

Table 8.2
Community Psalms of Thanksgiving

	Ps 65	Ps 66	Ps 107	Ps 118	Ps 124	Ps 129
Introduction	vv. 1–2 “Shout with joy to God, all the earth!”	vv. 1–2 “Praise awaits you, O God, in Zion; to you our vows will be fulfilled. O you who hears prayers, to you all men will come.”	vv. 1–3 “Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.”	vv. 1–4 “Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good.”	vv. 1–2 “If the LORD had not been on our side—let Israel say.”	
Report	v. 3 “When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions.”	vv. 5–12 “Come and see what God has done”; “You refined us like silver.”	vv. 4–7, 10–14, 17–20, 23–30 “Some wandered in desert wastelands, finding no way to a city where they could settle.”	vv. 5, 10–13, “In my anguish I cried to the LORD”; “All the nations surrounded me” (the king is evidently speaking, and the people identify with the danger he describes.)	vv. 2b–3a “When men attacked us, when their anger flared against us.”	vv. 2–3 “They have greatly oppressed me from my youth.”
Company of Those Hearing Report	v. 4 “Those you choose and bring near to live in your courts.”	v. 16 “All you who fear God.”				
Problem	v. 3 sins of the community	vv. 10–12 national distress; “You brought us into prison and laid burdens on our backs.”	vv. 4–5, 10–12, 17–20, 23–27 lost in the desert, imprisoned, sickness, threatened at sea	vv. 7, 10–13, 18 the psalmist’s enemies and the prospect of death	vv. 2b–3 Israel threatened by enemies	vv. 1–3 foreign oppression
Appeal to History/God’s Mighty Works	vv. 5–8 “Who formed the mountains by your power, having armed yourself with strength, who stilled the roaring of the seas.”	vv. 5–12 “He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the waters on foot.”	vv. 33–41 “He turned the desert into pools of water and the parched ground into flowing springs.”		v. 8 “Maker of heaven and earth.”	
Deliverance an Accomplished Fact	v. 3 “When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions.”	v. 9 “He has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping.”	vv. 2–3, 6b–7, 13b–14, 19b–20, 28b–30 “He delivered them from their distress.”	vv. 5, 13, 18, 21, 23 “He answered by setting me free.”	vv. 6–7 “Praise be to the LORD, who has not let us be torn by their teeth. We have escaped like a bird out of the fowler’s snare.”	vv. 2b, 4b “But they have not gained the victory over me.”
Reason for Deliverance	vv. 9–13 God cares for the earth out of love for his people	v. 20 God’s love	vv. 1, 43 the Lord’s goodness and mercy	vv. 1, 29 the Lord’s goodness	vv. 1–2, 8 the Lord’s favor of Israel (“If the LORD had not been on our side”); and the “Maker of heaven and earth” was strong enough to deliver.	v. 4a the Lord’s justice
Petition				v. 25		vv. 6–7
Wisdom/Teaching	vv. 9–13 God’s care of the earth					
Conclusion		v. 20 “Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me!”	v. 43 “Whoever is wise, let him heed these things and consider the great love of the LORD.”	vv. 25–29	v. 8 “Our help is in the name of the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.”	v. 8 “May those who pass by not say, ‘The blessing of the LORD be upon you; we bless you in the name of the LORD.’”
Praise	v. 13c	vv. 3–4, 20		vv. 1–4, 26–28		
Vow to Praise	v. 1b “To you our vows will be fulfilled.”			vv. 17, 19, 21, 28 “I will give you thanks, for you answered me.”		
Invitation to Praise			vv. 1–3, 8, 15, 21, 31–32, 43	v. 29 “Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good.”		
Vow to Sacrifice			v. 22			

Table 8.1

Individual Psalms of Thanksgiving

	Ps 18	Ps 30	Ps 31	Ps 32	Ps 40	Ps 66	Ps 92	Ps 116	Ps 118	Ps 120
Introduction	w. 1-3; 6 "I call to the LORD, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies."	v. 1 "I will exalt you, O LORD, for you lifted me out of the depths."			v. 1 "I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry."	v. 17 "I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue."		v. 1-2 "I love the LORD, for he heard my voice;" "I will call on him as long as I live."	v. 1-4 "Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good."	v. 1 "I called on the LORD in my distress, and he answered me." (author's translation)
Report	w. 4-5; 7-19 "The cords of death entangled me; the torrents of destruction overwhelmed me."	w. 2-3; 6-9; 11-12a "You healed me, O LORD, you brought me up from the grave."	w. 9-13; 21-22 "I am the utter contempt of my neighbors; I am a dread to my friends."	w. 3-4 "When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long."	w. 2-3 "He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand."	w. 5-12; 16-19 "Come and see what God has done" (national); "I cried out to him with my mouth" (personal).	w. 9-11 "You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox;" "My eyes have seen the defeat of my adversaries."	w. 8-9 "For you, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death."	w. 5; 10-13 "In my anguish I cried to the LORD;" "All the nations surrounded me."	w. 1, 6 "Too long have I lived among those who hate peace."
Company of Those Hearing Report	v. 4 "saints"		v. 23 "saints"	v. 11 "righteous"		v. 16 "all you who fear God"		v. 14; 18-19 "in the presence of all his people"		
Problem	w. 3; 17; 47-48 hostility of enemies	w. 2-3; 9 illness	w. 8-11 contempt of friends related to psalmist's illness	w. 3-5 psalmist's sin and refusal to confess it	w. 12; 14 psalmist's sin and those who pursue him	w. 10-12; 14 personal distress ("When I was in trouble") and national distress ("You brought us into prison and laid burdens on our backs.")	w. 10-11 opposition of enemies	w. 3; 8 illness and spiritual anguish	w. 7; 10-13; 18 psalmist's enemies and prospect of death	w. 2-3; 7 deceitful people who encourage war
Deliverance an Accomplished Fact	w. 6; 16-19; 43 "From his temple he heard my voice;" "He reached down from on high and took hold of me."	w. 2-3 "O LORD my God, I called to you for help and you healed me. O LORD you brought me up from the grave; you spared me from going down in the pit;" "You turned my wailing into dancing."	w. 7-8; 21-22 "You saw my affliction;" "You have not handed me over to the enemy;" "Yet you heard my cry for mercy when I called to you for help."	v. 5 "You forgave the guilt of my sin."	w. 2-3 "He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock."	w. 9; 19 "He has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping;" "God has surely listened and heard my voice in prayer."	v. 11 "My eyes have seen the defeat of my adversaries."	w. 1-2; 6; 8; 16 "He heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy. . . . He turned his ear to me."	w. 5; 13; 18; 21; 23 "He answered by setting me free."	v. 1 "He answered me." (author's translation)
Reason for Deliverance	w. 20-24; psalmist's righteousness and obedience to the law	v. 10 the Lord's mercy	w. 7; 19 the Lord's goodness; "You saw my affliction and knew the anguish of my soul."	w. 5; 10 confession, the Lord's forgiveness and unflinching love	v. 11 the Lord's love and truth	v. 20 God's love	v. 2 the Lord's love and faithfulness	w. 5; 7; 12 the Lord's grace and compassion	v. 1; 28 the Lord's goodness	
Petition	Ps 18	Ps 30	Ps 31	Ps 32	Ps 40	Ps 66	Ps 92	Ps 116	Ps 118	Ps 120
Wisdom/Teaching	w. 25-36	v. 10	w. 1-5; 14-18	w. 8-10	w. 11; 13-16; 17c			v. 4	v. 25	v. 2
Conclusion			w. 21-24	w. 8-11		v. 20			w. 25-29	
Praise	w. 46-48		w. 21-22			v. 20			w. 1-4; 26-28	
Vow to Praise	v. 49 "Therefore I will praise you among the nations, O LORD."	v. 12 "O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever."				w. 13-15 "I will come to your temple."	w. 1-3 "It is good to praise the LORD" (an adaptation of the vow to praise).	w. 13-14 "I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD."	w. 17; 19; 21; 28 "I will give you thanks, for you answered me."	
Invitation to Praise		w. 4-5 "Sing to the LORD, you saints of his."	v. 23 "Love the LORD, all his saints!"	v. 11 "Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!"		w. 1-9 "Shout with joy to God, all the earth!"			v. 29 "Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good."	
Vow to Sacrifice						w. 13-15		w. 17-19		