

PSALM 65 (various)

One: O God, it is right for us to praise you in Zion  
and keep our promises to you,  
because you answer prayers.

**All: People everywhere will come to you  
on account of their sins.**

One: Our faults defeat us,  
but you forgive them.

**All: Happy are those whom you choose,  
whom you bring to live in your sanctuary.**

One: We shall be satisfied with the good things of your house,  
the blessings of your sacred Temple.

**All: By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,  
O God of our salvation;**

One: you are the hope of all the ends of the earth  
and of the farthest seas.

**All: By your strength you established the mountains;  
you are girded with might.**

One: You silence the roaring of the seas,  
the roaring of their waves,  
the tumult of the peoples.

**All: Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs;**

One: you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.

**All: You care for the land and water it;  
you enrich it abundantly.**

One: The streams of God are filled with water  
to provide the people with grain,  
for so you have ordained it.

**All: You drench its furrows  
and level its ridges;**

One: you soften it with showers  
and bless its crops.

**All: You crown the year with your bounty,  
and your carts overflow with abundance.**

One: The grasslands of the desert overflow;  
the hills are clothed with gladness.

**All: The meadows are covered with flocks  
and the valleys are mantled with grain;  
they shout for joy and sing.**

JOEL 2:23-29, 32 (various)

- One: People of Zion,  
celebrate in honor of the Lord your God,  
who is generous and has sent  
the autumn and spring rains in the proper seasons.
- All: Grain will cover your threshing places;  
jars will overflow with wine and olive oil.**
- One: I, the Lord your God,  
will make up for the losses caused by those swarms  
and swarms of locusts.  
It was I who sent them against you.
- All: My people, you will eat until you are satisfied.  
Then you will praise me  
for the wonderful things I have done.**
- One: Never again will you be put to shame.  
Israel, you will know that I stand at your side.
- All: I am the Lord your God -- there are no other gods.  
Never again will you be put to shame.**
- One: Later, I will give my Spirit to everyone.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy.
- All: Your old men will have dreams,  
and your young men will see visions.**
- One: In those days I will even give  
my Spirit to my servants, both men and women.
- All: Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.**

LUKE 18:9-14 (various)

- One: Jesus told a parable. He told this parable to people who were sure of their own goodness  
and despised everybody else. And this is what he said:  
“Two men went into the temple to pray. One was a Pharisee and the other a tax  
collector. The Pharisee stood over by himself and prayed,
- All: ‘God, I thank you that I am not greedy, dishonest, and unfaithful in marriage like  
other people. And I am really glad that I am not like that tax collector over there. I  
go without eating for two days a week, and I give you one tenth of all I earn.’**
- One: “The tax collector stood off at a distance and did not think he was good enough even  
to look up toward heaven. He was so sorry for what he had done that he pounded his  
chest and prayed,
- All: ‘God, have pity on me! I am such a sinner.’**
- One: “I tell you,” said Jesus, “the tax collector, and not the Pharisee, was in the right with  
God when he went home. For if you make yourself great you will be humbled. But if  
you humble yourself, you will be honored.”