



Wednesday January 6, 2021

Prepared for you by

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PSALM 29

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**
³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
⁴**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**
⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
⁷The voice of the LORD
bursts forth in lightning flashes.
⁸**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**
⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying,
"Glory!"
¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**
¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

Psalm 29 appointed for Sunday is a Divine Liturgy. In it we hear the perceptiveness of a people who recognize the voice of God in the created order. They hear the voice of God in all they experience and in verse nine they respond, "**And in the temple of the Lord all are crying `Glory.'**" I have met many people who spontaneously and naturally engage in this Divine Liturgy because they recognize the hand of God in what they see and in their spirits they hear the voice of God. They hear the voice of God in the waves of Lake Superior beating on the rocky shoreline, they hear the voice of God whispering through the towering pines, they hear the voice of God in a newborn's cry, and they respond with "**Glory!**" This psalm as well as all of Scripture directs us to listen for the voice of the One who created all – and created it "good." (Remember Genesis1?)

This voice of God speaks to me everywhere. When I quiet myself before God in prayer, I hear a voice with such power that can break the cedars of Lebanon and snap the mighty sequoias of California, but chooses to say, "Blessed are you the poor in spirit for yours is the kingdom of heaven." This is the voice that says "Come to me all who are heavy burdened and I will give you rest." This voice says "Let the little children come to me, for to such belongs the kingdom of Heaven." And then as I listen to the voice of all authority the echoes gather "I am the way, the truth and the life," "I am the resurrection and the life, whoever believes in me, will never die." "I am the vine, you are the branches." "Take heart, your sins are forgiven." "Let not your hearts be troubled, believe in God believe also in me." "I call you my friend" "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." I hear that voice and my heart collapses in joyful thanksgiving; Alleluia! I hear that voice and my response is as involuntary as breath, "**Glory.**"