

## PSALM 150

We have reached the summit of praise in this last of the Psalter. In it we see the almost inarticulate enthusiasm of the psalmist, so rapidly do the words press to his lips, floating upwards toward God their source, like the smoke of a great fire of the soul wafted by the tempest. There is an interesting observance attached to this last psalm. According to Bouchier,

In former times, when the casting [making] of church bells was more of a religious ceremony, this Psalm was chanted by the brethren of the guild as they stood ranged around the furnace while the molten metal [for the church bells] was prepared to be poured into the mold ready to receive it. One may picture these swarthy workman with a glow on their face while their deep voices ring forth this Hymn of Praise.

- 1 Praise YAHWEH! Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty expanse.
- 2 Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His excellent greatness.
- 3 Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with harp and lyre.
- 4 Praise Him with timbrel and dancing; praise Him with stringed instruments and pipe.
- 5 Praise Him with loud cymbals; praise Him with resounding cymbals.
- 6 Let everything that has breath praise YAHWEH. Praise YAHWEH!

### PRAYER

*We praise you Yahweh, our almighty God, for your infinite perfections, your power and might, and your majesty and holiness. We give you glory for all your unnumbered mercies and loving-kindness to the creatures you have made. You are the bounteous giver of all good things, the sustainer of our lives, and our hope for everlasting happiness. Poor and feeble indeed is the tongue of man to utter your praise! We fall low on our knees before your throne, thanking you for the light of the Gospel, the comfort of your Holy Spirit, and the promise of pardon and forgiveness through the merits of Jesus, our only Savior and Advocate. Increase our faith, hope, and love, and so elevate our minds above the perishing things of this world that we may be prepared to receive the eternal rewards of the world to come. Hear us now, we pray, for Jesus' sake. Amen.*