising his little-used voice in the melody of some psalm he had learned as a boy.

Now, consider if a German Lutheran had been the one left on the island. What music would have emanated from this person? Some hymns by Martin Luther or Philipp Nicolai or Paul Gerhardt, perhaps? Expository hymnody, based on Scripture, has been the musical and theological norm of the



drift for Lutherans, while in the English tradition the metrical psalms have been the musical mainstay of private devotion and public worship.

Lutherans have never eschewed the psalter; they just have seldom embraced it, as many of their English Protestant cousins had been compelled to do for many years by Calvinist thought. For Lutherans, accustomed to succinct chunks of theological poetry—essentially little sermons that rhyme—in the church's hymns, one of the age-old challenges of singing the psalms has been, "How does one sing all that text without it getting either boring or too difficult to sing?" After all, we know the psalms were written to be sung, and many people would certainly prefer to sing the texts rather than merely read them. The metrical paraphrase has always been an option; but then the question becomes, "Are there enough quality paraphrases to pair with singable tunes for all 150 psalms?" Another question is, "Are there are other interesting ways to sing the psalms apart from metrical paraphrases in the form of hymns?"

The second half of the twentieth century saw composers from many denominational backgrounds working to address these questions, and this psalter is a testament to those efforts up to the present time. A quick glance through the "Genes and Musical Style" index (832) will show the wide range from which the settings in this book are drawn. Traditional chant forms are certainly there,

Go to <https://bit.ly/crossaccentcwpsalter>

Finale

1. [Psalm Singing Examples and Applications For PreK-8 Christian Teachers](#)
2. [CW Psalter FAQs](#)
3. CW Psalter Pew & Accompaniment Editions (1st edition) – [Errata List as of 6/23/24](#)
4. What questions, comments, or suggestions do you have? [Use this Google Form.](#)



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Intended Outcomes of this Presentation:



1. You will glean many ideas (and hopefully develop a few of your own!) for how to use ***Christian Worship Psalter*** in your classroom/for your group.
2. You will make ***Christian Worship Psalter*** a part of your professional liturgical and personal devotional library.
3. Hopefully, you can purchase a set of ***Christian Worship Psalters*** for your classroom/group. Don't forget the two accompaniment volumes!
4. Develop ***CW Psalter*** presentations and accompaniments for your classroom using builder.christianworship.com & [CW Playlist](#)



<https://bit.ly/PK8CWPsalter>